# CECILIA STRING QUARTET

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# **Educational Programming**

The members of the Cecilia String Quartet are passionate about educating the next generation of chamber music lovers. They believe in the ability of music to enrich and strengthen the minds of listeners in ways that will benefit them in all aspects of life and learning. This passion has led the CSQ to create several educational outreach presentations which they perform regularly, often in affiliation with notable organizations such as MASC (Multicultural Arts in Schools and Communities), and the Ottawa Chamber Music Society. Read on to learn more about these programs\*.

### **Program #1: EVOLUTION OF THE STRING QUARTET**

45-50 minutes including musical performances, verbal presentation, and question and answer (Grades 5-12, but can be adapted for other age groups)

<u>Description:</u> This program is designed to takes students on a tour through history of one of the most important

genres in classical music, the string quartet.

Objectives: 1. To describe the abilities and roles of the instruments of the string quartet.

2. To show the development of string quartet repertoire over the past 300 years, with references to

general historic trends in classical music.

3. To give insight into what it is like to play in a professional string quartet, as well as what it is like to be

a professional musician.

#### **Program**

Introduction 3'	Another Little Piece of My Heart (2 <sup>nd</sup> Movement, Aggressively)	Kelly-Marie Murphy (b. 1964)
String Quartet Beginnings 3'	String Quartet Op.1 No.1 (1 <sup>st</sup> Movement, Presto)	eph Haydn (1732-1809)
The Growth of the String Quartet 6'	String Quartet Op.135 (2 <sup>nd</sup> Movement, Vivace)	Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)
The String Quartet and Romantic Music 6'	String Quartet Op.106 (excerpts from the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Movement, Adagio ma non troppo)	Antonín Dvořák (1841-1904)

The String Quartet Today Another Little Piece of My Heart Kelly-Marie Murphy

5' (3<sup>rd</sup> Movement, Agitato) (b. 1964)

Question and Answer Period

5'

<sup>\*</sup>programs may be changed to better fit audiences/presentation times at the discretion of the performers.

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#### Program #2: SOUNDS OF THE STRING QUARTET - GAMES PRESENTATION

45-50 minutes including musical performances, verbal presentation, and question and answer (Grades 1-5)

**Description:** This program is designed to give younger audiences exposure to works in the string quartet repertoire

that may be new or strange to them. It uses games that involve both verbal and physical audience

participation.

Objectives: 1. To use classical music to engage young listeners in ways they may not have experienced before.

2. To introduce young listeners to a wider range of classical repertoire, including more obscure works as

well as modern compositions.

3. To expose young listeners to an expanded vocabulary of instrumental sounds (for example, techniques

such as glissandi, artificial harmonics, and quarter tones, that they may not be familiar with).

**Program** 

**GAME #1:** A guessing game; students must listen to sounds, and then are asked to describe and/or

What's that noise? identify what they just heard. Performances of 10-25 second excerpts from the following works:

10' Alban Berg (1885-1935) Lyric Suite

> String Quartet Op.80 Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Commedia dell'arte Ana Sokolovic (b. 1968) Another Little Piece of My Heart Kelly-Marie Murphy (b. 1964)

**GAME #2:** A counting game; students are introduced to musical motive, and then asked to try and

Find Clara count how many times it is played in the musical excerpt that follows.

Robert Schumann (1810-1856) 10' String Quartet Op.41 No.3

(1<sup>st</sup> Movement)

**GAME #3:** A listening game; students explore various dance rhythms and then are asked to identify

what types of dance are present in the musical excerpts that follow. Performances of 1'-1'30" The Dance Game

excerpts from the following works:

10' String Quartet Op.135 Ludwig van Beethoven (1770-1827)

String Quartet Op.77 No.2 Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809) String Quartet Op.106 Antonín Dvořák (1841-1904)

GAME #4: A physical activity game; students explore dynamics by mirroring different volume/energy

The Crescendo Game levels with their body movements (for example, standing up, sitting down, jumping, etc.).

10' String Quartet Op.50 No.6 "Frog" Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)

(3<sup>rd</sup> Movement)

**Question and Answer Period** 

5'

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## **Program #3: SCORNED AND SHUNNED** Composers that fought for appreciation

45-50 minutes including musical performances, verbal presentation, and question and answer (Grades 6 and up, or Adult audiences)

Description: This program features a variety of works by composers that, at some point in their lives, were not well

> received by those that heard their music. The performers will speak to the audience about each composer's specific struggles, and follow this with an excerpt from one of their most loved works by

today's standards.

Objectives: 1. To give the audience into the historical context in which the pieces were written, as well as the inner

mental and emotional struggles of the composer, in a way that enhances their experience and

understanding of the performance.

2. To expose audiences to classical repertoire they may not have heard before.

3. To show what beauty and art can come out of struggle.

#### **Program**

Introduction Another Little Piece of My Heart Kelly-Marie Murphy

(2<sup>nd</sup> Movement, Aggressively) 3' (b. 1964)

**Trouble Getting Along:** String Quartet K.387 Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

(2<sup>nd</sup> Movement, Menuetto) W.A. Mozart (1756-1791)

6'

Mind over Matter: String Quartet Op.135 Ludwig van Beethoven

(2<sup>nd</sup> Movement, Vivace) L. van Beethoven (1770-1827)

8'

Love and Art: String Quartet Op.41 No.3 Robert Schumann

(1st Movement, Andante espressivo-Robert Schumann (1810-1856)

8' Allegro molto)

String Quartet Op.108 No.7 Hidden Agenda: Dimitri Shostakovich

(3<sup>rd</sup> Movement, Allegro) **Dmitri Shostakovich** (1906-1975)

8'

Only time will tell Another Little Piece of My Heart Kelly-Marie Murphy

(4<sup>th</sup> Movement, Expressively) (b. 1964)

**Question and Answer Period**