

# 2021 Teacher Guidebook Young People's Concert



## **BACH TO THE FUTURE**

***SCALING THE MUSICAL ERAS ONE TUNE AT A TIME***

orlando  
philharmonic  
ORCHESTRA  
ERIC JACOBSEN, MUSIC DIRECTOR

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# Welcome and Important Info

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Dear Friends,

We are so happy that YOU and your students will join us for the 29th Season of the Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra's Young People's Concerts (YPC). As we all await the return of our live program, we are so excited to bring you another fabulous virtual program this year!

In collaboration with Elementary Music Educators from multiple school districts, we create programs that resonate with students and adults alike. Once again, the Orlando Ballet and Opera Orlando will perform with the full Orchestra as we seek to inspire and nurture a lifelong love of music and the other arts.

Imagine it: You take your seat. The audience quiets. The orchestra tunes. The Maestro lifts his baton. And suddenly- GREAT SCOTT!- a stranger takes the stage! Millie Second, a great inventor from another time has landed herself in the modern day and she's not quite sure how she got here, where she came from, or how to get home. To top it all off, her time machine, The Chord Explorer, won't start and her instruction manual is missing a few key pages.

Only the musical minds of our maestro, musicians, and audience can help refuel the broken machine and return our fearless inventor to her home era. But, the journey won't be without some tuneful twists and turns. From the Renaissance to the Roaring 20's, from the space rush to the gold rush, this melodic adventure will have you asking not "Where will we go next?" but "When?!"

We hope that you'll find the lesson plans useful as you prepare your students for the program. After the program, we ask that you please take a few minutes to complete the teacher survey that will be sent to you! Your input is a major source of inspiration and helps us continue to improve of the YPC experience. We hope you'll encourage your students to send the Orchestra musicians and performers "thank you" notes, drawings or even short videos about their experience.

We thank YOU for being a partner in making this experience impactful and memorable. We hope this Concert will be a highlight of the year for all your school participants!

Sincerely,



Amy Conrod  
Director of Education and Community  
aconrod@orlandophil.org  
407.896.6700, ext. 232

# MEET OUR GUIDEBOOK TEAM

Putting together a Young People's Concert requires hard work and the dedication of dozens of people over many months. Please welcome some of the key individuals who make the Young People's Concert possible!

The guidebook team is comprised of certified, veteran teachers who are passionate about music, the arts, and making learning fun!

This year's guidebook has been created in memory of Michelle Melvin.  
Dedicated teacher and long time contributor to the success of the YPC.



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Sempre Libera - Giuseppe Verdi  
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Orange County Public Schools  
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Michelle Melvin  
Jurassic Park Theme - John Williams  
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## MEET THE ORLANDO PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

The Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra is the premiere professional orchestra of Central Florida. We care about inspiring, healing, and educating people of all ages through the transformative power of live music. Following in the footsteps of our predecessor, the Florida Symphony Orchestra, the Orlando Phil has performed Young People's Concerts annually since our very beginnings – over 54 years! Since becoming the Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra, our Young People's Concerts have served over 1 million students in Central Florida.

We offer a full range of programming for families and students. From free outdoor concerts to Symphony Storytime for young families to master classes for advanced students ... and much more, we attract listeners of all ages and communities. Please visit [www.orlandophil.org](http://www.orlandophil.org) to link to our social media to learn more about our Education and Community Events!

We offer a full Classical Music Series as well as Focus Chamber Music and Pops Series, featuring Maestro Eric Jacobsen! Specially discounted tickets are available to teachers and students throughout the year. With approximately 150 performances annually, we share music with approximately 125,000 listeners. We hope that you'll be one of them!

## USING THIS TEACHER GUIDE

To access this packet, you may also go to [www.orlandophil.org/ed-resources](http://www.orlandophil.org/ed-resources). Please respect that all materials in this guide are for educational use only. Materials for classroom use include: lesson experience pages, screen projections, manipulatives, and more. If you have questions regarding lesson plans, please contact the teacher who wrote that lesson. Please see page 3 for teacher/writer contact information. For other inquiries contact the OPO Director of Education and Community: Amy Conrod, [aconrod@orlandophil.org](mailto:aconrod@orlandophil.org).

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR TEACHERS

We hope you'll join your colleagues in Orange, Osceola or Volusia County to get more ideas about using the lessons from this Teacher Guide. These sessions will have you singing, moving, listening, playing instruments, and having fun while preparing to get your students ready for a life-changing experience at the 2020 Young People's Concert. Be on the lookout for information from your District Music/Arts Leader.

## TEACHER SURVEY: YPC PROGRAM FEEDBACK

We love to hear from you! You will receive a teacher survey to your email. After your YPC experience, please complete the survey. This information will help us to continue to improve this program.

## INCLUDING YOUR CLASSROOM TEACHERS

Prior to attending the concert, consider playing short excerpts of the concert music during school-wide morning announcements or as “welcome music” as children enter the classroom. Continue playing this music, on a less concentrated schedule following the concert. Make the playlist available for teachers to use in their classrooms. We encourage everyone to listen to the music multiple times prior to the concert. Multiple listens will make the music itself an “old friend.” Here’s why that matters to you and your students:

Students will:

- Be more engaged in the concert because the music is now familiar.
- Feel comfortable at the concert.
- Help classroom teachers discover and use ways to integrate the Teacher Guidebook information into their classroom curricula; mine the suggested integration strategies embedded in the lesson pages. Make up your own!

Not already classical music fans? Here are some concert tips:

- The music is over when the conductor puts his hands down. That’s a signal that it’s time for applause. Show your appreciation through your applause.
- Talking or too much wiggling during the music distracts other listeners (opportunities for active engagement will be provided throughout the concert.)
- Try not to enter or leave the theatre while the music is playing.
- Sit back and enjoy the program!

## SAYING THANK YOU

The Orlando Philharmonic loves to receive thank-you notes from you and your students! Thank you’s come in many forms: write about your favorite music from the YPC and why you liked it, draw a picture of your favorite part of the program; write a message, etc. Send all thank you notes to the address listed below OR to your District Coordinator of Music/Arts.

Not sure what to write? Have students think of the following questions:

- What was your favorite piece and why?
- What did you learn about the orchestra?
- What did you learn about music?

In addition, we know that the people and corporations that sponsor the YPC love to receive messages from teachers and students. Thank you messages let donors and sponsors know that you and your students value the YPC experience. Please send your messages to the OPO for distribution.

Note: On “thank you’s,” include student’s first name and grade level. These notes will be shared with sponsors and other funders as well as with the Orlando Phil musicians and patrons.

Send your thank you’s to your District MUSIC/ARTS Leader or directly to the OPO:

Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra  
Attn: Young People’s Concerts  
425 North Bumby Avenue  
Orlando, FL 32803

# Meet the Orchestra

## IN THIS SECTION:

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# Meet the String Family!

The violin, viola, cello, and double bass make up the string family. In most orchestras, the strings are the biggest section. String instruments look very much alike, except in varying sizes. These instruments are made of wood and each instrument has four strings stretched across it. You play them by drawing a bow across or sometimes by plucking. Which stringed instrument do you think plays the highest notes, the middle notes, the low notes, and the lowest notes? The bigger the instrument, the lower the pitch.



Violin

The violin is the smallest of all the strings and has the highest pitch. A violinist uses a bow to play the violin. The bow is a wooden stick with hair from a horse's tail tied from end to end.

Viola

The viola appears very similar to the violin, however, this instrument is a little larger than the violin and makes slightly lower sounds.



Cello

The cello is even bigger than the violin and the viola. It has a beautiful, mellow sound. The cello must rest on the floor because it is too big to be held like the violin and the viola. The instrument rests on a pin called an endpin on the floor and the cellist holds it between their knees to play. A cello is about 50 inches long including the neck.



Double Bass

The bass is the biggest instrument in the string section. It's about as tall as a man—around 6ft tall. It also plays the widest assortment of music from classical to Broadway to jazz. In pictures it may look the same size as the cello, but it's really about 1 ½ to 2 times taller.



## PLAYING A STRING INSTRUMENT

In order to create sound, all members of the string family use a bow.

The bow is used by pulling it across the strings, which makes the strings vibrate, creating the sound. This is called *arco*.

Performers can also pluck the strings. This is called *pizzicato*. As an alternative to using a bow, the performer uses their finger to pluck the string, which creates a different sound than the bow. The left hand can still shift up and down the finger board to alter the pitch while the right hand plucks the string

## Instrument Design: Resonating Box

All four instruments in this family are comprised of rounded wooden bodies, long wooden necks, strings across the front and four tuning pegs. Their bodies are made of numerous pieces of wood that are glued together. The inside of the instrument is empty; this creates a resonating box or an amplifier for the strings. (An amplifier is something that helps make sounds louder.)

# Meet the Woodwind Family!

The woodwind family is made up of the flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon and saxophone. Just like the name, woodwind instruments were originally made from wood. While many still are made of wood, some are now made of other materials, like metal, silver, gold and even plastic. Like all other instrument families, the woodwind family is grouped primarily by how they make sound

## PLAYING A WOODWIND INSTRUMENT

### Flutes

Have you ever blown air across the top of a bottle? When someone plays the flute, it's fundamentally the same idea.

**Single Reed Instruments**  
Single reed instruments are comprised of the clarinet and the saxophone. These instruments operate a single reed, which is aligned with a mouthpiece by a round metal part called a ligature. When air is blown properly it travels (1) on top of the reed, then (2) underneath the reed. This back-and-forth movement of the reed causes air to vibrate within the mouthpiece which produces the sound.

**Double Reed Instruments**  
Double reed instruments consist of the oboe, and the bassoon. These instruments all use two reeds that vibrate against each other in order to create sound. In fact, it is possible to remove the double reed from the instrument and play it on its own!

### Flute

The flute is no longer made of wood, but is still in the woodwind family even though it is made of metal. It produces very bright and joyful notes.



### Clarinet

The clarinet is a single reed instrument. It plays a wide range of music from classical to jazz. It also has a very wide range of notes that can be played.



### Oboe

The oboe looks very similar to the clarinet except for the fact that it has a double reed. The oboe is widely used in classical or symphonic compositions.



### Bassoon

The bassoon is a double reed instrument. Because of its size, it plays very low notes and is often the backbone of the orchestra.



## Instrument Design: Key and Tone Holes

Woodwind instruments use metal keys to open and close various tone holes, which allow the player to change the pitch of their instrument by changing the length of the vibrating air column. Because there are so many holes to cover, a key system can be very complicated; if you ever get a chance, take an up-close look at woodwind keys for yourself!

# Meet the Brass Family!

Regardless of their name, brass instruments are not consistently made of the metal called brass; in fact, they are frequently made of a mixture of various metals, or even non-metallic materials, like wood or animal horn.

So why do we call them all brass? The brass family, like every other instrument family, is grouped largely by how they create sound.



Trumpet/Cornet

The trumpet plays high brassy notes. It is probably the best known of a group of similar instruments including the cornet. The trumpet has a “bright” sound, well suited to military and ceremonial roles. An optional mute can make the trumpet sound completely different. If it were unwound and stretched out a trumpet would be over 4 feet long. Notice the “bell shape” at the end of the trumpet where the sound comes out. Most brass quintets include two trumpet players.

## PLAYING A BRASS INSTRUMENT

If you have ever attempted to blow through a paper towel roll, you understand that only blowing won’t get you a lot more than the sound of air passing through the tube. Brass instruments are the same; it takes more than air to get them to create their magnificent, harmonious sounds.

So what’s the secret? Buzzing. Not like a bee, but the sort you can do with your lips (which some people call a “raspberry”). This buzzing generates a vibration in the air that creates sound and gives brass instruments their unique personality.

Yes, believe it or not, expert brass performers make their livelihood in part by buzzing their lips very well. So give it a shot; buzzing your lips might seem a bit silly, but it’s the single method used to produce sound on a brass instrument.

French Horn

Today’s French Horn is a little different from other valved instruments. It has rotary valves that let air into different lengths of tube by being twisted sideways when the player presses the keys. The French Horn is often played with the right hand inside the bell. If the horn were uncurled it would be about 15 feet long! Sometimes people describe the sound of a French Horn as “velvet” - smooth, soft and lush.



Trombone

The trombone is different from other brass instruments because it has no valves. Instead, it has a slide which is pulled in and out to change the length of the instrument and therefore change the notes. The deep sounds a trombone makes can be played loudly or softly.



Tuba

The tuba is the lowest instrument in the whole brass section with a deep, foghorn-like sound. It is used frequently in marches and other compositions where it is important to have a strong beat. If the tuba were uncurled it would be about sixteen feet long!



## Instrument Design: Valves

Brass instruments without valves can only play a limited number of pitches or notes. Valves allow brass players to change the length of the instrument they are playing by rerouting the air through different tubes. The invention of valves allowed brass players to play many more notes than were previously possible.

# Meet the Percussion Family!

Next to the human voice, percussion instruments are generally thought to be the oldest musical instruments. Practically all early societies used percussion instruments in a number of ways. These types of instruments can be seen everywhere, from a symphony orchestra, to a rock band, to a Native American ritual – Percussion instruments are amazingly diverse!

## Xylophone

The xylophone is a tuned instrument made of hardwood bars in graduated lengths set horizontally on a metal frame. With the larger, lower-sounding bars on the left, the notes of the xylophone are laid out much like a piano keyboard. Striking the bars with hard mallets produces a bright, sharp sound.



## Timpani

Timpani were the first drums to be used in the orchestra over 300 years ago. They are constructed of a large copper bowl with a drumhead made of calfskin or plastic stretched across the top. When struck with felt-tipped wooden sticks, or mallets, timpani produce a specific pitch that is determined by the drum's size.

## Snare Drum

The snare drum is a descendant of the military side drum. It has two skins. The lower skin has a metal or wire strung across it (called the snare) so that when the upper skin is struck, the wire vibrates to give the characteristic rattling sound. The snare drum is primarily used for rolls in a classical setting or for adding accents to music.



## Tambourine

Some instruments, such as cymbals, triangles, and tambourines, have indefinite pitch. That is, you can tell if the tone is high or low, but it's hard to tell which note of the scale is sounding. Tambourines can be used by striking, shaking, and scraping.

## PLAYING A PERCUSSION INSTRUMENT

Percussion instruments are grouped into several categories based on how they vibrate. The three main categories are idiophones, membranophones and chordophones.

**Idiophones** The back-and-forth shaking of the instrument body creates its sound. Idiophones consist of instruments like woodblocks, and xylophones.

**Membranophones** are instruments that include a skin (also called a membrane) that vibrates to create sound. This group contains nearly all kinds of drums.

**Chordophones** are instruments that produce sound through the vibration of a string. And while the string family (violins, violas, cellos and basses) are clearly chordophones, there are a small number of percussion instruments that meet the criteria as well – the piano being the most well-known.

## Instrument Design: Strike, Shake, Scrape

Just about anything you can imagine that is struck, scraped, or shaken belongs to the percussion family! Percussion instruments are made of many different materials, such as wood, plastic, or metal, and they come in all shapes and sizes.

# Meet the Composers

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Berlioz and Gershwin P.12

Sierra and Copland P.13

Boulanger and Holst P.14

Bock and Williams P.15

Verdi and Price P.16



# Hector Berlioz



Born on December 11th, 1803

- He was a medical student.
- Although a great composer, he was not very good at playing any instruments.
- He married an Irish actress.

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# George Gershwin



Born on September 26th, 1898

- He was a talented painter.
- Began playing the piano at age 10.
- He was never married.

# Roberto Sierra



Born on October 9th, 1953

- He was born in Puerto Rico.
- Studied music in Europe.
- Is currently a composition professor in New York.

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# Aaron Copland



Born on November 14th, 1900

- Was the youngest of five children.
- As he grew older, he stopped composing and began conducting.
- His nickname was the Dean of American Music.

# Lili Boulanger



Born on August 21st, 1893

- Had perfect pitch at the age of 2.
- Her older sister was also a composer.
- Her mother was a Russian princess.

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# Gustav Holst



Born on September 21st, 1874

- Famous English composer.
- His most famous work, The Planets, is actually written about the Roman gods.
- Played the trombone.

# Jerry Bock



Born on November 23rd, 1928

- Tony Award winning composer.
- Studied piano as a child.
- Born in Connecticut and raised in New York.

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# John Williams



Born on February 8th, 1932

- He plays the piano, cello, trumpet, and trombone.
- Became successful after partnering with director Steven Spielberg.
- He has received 52 Academy Award nominations.

# Giuseppe Verdi



Born on October 10th, 1813

- The greatest composer of Italian opera.
- He wrote operas based on Shakespeare plays.
- More people attended his funeral than any other event in Italy's history.

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# Florence Price



Born on April 9th, 1887

- First African American woman to have her symphony played by a major orchestra.
- She was a music teacher before becoming a composer.
- Wrote over 300 pieces of music.

## ADDITIONAL EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

The Young People's Concerts are only the beginning!  
Come discover the many other exciting opportunities at the Orlando Philharmonic!

### Symphony Storytime:

Perfect for children ages 3-7, the Symphony Storytime Series presents music that teaches about the instrument families and instills a love of music for your entire family. Each program is brought to life with gorgeous classical music, unforgettable narrators, and beautiful, hand-drawn illustrations. Join us in The Plaza Live lobby after each show for fun family activities!

### Orchestra of Distinction:

Our Orchestra of Distinction program continues this year for the Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra's 28th season! This program showcases the excellent musicianship and instructors of Central Florida high schools, while also providing valuable insight from our professional musicians to inspire and delight our community's students. High school orchestras from Orange, Osceola, and Seminole counties are eligible to apply for the program.

### Notes in Your Neighborhood:

Notes in Your Neighborhood is a series of program offerings which can be adapted for all levels of learning. Participants have the opportunity to spend one-on-one time with Philharmonic musicians, volunteers, guest artists and instruments for a deeper learning experience. Programs include the OPO Instrument Petting Zoo Program, Musicians in the Classroom and Community and Guest Artist Visits.

### OPO Summer Camp:

The OPO Summer Camp is a one-week program for String students who want to grow musically while learning from some of Orlando's top professional musicians and guest artists. This is a great opportunity for current and rising High School students to develop skills in chamber and orchestral playing, music theory, solo performance, and more! The week concludes in a performance where students play side-by-side with principal players from your Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra.

### Virtual Music Lessons:

Bring Music Education to your home with Philharmonic Musicians! Musicians of the Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra offer Virtual Music Lessons on all instruments of the orchestra! Whether you are beginning your journey in music or working on honing your craft, we have a musician who will help you every step of the way. From beginners to advanced students, the individual needs and interests of each student will be our top priority. With years of experience in teaching as well as performing, our musician-teachers will personalize your instruction to fit your needs. Advanced students preparing for All-County, All-State, Solo/Ensemble, and even recitals or college auditions, will be happy to know that our musicians are well versed in those programs.

To learn about these programs and more, please visit  
[www.orlandophil.org](http://www.orlandophil.org)