

ARTS CONSORTIUM OF CINCINNATI

Contact : Paula Sherman

Curriculum Title: *Blue Notes: Cultural Influences to Cultural Connections*
The History of African-American Culture

Arts Organization: THE ARTS CONSORTIUM OF CINCINNATI

School: R.A. JONES MIDDLE SCHOOL

Grade: 6TH GRADE Team Coordinator – Jennifer Hatton
Mrs. Rieman 207
Mrs. Owen 208

Academic Goals:

Math

Students use mathematical ideas and procedures to communicate, reason, and solve problems.

2. Students understand number concepts and use numbers appropriately and accurately.

Reading

1. Students will identify meaning of a variety of reading materials, making connections to students' lives, to real world issues, and/or to current events.
2. Students will understand characteristics and elements of different literary genres.

Science

1. Students identify, analyze, and use patterns such as cycles and trends to understand past and present events and predict possible future events.

Writing

1. Students will respond to reading, listening, observing, and inquiry through applying writing-to-learn strategies (i.e. logs, notetaking, journals).

Government and Civics

1. Students understand the democratic principles of justice, equality, responsibility, and freedom and apply them to real-life situations.
2. Students can accurately describe various forms of government and analyze issues that relate to the rights and responsibilities of citizens in a democracy.

Social Studies

Students understand, analyze, and interpret historical events, conditions, trends, and issues to develop historical perspective.

Students will understand all cultures develop customs, beliefs and holidays reflecting their unique histories, situations and perspectives.

Students recognize and understand the relationship between people and geography and apply their knowledge in real-life situations.

Art Content Goals:

Music

Identify and compare various styles and functions of music.

2. Analyze, interpret, and evaluate how factors such as time, place and ideas are reflected in the music.

Dance

Recognize and discuss, using appropriate dance vocabulary, how dance elements are used to express thoughts, ideas, and feelings in dance.

Discuss how dances are composed of a variety of locomotor and non-locomotor movements.

Analyze, interpret, and evaluate the use of compositional forms in dance.

Analyze, interpret, and evaluate the skills of body alignment, balance, isolation, Of body parts, elevation, and landing...

Visual Arts

1. Create art for specific purposes using the elements of art and principles of design to communicate ideas.

Effectively use a variety of art media, processes, and subject matter to communicate ideas, feelings, and experiences.

Describe, analyze, and/or interpret works of art using visual art terminology.

Overview:

Blue Notes is a program in which students will study and learn more about the African & African-American culture and its influence in the arts. Students will travel (via hands-on activities, guest artist and literature etc..) through selected periods in African American history in order to develop an appreciation /awareness of the contributions African and African-Americans have made to the arts. Each activity is designed to challenge students to look beyond themselves (their culture), and see the cultural influences and cultural connections.

The program activities begin on Tuesday, October 19, and ends Thursday, December 9, 2004.

Research Questions:

In what ways has the African American culture influenced the arts?

How did the African diaspora effect other cultures?

What roles did quilts play in during slavery?

What is the Underground Railroad?

Why was the State of Kentucky and important traveling point for escaping slaves?

What was the Great Migration?

In what ways did the Civil Rights movements influence music?

What does Hip Hop, Rap, Country Music and the Blues have in common?

(these are just a few of the guiding questions that will be asked)

The periods in the African and African American history that will be covered are as follows:

- 1. African History & the diaspora** – Discussion on the people, the size of the continent, and the instruments.
- 2. Slavery** – with emphasis on the underground railroad, quilting, and worksongs.
- 3. Great Migration/ Harlem Renaissance** – students will study poetry, art, music and dance from this time period.
- 4. Civil Rights Movement/Current Affairs** – discussions will be held on the past and present movement, as well as local and national affairs, and its influence on music and art.

Students will be introduced to African and African American history makers and their influence on the movement.

Brief Step by Step Art Integration and Extended Art Activities including date/goals:

Schedule of Activities

* Activities to be completed by student prior to next session

Tuesday, October 19

**Program Introduction
Math Activity**

*Wednesday, October 20

*Read information on Bi-Okoto
Complete worksheet*

Thursday, October 21

**Intro to African Instruments
Presenters: Bi-Okoto Drum & Dance**

*October 22 & 23

*Read Bio on Baba Charles Miller
Complete worksheet*

Tuesday, October 26

**Frame Drum workshop
Conducted by Baba Charles Miller**

*Wednesday, October 27

Read information on Adinkra Symbols

Finish working on frame drums

Thursday, October 28

Finish making Frame Drum

*Friday, October 29

*Read information on Underground
Railroad & Complete worksheet*

Thursday, November 4

Study Underground Railroad

Work Songs/ Movement / Science activity

*Friday, November 5

Read History of Quilt making
Review various quilt patterns

Tuesday, November 9

Workshop - 4 square quilt

- *Wednesday, November 10 *Continue working on quilt*
- Thursday, November 11** **Intro to the Harlem Renaissance**
Continue working on lap quilt
- *November 12 & 13 *Read information on Duke Ellington
and various renaissance poets*
- Tuesday, November 16** **Poetry workshop**
- *Wednesday, November 17 *Continue working on poetry*
- Thursday, November 18** **Jazz Dance Class with Kyne Franks**
- *November 19 & 22 *Read information on Renaissance
Visual artists*
- Tuesday, November 30** **Harlem Renaissance Art workshop**
- *Wednesday, December 1 *Read information on Civil Rights
Movement and various period music*
- Thursday, December 2** **Discussion on Civil Rights and its
influence on music**
- *December 3 & 6 *Read Hip-Hop, Gospel, Rap Music
and Graffiti Art information*
- Tuesday, December 7** **Graffiti Art workshop**
- *Wednesday, December 8 *Work on Graffiti art project read
Kwanzaa information*
- Thursday, December 9** **Kwanzaa Celebration**

Blue Notes... A study of African American culture and its influence in the arts.....

Field Research from Sources Outside the School:

This project will include (7) visiting artist who will present hands-on activities, demonstrations, and/or lectures.

Assessment used for this unit

Teachers and Students will complete activity evaluations between each session.