

ATLANTA PERCUSSION TRIO

Global Beat

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Percussion is the name given to any instrument whose sound is created by striking. The percussion family of instruments is the largest and most diverse family. Percussion instruments are some of the oldest and newest instruments known to man. Some percussion instruments are melodic in nature (i.e. xylophone, marimba, bells), some are characteristically rhythmic (i.e. drums, tambourines, castanets), and some are generally used as sound effects (i.e. gongs, ratchet, slapstick).

"Global Beat" presents music from Africa, Asia, Europe, South America and North America on a wide variety of percussion instruments, both traditional and modern. Segments include:

- Samba music from Brazil
- Traditional Chinese folk songs
- A jig and reel from Ireland featuring the hammered dulcimer, spoons and bodhran
- A waltz from Switzerland with harmony provided by students
- A musical tour of Africa featuring mbiras from Zimbabwe, log drum from Nigeria, balafone from Burkina Faso, djembe from Mali and modern mbaqanga from South Africa
- Music of the steel pan from Trinidad, Haiti and Jamaica
- Lively frevo from northern Brazil with a festive parade of student instrumentalists

OBJECTIVES

- To compare and contrast music and instruments from around the world
- To use music to reinforce the study of other cultures and traditions
- To use music to reinforce the study of geography
- To introduce and/or reinforce general musical elements such as melody, harmony and rhythm

VOCABULARY

- Percussion- instruments played primarily by striking
- Rhythm- the organization of sound in time
- Samba- a rhythmic Brazilian dance of African origin
- Yangqin- a Chinese hammered dulcimer
- Bodhran- a simple frame drum from Ireland originally played with a real bone
- Amglocken- cowbells from Switzerland with specific pitches
- Djembe- African drum carved from the trunk of the Bau-mau tree with goat skin stretched over one end
- Shekere- gourd with beads attached used in African music
- Balafone- early African xylophone
- Mbaqanga- modern pop music style from South Africa
- Steel drum or Steel pan- melodic instrument invented on the island of Trinidad, made from 55 gallon oil drum
- Calypso- a musical style of West Indian origin influenced by jazz
- Carnival- celebration held in many parts of the world (Brazil, Trinidad, New Orleansí Mardi Gras) characterized by high-energy music and dance