

# Unit 03: The Culture and History of the Music We Perform

Content Area: **Music**  
Course(s):  
Time Period: **Marking Period 1**  
Length: **ongoing**  
Status: **Published**

## Brief Summary of Unit

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Students will understand the cultural and historical contributions of the arts and artists and how they were influenced by society.

## Transfer

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## Essential Questions

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- • How does knowing music from the past help me to be a better musician today?
- • How does music reflect a culture and vice versa?

## Essential Understandings

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- • it is the responsibility of the performer to convey an interpretation based on informed musical decisions.
- • knowing the influences of a composer can lead to a higher level of understanding and performance.
- • music has an inherent style that should be reflected in performance.
- • music is closely related to the time period of its composer, and the region of its influence or origin.

## Students Will Know

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- • the historical background associated with each work, including important information about the composer, and the influences on his/her compositional style.
- • the style of the music they play, and how to accurately reflect that style through performance.

## Students Will Be Skilled At

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## **Evidence/Performance Tasks**

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- • answer the essential questions.
- • demonstrate understanding of historical style and performance practice through class discussion and written descriptions.
- • perform orchestral repertoire in the style that reflects the historical time period and appropriate performance practice.

## **Learning Plan**

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- • Preview the essential questions and connect to learning throughout the unit.
- • Students in Level I will be able to identify historical and cultural information that bears relevance to the learning process. The styles of music covered include, but not limited to, Classical, Folk, Pop, Baroque, Romantic. The compositions will be either an average length of less than 52 measures long, or a range of 38 – 82 measures, or a single movement work.
- • Students in Level II will be able to discuss the musical examples, and clarify terminology as necessary. The musical concepts discussed in the examples will be reinforced through rehearsal and lesson literature. The styles of music covered include, but not limited to, Classical, Baroque, Romantic, Contemporary. The average length of compositions will be either 94 measures, a range of 41 – 265 measures, or a two to three movement composition.
- • Students in Level III will choose a portfolio project related to historical and/or cultural influences in music. The topics chosen will be reinforced through rehearsal and lesson literature. The styles of music covered include, but are not limited to, Baroque, Romantic, Contemporary. The average length of compositions will be either 78 – 101 measures per composition, a range of 24 – 450 measures, or a piece with several movements.

## **Materials**

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## **Suggested Strategies for Modifications**

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