

Core Music Unit Organizer: Mr. Lunn
Seventh Grade

American Composers



State Standards to be addressed:

#4 –Students will listen to, analyze, evaluate, and describe music

#5 –Students will relate music to various historical and cultural traditions

National Standards to be addressed:

#6 – listening to and analyzing music

#7 – Evaluating music and music performances

#8 – Understanding the relationship between music, the other arts, and disciplines

#9 – Understanding music in relation to history and culture

Core Knowledge standards to be addressed:

III. American Musical Traditions

Previous unit:

Romantic Era Music

Resources:

- Power Point presentation about Romantic Composers
- videos- “Gershwin Remembered” and “Leonard Bernstein:Remembered” excerpts from “West Side Story”
- Compact Disc recordings of American Composers such as Gershwin, Copland, Sousa and Bernstein
- Musical examples played in class by teacher and students

Assessments:

- Students will create iconic posters with drawings representing facts about 4 composers from America
- Students will take a written exam over American Composers and their music
- Students will take a listening exam to identify major works by American composers
- In class discussions of the lives of 4 American composers and what inspired and influenced them

Habits of Mind:

- Discuss musical works and periods of music history
- Describe, explain and critique musical works based on pertinent background knowledge
- Identify musical works through listening
- Understand the meaning and use of musical terminology and symbols
- Describe how melody, harmony and rhythm are used in different types of music
- Understand music in terms of history and culture
- Relate music to history and geography
- Appreciate and understand aesthetics in music