



Detailed description of the Summer Youth Workshop:

On the SAT, music students outperform their no-arts peers, scoring 57 points higher on the verbal portion and 40 points higher on the math portion of the exam. Second and third grade students who were taught fractions through musical rhythms scored 100% higher on fractions tests than those who learned in the conventional manner.

Elementary students with daily music instruction had fewer absences than other students.

There are hundreds of key findings in dozens of studies just like these, all telling us what we already know: our children need more music in their lives. The BRC Summer Youth Workshop would be a tremendous boost to the children in our community.

Dates and Times, 2013: Each weekday, June 17th through June 28th, from 10 am to Noon

Age Group: 7 to 14 years of age **Location:** Yowell Meadow Park pavilion A, Culpeper, VA

Cost: \$45 per child (discounts for 2nd and 3rd child) **Pre-registrations required.**

Objective: To provide training in music fundamentals, introduction to different music types, encouragement to experiment with music and inspiration to freely express self. To enrich the minds and lives of the Youth in our Culpeper region by sparking the fire that will open their hearts to a lasting love and appreciation of music.

We will strive to teach children to appreciate music, especially folk songs: through singing, movement, dance, and the recorder.

Materials: Alice Parker's Hand-Me-Down Songs (one per student)

A Soprano recorder and It's Recorder Time (one per student)

Jump Jim Joe: Great Singing Games for Children

Chimes of Dunkirk: Great Dances for Children and accompanying CD

The workshop will be from 10 am to noon on Tuesdays and Thursdays, June 21st through July 19th at Pavilion A at Yowell Meadow Park in Culpeper, VA.

(15 minutes) Begin with a warm-up of a couple of singing games from Jump Jim Joe (there are 21 in the book). These are easy to learn and remember - the children will want to teach them to friends and family.

(30 minutes) Sing a selection of songs from Alice Parker's book. Concentrate on good tone production while enjoying new and familiar songs that have been sung by many generations. We can use a recorder for accompaniment, or a cappella.

(30 minutes) Introduce the soprano recorder. The objective is to not only become proficient at playing simple melodies, but also to use it as a vehicle for learning to read music on the treble clef. As the opportunities present themselves in the music, teach/review basic music theory. The recorder travels easily and can be practiced almost anywhere. Plus, it's inexpensive!

(10 – 15 minutes) break/snack/share time Encourage children to bring something to share: a piece of music or recording they like, an article from the paper or a book concerning music, or an instrument to play, or a new song to teach or perform for the group.

(30 minutes) Teach a dance from Chimes of Dunkirk and perform with the music.

These are a combination of longways set dances, circle dances, Sicilian circle dances, square dances, and contradances that are drawn from the folk traditions of North America and the British Isles. *“The dances are fun and the music is joyous. The dancers experience cooperation with others while having a genuinely good time. These are ‘social dances’ that have been used for generations to bring people together in a spirit of celebration and respect for each other.”*

The workshop would conclude with a performance for parents, family and the community at Yowell Meadow Park on June 28th at 7:00pm. The children will perform selections from Alice Parker's book with accompaniment if possible (and any choreography the children have decided on), a few pieces on recorder, and a dance or two from Chimes of Dunkirk. The performance will end with the children finding willing volunteers to be their partners as they teach one of the easier dances.