

Organization Name:	Palm Beach Symphony		
Lesson Title:	"A TV Guide to the Orchestra"	Grade Level(s):	K-12

Science Benchmarks Addressed* (max 3) Reference Document Please list only the benchmark code, NOT the entire benchmark	Arts Benchmarks Addressed* (max 3) Reference Document Please list only the benchmark code, NOT the entire benchmark
SC.K.N.1.3 SC.1.N.1.3 SC.2.N.1.1 SC.3.N.1.1 SC.4.N.1.1 SC.5.N.1.1 SC.6.N.1.1 SC.7.N.1.1 SC.8.N.1.1 SC.912.N.1.2 SC.912.N.1.5 SC.912.N.1.6	MU.K.C.1.2 MU.1.C.1.2 MU.2.C.1.1 MU.3.C.1.3 MU.4.C.1.3 MU.5.C.1.3 MU.68.C.1.1 MU.68.C.1.3 MU.68.C.3.1 MU.912.C.1.1 MU.912.C.1.2 MU.912.C.1.3

*A standard **must** be listed for each grade being served.

ELA Expectations (max 3, if applicable) Reference Document	Mathematics Expectations (max 3, if applicable) Reference Document
ELA.K12.EE.1.1 ELA.K12.EE.3.1 ELA.K12.EE.4.1	MA.K12.MTR.1.1 MA.K12.MTR.2.1 MA.K12.MTR.6.1

Student Learning Goals

What will students know, explain, or be able to do after the field trip/experience?

Students will:

- Listen to different types of orchestral sounds
- Identify several orchestral instrument sounds
- Identify what several orchestral instruments look like
- Recognize and classify various instruments
- Recognize, analyze, compare and contrast different orchestral instrument sounds from the four instrument families of woodwind, brass, strings, and percussion

PreTeaching (if applicable)

What should teachers address with students PRIOR to the field trip/experience?
Include any resource links here.

A TV GUIDE TO THE ORCHESTRA EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES:

Resources listed in this lesson plan can be found at:

https://palmbeachsymphony-my.sharepoint.com/:f/g/personal/bseliger_palmbeachsymphony_org/EsFk56ODui1PII984farZg4Bex0itXmk7S8f-nXlt6szQg?e=iFDRau

These lesson plan materials are rather comprehensive and are intended for teachers to extract information at their discretion that they believe will be most beneficial for the given body of students they are teaching and the length of their classes. **This**

information is intended to be taught prior to coming to our live performance; however, these materials can certainly be used after the fact to reinforce and summarize what students learned.

**LESSON PLAN MATERIALS ON WHAT TO EXPECT AT PALM BEACH SYMPHONY'S PRODUCTION OF
A TV GUIDE TO THE ORCHESTRA
AND A SYNOPSIS ON THE PRIMARY MUSICAL WORK *THE YOUNG PERSON'S GUIDE TO THE ORCHESTRA*:**

PREPARING STUDENTS FOR WHAT THEY WILL EXPERIENCE:

The students will be audience members for a live and engaging performance by Palm Beach Symphony conducted by Music Director Gerard Schwarz that is especially crafted for youth called *A TV Guide to the Orchestra*. The main work on the program is one of the most popular children's pieces of all time, loved and enjoyed by people of all ages called *The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra, Op. 34: Variations and Fugue on a Theme of Purcell* composed by Englishman Benjamin Britten (1913-1976) at a pivotal time in history during in 1946. Britten is a highly celebrated English composer and was equally well known for his commitment to conducting. See below in this section for information on what a composer is and what a conductor is.

In Palm Beach Symphony's production, instead of using an existing narration with a sole narrator describing the different instruments of the orchestra, we have created a partnership with the Maltz Jupiter Theatre to create a script for four young actors to dramatize. This introductory section to the instruments of the orchestra will be followed by a presentation of familiar classical works "as *heard* on TV" and programmatic music with an interactive dialogue to engage the audience with the performers on stage. See below in this section for more information on program music.

WHAT IS A COMPOSER AND WHAT IS A CONDUCTOR?

A composer is the person that writes the music that musicians perform. A conductor is a person that stands in the front and center of an ensemble and leads the musicians so that are playing the music together. They make silent gestures that tell musicians the tempo, what beat they are on in each measure (for example, beat 1, 2, 3, 4, etc.), what meter the music is in, when their entrances are so that they know when to begin playing their part, what dynamic to play at such as soft or loud, direction on phrasing and shaping musical lines, and shows the musicians how to play with a uniform sound of interpretation of the music. Conductors use a baton to conduct with that is held in their right hand. Another name for a conductor is maestro.

Photo of Benjamin Britten conducting:



Gerard Schwarz is the conductor of Palm Beach Symphony. He is also the music director, and this means that he selects the music our orchestra will play. Like Benjamin Britten, he is both a conductor and a composer, and often conducts performances of his own music. Maestro Schwarz is friendly and loves to conduct Palm Beach Symphony in our children's concerts.

Photo of Palm Beach Symphony's Music Director and Conductor for *A TV Guide to the Orchestra*.



To view his biography, please visit:

<https://www.palmbeachsymphony.org/about/music-director>

THE YOUNG PERSON'S GUIDE TO THE ORCHESTRA, OP.34

Benjamin Britten (1913–1976)

Creative genius, opera supremo, virtuoso pianist, gifted conductor, inspired recording artist and visionary festival organiser – Benjamin Britten was a musical polymath without equal in the history of British music. While still in his mid-teens, he won a scholarship to study at the Royal College of Music, after which one of the examiners enquired indignantly, 'What is an English public schoolboy doing writing music of this kind?' Aged just twenty-four, he composed his *Variations on a Theme of Frank Bridge*, a blistering masterpiece for string orchestra that once and for all announced the arrival of a major new talent.

Britten spent the early part of the Second World War in North America, where his life-long friendship with the great English tenor Peter Pears blossomed. It was after returning to England that in 1945 he completed the work that would prove a turning point in British music: the opera *Peter Grimes*. Riding on a wave of popular success, he produced a set of orchestral variations on a theme by his favourite English composer Henry Purcell (1659–1695) that would win instant popularity as *The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra*. Yet whatever personal success he may have enjoyed, Britten above all wanted to feel useful – to be a vital part of everyday society, as witnessed by a 1964 newspaper article in which he wished for his music to be 'accepted as an essential part of human activity and human expression' and that he longed to be 'of value to the community'.

Subtitled 'Variations and Fugue on a Theme of Henry Purcell', *The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra* was originally composed as the soundtrack to a 1946 Crown Film Unit feature intended to introduce children to the various instruments of the orchestra. Composed in just two weeks, Britten based this bracingly dynamic score on a *Rondeau* from Purcell's incidental music to *Abdelazer* (or *The Moor's Revenge*) by Aphra Behn, whose keen involvement in the frequently racy Restoration theatre scene led to her being accused of 'lewdness'. On hearing that the Ministry of Education had given the work its blessing, Britten retorted: 'I never really worried it would be too sophisticated for the kids – it is difficult to be that for the little blighters!'

Britten follows the full orchestral statement of the main theme with a playful series of variations that presents the instruments of the orchestra in their proper families, working down from the highest-pitched instruments. Thus he opens with the woodwind (piccolo and flute, oboes, clarinets, bassoons) and continues with the strings (violins, violas, cellos, double basses, harp), French horns, brass (trumpets, trombones and bass tuba) and percussion, and then brings everyone back in order again for a majestic fugal finale.

Programme note © Julian Haylock



What is Program Music?

Program music, also known as programmatic music, is instrumental music that tells a story, depicts a scene, or evokes an idea or mood. Program music often uses titles, program notes, or other cues to guide the listener's imagination and understanding of the narrative. In the instance of our Palm Beach Symphony production, we will have four young actors providing narration that focuses on the four families of orchestral instruments (strings, woodwinds, brass, and percussion), how they sound alone as a family, how they sound with the individual instruments within them, and also how all four of the instrument families sound together as a full symphony orchestra.

What is a Leitmotif?

A leitmotif is a recurring musical theme associated with a specific character, object, or idea, which helps to deepen the emotional impact and narrative coherence of a film.

Living composer and conductor John Williams (born in 1932) is a master of composing program music, especially in his compositions for films, television shows, the Olympics, and theme songs to all sorts of things. Leitmotifs can be born within program music (or any type of music) and John Williams in particular is renowned for his masterful use of leitmotifs in his film scores, a technique popularized by the Romantic German composer Richard Wagner (1813-1883). Williams's genius lies in his ability to create memorable and distinctive leitmotifs that become instantly recognizable and emotionally resonant.

Here are two examples of John Williams' famous leitmotifs:

- "Hedwig's Theme" from the Harry Potter series is a leitmotif. It is a musical phrase that is used repeatedly throughout the Harry Potter film series to represent the wizarding world, Harry Potter's connection to it, and the magical elements of the story, serving as a musical "key" that signals the presence of magic or the wizarding world. The theme is not just a simple musical phrase; it's a symbol of the entire magical universe in the Harry Potter story.

Video of John Williams conducting his own composition of "Hedwig's Theme" that is heard in the Harry Potter series with the Berlin Philharmonic:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q3UGOu-tqII>

- Video of John Williams conducting his own composition of "Darth Vader's Theme" also known as "The Imperial March" from the Star Wars odyssey:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pFJv6iowcXA>

LESSON PLAN MATERIALS ON THE INSTRUMENTS IN A SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA AND THEIR FAMILIES IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE IN BRITTEN'S *THE YOUNG PERSON'S GUIDE TO THE ORCHESTRA*:

Benjamin Britten's *The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra* opens with a main theme that serves as the basis of a series of brilliant and imaginative variations. A stirring dance tune from *Abdelazar* by English composer Henry Purcell akin to a leitmotif. It is first stated by the full orchestra and then is circulated among the woodwinds, brass, strings, and percussion before returning to the full orchestra again. To familiarize your students with these four instrument families (strings, woodwinds, brass, and percussion) and the instruments within them, follow these steps in the order they are listed here that mirrors the order they are presented in the music by Britten.

INSTRUMENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES:

Begin a discussion about what the word "family" means. Take all answers from students. Help lead the discussion towards the four families of musical instruments. In this case, "family" means a group of instruments that have similarities to each other. The students will discover what those similarities are by looking and listening.

Display "The Instruments in a Symphony Orchestra" graphics on a screen for your students to see or print it out to distribute to them.

<https://palmbeachsymphony->

[my.sharepoint.com/:b/g/personal/bseliger_palmbeachsymphony_org/EW2Le6r7if5EulnaoizLC0BAEFFSVvS1ozYjsl1Jw3sTw?e=0ZQOgf](https://palmbeachsymphony-my.sharepoint.com/:b/g/personal/bseliger_palmbeachsymphony_org/EW2Le6r7if5EulnaoizLC0BAEFFSVvS1ozYjsl1Jw3sTw?e=0ZQOgf)

THE INSTRUMENTS IN A SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Strings



Percussion



Brass



Woodwinds



The Palm Beach Symphony

PALM BEACH
SYMPHONY
GERARD SCHWARZ MUSIC DIRECTOR

Next, post these Instrument Family graphics seen below on a screen for your students to see and/or give them this handout with all 4 families:

https://palmbeachsymphony-my.sharepoint.com/:b/g/personal/bseliger_palmbeachsymphony_org/EfbimYv_FVJBnnQbzy4vE2oBj0_n-YaABlop7ndgia8Z4Q?e=LkjPA1

Starting with the String family, ask students to look for ways in which the instruments look alike. Make four columns on a chart, so that you can write down their observations for each of the four families.

Discuss the types of instruments commonly found in an orchestra and then play the video links under each instrument family so that they can hear what each instrument sounds like both individually and then together. This information identifies the four main instrumental families in an orchestra, the individual instruments within them, and video links in which these instruments play separately and then together. After listening to the audio/video clips, ask the students which instrument(s) they like and why.

Strings – The string section is made up of instruments that are bowed or plucked, such as a violin, viola, cello or bass. Another string instrument is the harp. Guitar is a string instrument, though it is not often played in a symphony orchestra.



- For more detailed information visit <https://www.orsymphony.org/learning-community/instruments/strings/>.
- This video has these instruments play separately and then together:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MP2_6OLummA

Woodwinds – Woodwind instruments use air to create a sound. Some woodwind instruments such as a bassoon, clarinet, saxophone, and oboe use a reed and/or mouthpiece, and the flute has a lip plate resting on a headjoint. There are holes in the body of the instrument that the musician covers and uncovers to produce different pitches. Please note, the saxophone and recorder are not often found in a symphony orchestra.



- For more detailed information visit <https://www.orsymphony.org/learning-community/instruments/woodwinds/>
- This video has these instruments play separately and then together: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KEt1Mm8sSkA>

Brass – Instruments in the brass section produce sound when the musician pushes air through the mouthpiece while vibrating or “buzzing” their lips to produce the pitches. Trumpets, trombones, French horns, and tubas can be found in the brass section.



- For more detailed information visit <https://www.orsymphony.org/learning-community/instruments/brass/>

- This video has these instruments play separately and then together:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yE0aSxziNdY&t=4s>

Percussion – Percussion instruments are shaken, rattled, blown into, or hit such as drums, cymbals, gongs, bells, and whistles. Pictured below are some primary percussion instruments played in an orchestra. There are countless other percussion instruments. These pictures reflect only a small fraction of percussion instruments. The piano is also a percussion instrument.



- For more detailed information visit <https://www.orsymphony.org/learning-community/instruments/percussion/>
- This video has these instruments play separately and then together: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xGKpngeslSI>

**INSTRUMENTS THAT PLAY IN
THE YOUNG PERSON'S GUIDE TO THE ORCHESTRA COMPOSED BY BENJAMIN BRITTEN
 (THE MUSIC THAT WILL BE PERFORMED LIVE AT OUR PRODUCTION OF *A TV GUIDE TO THE ORCHESTRA*)**

After teaching students about the instruments that typically play in a symphony orchestra, now is a good time to cover what instruments they will see and hear specifically during the performance of the work *The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra* composed by Benjamin Britten. You may refer back to the instrument family images covered above to show them which ones they will see at Palm Beach Symphony's show. For reference, here is the link once again:

https://palmbeachsymphony-my.sharepoint.com/:b:/g/personal/bseliger_palmbeachsymphony_org/EfbimYv_FVJBnnQbzy4vE2oBj0_n-YaABlop7ndgja8Z4Q?e=LkjPA1

Indicated in the preface of Britten's score, it says,

"To be spoken before the music starts:

The composer has written this piece of music specially to introduce you to the instruments of the orchestra. There are four teams of player; the STRINGS, the WOODWIND, the BRASS, and the PERCUSSION. Each of these four teams uses instruments which have a family likeness. They make roughly the same kind of sound in the same way. The STRINGS are played with a bow or plucked by the fingers. The WOODWIND are blown by the breath. The BRASS are blown too. The PERCUSSION are banged. First you will hear a Theme by the great English composer, Henry Purcell, played by the whole orchestra and by each one of the four groups of instruments."

Show students this list of Instrumentation (instruments included in this work) of *The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra* –

Woodwinds:

1 Piccolo
2 Flutes
2 Oboes
2 Clarinets
2 Bassoons

Brass:

4 French horns
2 Trumpets
3 Trombones
1 Tuba

Strings (all full sections except for harp):

1 Harp
Violins (divided into sections of 1st and 2nd violins)
Violas
Cellos
Double Basses

Percussion:

Timpani
Xylophone
Triangle
Snare drum
Cymbals
Bass drum
Tambourine
Gong
Whip
Castanets
Chinese block

EXERCISE FOR FIRST HEARING OF *THE YOUNG PERSON'S GUIDE TO THE ORCHESTRA* OR EXCERPTS OF IT:

Now that you've gone over instrumental families and the main individual instruments within them, play this video for them of *The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra* and have them listen to it. Point to different sections in the orchestra and see if they can identify what is a string instrument from a woodwind, brass or percussion instrument. Remind them that strings are played with bows, woodwinds and brass must be blown into, and percussion must be hit to produce sound. This will help them identify which family a given instrument comes from.

Video of WDR Symphony Orchestra with Principal Conductor Jukka-Pekka Saraste with hyperlinks to click on every subsection of the entire work listed below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4vvhU22uAM>

[0:02](#) - [0:23](#) Full Orchestra

[0:23](#) - [0:46](#) Woodwinds (flute, piccolo, oboe, clarinet and bassoon)

[0:46](#) - [1:06](#) Brass (French horn, trumpet, trombone and tuba)

[1:06](#) - [1:23](#) Strings (violin, viola, cello, double bass and harp)

[1:23](#) - [1:39](#) Percussion

[1:39](#) - [1:57](#) Full Orchestra

[1:57](#) - [2:29](#) Flute and Piccolo

[2:29](#) - [3:31](#) Oboe

[3:31](#) - [4:15](#) Clarinet

[4:15](#) - [5:06](#) Bassoon
[5:06](#) - [5:40](#) Violin
[5:40](#) - [6:40](#) Viola
[6:40](#) - [7:51](#) Cello
[7:51](#) - [8:49](#) Double Bass
[8:49](#) - [9:37](#) Harp
[9:37](#) - [10:28](#) French Horn
[10:28](#) - [10:57](#) Trumpet
[10:57](#) - [12:10](#) Trombone and Tuba
[12:10](#) - [14:07](#) Percussion
[14:07](#) - [16:45](#) Fugue

THE FORM OF *THE YOUNG PERSON'S GUIDE TO THE ORCHESTRA*:

Clearly indicated from the title itself, *The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra, Op. 34: Variations and Fugue on a Theme of Purcell* is comprised of a musical form called theme and variations and the culminating ending is in the form of a fugue.

What is Theme and Variations?

The Structure:

The form typically begins with the theme, followed by a series of variations while maintaining a connection to the original melody. The variations are presented in a specific order, often building upon each other to create a cohesive musical experience. These variations can involve changes to the melody, rhythm, harmony, dynamics, or instrumentation.

The Theme:

This is the initial melody, which is usually a relatively simple and memorable musical idea. In this instance, it's a theme composed 250 years prior by Henry Purcell.

Variations:

Each variation takes the original theme and manipulates it in different ways. These changes can include:

- **Melodic Variation:** Altering the melody itself, such as changing the notes, rhythm, or phrasing.
- **Rhythmic Variation:** Changing the rhythm of the melody, making it faster or slower, or adding or subtracting notes.
- **Harmonic Variation:** Modifying the chords that accompany the melody.
- **Dynamic Variation:** Changing the loudness or softness of the music.
- **Instrumental Variation:** Changing the instruments that play the melody.

Structure:

The main theme is what is presented at the very start followed by a series of variations. The variations are presented in a specific order, often building upon each other to create a cohesive musical experience.

What is a Fugue?

A fugue is a contrapuntal section of a composition or one in its entirety where multiple melodic lines (voices) imitate a single main theme, known as the subject, at different pitches. This imitative process creates a complex and intricate musical texture, where the voices enter one by one, presenting the subject and then interweaving with each other.

To Summarize the Form of *The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra*:

Orrin Howard states, "The theme that serves as the basis of a series of brilliant and imaginative variations is a stirring dance tune from *Abdelazar* by Henry Purcell (1659–1695). It is first stated by the full orchestra and then is circulated among the woodwinds, brass, strings, and percussion before returning to the full orchestra again. Having exposed the theme in the four sections of the orchestra, Britten goes on to put it through remarkably contrasting musical guises, all spotlighting in turn each member of the first three orchestral sections—woodwinds: piccolo, flutes, oboes, clarinets, bassoons; strings: violins, violas, cellos, basses, and harp; and brass: horns, trumpets, trombones, tuba. The percussion section gets a dazzling cadenza."

He continues, "After introducing the orchestra members individually, Britten reassembles them for a fugue, with each instrument entering in the order of the variations. Finally, Purcell's D-minor tune makes a heroic return, and the composition ends in a blaze of D-major grandeur."

How Programmatic Music and the Use of a Leitmotif Are Involved:

This work tells a story whether hearing it with or without narration; though narration does indeed heighten and bring clarity to the composer's intentions and can enhance the joy of the experience. The formal presentation of the music clearly establishes itself as a guide to the orchestra as a whole, family by family, instrumental section one by one, and then brings it all together from one voice in the piccolo to all players in the orchestra.

As indicated, *The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra* by Britten uses a theme from Henry Purcell's *Abdelazar* as its basis, which is treated as a variation set and also reappears in different forms, akin to a leitmotif. The theme is first stated by the full orchestra and then passed around the instrument families. Additionally, when the new fugue theme is introduced, it also becomes a recurring motif.

While the piece doesn't use the term "leitmotif" in a strict, Wagnerian sense (where specific musical ideas are associated with characters or ideas), the recurring theme and its variations are used in a similar way, serving as a unifying element and introducing the different instrument families. The recurring eight-measure theme in D Minor from Purcell's work is a key element, heard twelve times across the orchestra. The fugue theme also appears repeatedly, adding another layer of melodic recurrence.

Ultimately, the grand scheme of the form is Theme and Variations.

Formal Analysis:

Theme (Allegro maestoso e largamente) – presented from the start with the whole orchestra playing together (known as tutti).

Reflecting back on the video listed earlier, this list now includes the formal analysis with tempi markings in each section indicated in red.

WDR Symphony Orchestra with Principal Conductor Jukka-Pekka Saraste with hyperlinks to click on every subsection of the entire work listed below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4vbyhU22uAM>

[0:02](#) - [0:23](#) Full Orchestra – Theme (Allegro maestoso e largamente) presented from the start with the whole orchestra playing together (known as tutti)

[0:23](#) - [0:46](#) Woodwinds (flute, piccolo, oboe, clarinet and bassoon) – Theme repeated only with the woodwind family

[0:46](#) - [1:06](#) Brass (French horn, trumpet, trombone and tuba) – Theme repeated only with the brass family

[1:06](#) - [1:23](#) Strings (violin, viola, cello, double bass and harp) – Theme repeated only with the string family

[1:23](#) - [1:39](#) Percussion – Theme repeated only with the percussion family

[1:39](#) - [1:57](#) Full Orchestra – Theme again presented from the start with the whole orchestra playing together (tutti)

[1:57](#) - [2:29](#) Flute and Piccolo – Variation A (Presto)

[2:29](#) - [3:31](#) Oboe – Variation B (Lento)

[3:31](#) - [4:15](#) Clarinet – Variation C (Moderato)

[4:15](#) - [5:06](#) Bassoon – Variation D (Allegro alla marcia)

[5:06](#) - [5:40](#) Violin – Variation E (Brillante: alla polacca)

[5:40](#) - [6:40](#) Viola – Variation F (meno mosso)

[6:40](#) - [7:51](#) Cello – Variation G (Lusingando)

[7:51](#) - [8:49](#) Double Bass – Variation H (Cominciando lento ma poco a poco accel. al Allegro)

[8:49](#) - [9:37](#) Harp – Variation I (Maestoso)

[9:37](#) - [10:28](#) French Horn – Variation J (L'istesso tempo)

[10:28](#) - [10:57](#) Trumpet – Variation K (Vivace)

[10:57](#) - [12:10](#) Trombone and Tuba – Variation L (Allegro pomposo)

[12:10](#) - [14:07](#) Percussion – Variation M (Moderato)

[14:07](#) - [16:45](#) Fugue (Allegro molto) – starts out with a solo piccolo voice and builds to the use of full orchestra (tutti)

LEARNING FROM THE SOURCE -
HEARING BENJAMIN BRITTEN'S OWN INTERPRETATION HIS MUSIC:



When learning about music at the deepest levels, it is wise to investigate if the composer performed their own music, and if so, to study it. In this case, since composer Benjamin Britten was alive in the 20th-century and was also an avid conductor, a recording of him conducting his home orchestra, The London Symphony Orchestra, in *The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra* is available. Here are several ways to hear it and one of several images used for this album cover. No video is available, only audio.

YouTube – Audio only (full work with no distinction between sections):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GenWkFVSZxo>

Wikipedia – Audio only under “Structure: External Audio” with individual sections separated per track:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Young_Person%27s_Guide_to_the_Orchestra

Spotify:

<https://open.spotify.com/track/6BKcbGaogA8BeaJX0F2hbz>

To Purchase Stream, Audio CD, or MP3:

https://www.amazon.com/Britten-Persons-Orchestra-Variations-Symphony/dp/B0000041S6/ref=asc_df_B0000041S6?mcid=c0b945052d5f3d5e8a08000074a1710d&hvociid=17335901497544564866-B0000041S6-&hvexpln=73&tag=hyprod-20&linkCode=df0&hvadid=721245378154&hvpos=&hvnetw=g&hvrand=17335901497544564866&hvpone=&hvpstwo=&hvgmt=&hvdev=c&hvdvcmdl=&hvlocint=&hvlocphy=90119158&hvtargid=pla-2281435177378&pssc=1

ADDITIONAL ONLINE SOURCE MATERIALS:

Video of Audio Recording with Narration given by Peter Pears with the London Symphony Orchestra and conducted by Sir Malcolm Sargent with visuals of the instruments.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TjOiZReM7m4>

[02:40](#) - Theme: Allegro maestoso e largamente Tutti, Woodwinds, Brass, Strings, then Percussion

[03:18](#) - Variation A: Presto: Piccolo and Flute

[03:49](#) - Variation B: Lento: Oboes

[05:07](#) - Variation C: Moderato: Clarinets

[05:50](#) - Variation D: Allegro alla marcia: Bassoons

[06:46](#) - Variation E: Brillante: alla polacca: Violins

[07:33](#) - Variation F: Meno mosso: Violas

[08:43](#) - Variation G: Cellos

[09:54](#) - Variation H: Cominciando lento ma poco a poco accel. al Allegro: Double Basses

[10:55](#) - Variation I: Maestoso: Harp

[11:50](#) - Variation J: L'istesso tempo: Horns

[12:53](#) - Variation K: Vivace: Trumpets

[13:26](#) - Variation L: Allegro pomposo: Trombones and Bass-Tuba

[14:33](#) - Variation M: Moderato: Percussion (Timpani; Bass Drum & Cymbals; Tambourine & Triangle; Snare Drum & Wood Block; Xylophone; Castanets & Gong; Whip; Percussion Tutti)

[16:10](#) - Fugue: Tutti, Allegro molto Philharmonia Orchestra Conductor: Igor Markevitch Narrated by Sir Peter Pears (P) HMV 1955

Video Recording Recommendation for Grades K-5 is a performance of *The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra* performed by the New Jersey Symphony with conductor Tong Chen and educational commentary (not original narration) by Tiana Camacho with renderings of instruments as they relate to the music:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rbUbx9cJPX0>

Video of Full Score with Audio Recording published by Boosey & Hawkes (official publisher of this work that is rental only and not in public domain) of Britten's *The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra*:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JGxQVxgacSI>

Video of Score Music Theory Analysis of Britten's *The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra* beginning with audio recording of Henry Purcell's (1659-1695) original theme played on period instruments (instruments used during Purcell's time period as opposed to modern instruments heard in all other recordings) at the very beginning of video and written music theory analysis of the complete work:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JHZer7zpKWc>

WORKSHEET TO IDENTIFY FORM AND/OR INSTRUMENTS AND FAMILIES AURALLY AND/OR VISUALLY:

Play the video again and have your students fill in this worksheet to the best of their ability. If they cannot determine the precise answers in any of the boxes, have them list any qualities about the music or instruments that they can decipher.

To view this document on its own, visit:

[https://palmbeachsymphony-](https://palmbeachsymphony-my.sharepoint.com/:i/g/personal/bseliger_palmbeachsymphony_org/Eb1O8f8mtVxKmgfOevxk_kYBu0tTDdTri7gNy7tlfOMHUw?e=FpH2zU)

[my.sharepoint.com/:i/g/personal/bseliger_palmbeachsymphony_org/Eb1O8f8mtVxKmgfOevxk_kYBu0tTDdTri7gNy7tlfOMHUw?e=FpH2zU](https://palmbeachsymphony-my.sharepoint.com/:i/g/personal/bseliger_palmbeachsymphony_org/Eb1O8f8mtVxKmgfOevxk_kYBu0tTDdTri7gNy7tlfOMHUw?e=FpH2zU)

Teacher's Guide for Excerpt of Recording to Play for the Worksheet Below:

You can use any of the recordings provided. Just start from the beginning and play through the opening section of the full orchestra, then woodwinds, brass, and percussion playing the theme (beginning of a track to roughly 1 minute and 40 seconds into the recording).

For your convenience, this is of WDR Symphony Orchestra with Principal Conductor Jukka-Pekka Saraste with hyperlinks to click for every section:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4vvhU22uAM>

[0:02](#) - [0:23](#) Full Orchestra – Theme (*Allegro maestoso e largamente*) presented from the start with the whole orchestra playing together (known as tutti)

[0:23](#) - [0:46](#) Woodwinds (flute, piccolo, oboe, clarinet and bassoon) – Theme repeated only with the woodwind family

[0:46](#) - [1:06](#) Brass (French horn, trumpet, trombone and tuba) – Theme repeated only with the brass family

[1:06](#) - [1:23](#) Strings (violin, viola, cello, double bass and harp) – Theme repeated only with the string family

[1:23](#) - [1:39](#) Percussion – Theme repeated only with the percussion family

The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra Listening Map Worksheet for Grades 6-12

Document Can Be Found Here:

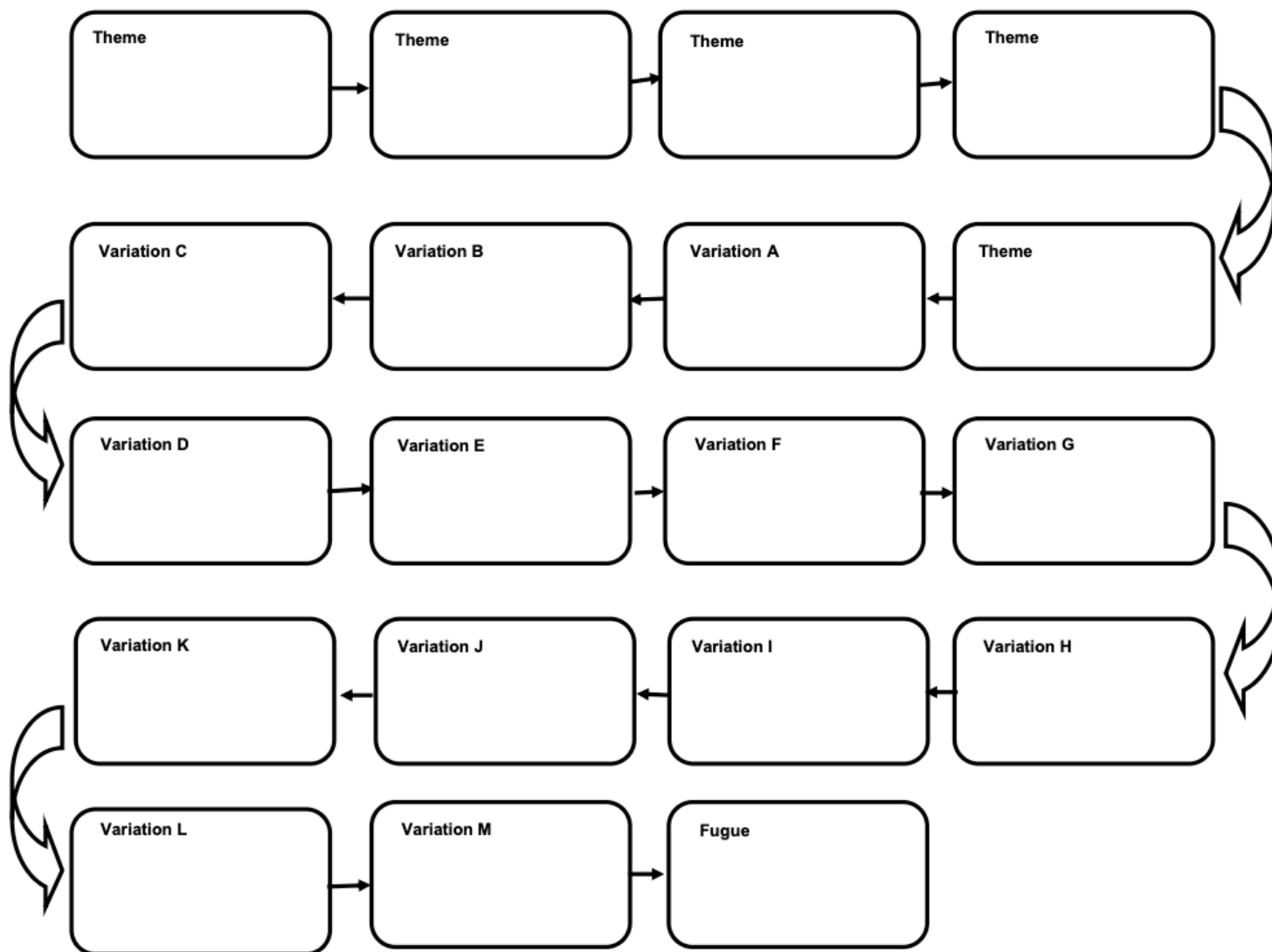
https://palmbeachsymphony-my.sharepoint.com/:i/g/personal/bseliger_palmbeachsymphony_org/Eb1O8f8mtVxKmgTOevxk_kYBu0tTDdTri7gNy7tlfOMHUw?e=3YKK3i

Instructions:

Starting from the beginning, listen to the music either by video or audio recording.

In each box, fill in which families or instrumental sections are playing.

If you do not know the answer, write down what you see and/or hear.



Teacher's Guide for Excerpt of Recording to Play for the Worksheet Below:

You can use any of the recordings provided. Just start from the beginning and play through the opening section of the full orchestra, then woodwinds, brass, and percussion playing the theme (beginning of a track to roughly 1 minute and 40 seconds into the recording).

There are the links below if using the recording of WDR Symphony Orchestra with Principal Conductor Jukka-Pekka Saraste with hyperlinks to click on every subsection of the entire work listed below:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4vbvhU22uAM>

[0:02](#) - [0:23](#) Full Orchestra – Theme (*Allegro maestoso e largamente*) presented from the start with the whole orchestra playing together (known as *tutti*)

[0:23](#) - [0:46](#) Woodwinds (flute, piccolo, oboe, clarinet and bassoon) – Theme repeated only with the woodwind family

[0:46](#) - [1:06](#) Brass (French horn, trumpet, trombone and tuba) – Theme repeated only with the brass family

[1:06](#) - [1:23](#) Strings (violin, viola, cello, double bass and harp) – Theme repeated only with the string family

[1:23](#) - [1:39](#) Percussion – Theme repeated only with the percussion family

The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra Listening Map for the Opening Section of the Music
Worksheet for Grades K-5

Document Can Be Found Here:

https://palmbeachsymphony-my.sharepoint.com/:i/g/personal/bseliger_palmbeachsymphony_org/Ea1Cr4Mt8-plqu75RElxytgBH2CQdpXB6hEDVLqIjncrbg?e=sYquM

Instructions:

Starting from the beginning, listen to the music either by video or audio recording.
Listen to the main theme and variations from *The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra*.
Using the word bank and boxes below, write word in each box to describe that section of music.

Choose from this Word Bank:

Soft
Loud
Sweet
Rough
Angry
Happy
Cheerful
Sad
Exciting
Peaceful
Surprised

Name: _____

Date: _____

THEME AND VARIATION (Level One)

Directions: Listen to the main theme and variations from *The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra*. Using the word bank and boxes below, write words in each box to describe that section of music.

WORD BANK

Soft	Angry	Exciting
Loud	Happy	Peaceful
Sweet	Cheerful	Surprised
Rough	Sad	

Full Orchestra

Woodwinds

Brass

Strings

Percussion

"INSIDE THE ORCHESTRA" ONLINE MUSICAL GAME FOR GRADES K-12:

Play instruments of your choosing at the click of a button, learn facts about them, and answer fun questions:

Play Strings and Woodwind Instruments:

<https://insidetheorchestra.org/musical-games/#strings>

Play Brass and Percussion Instruments:

<https://insidetheorchestra.org/musical-games/#brass>

For Many More Great Educational Resources About Orchestra and Band Instruments Including:

- Compose a Song
- Compose a Rhythm
- Musical Memory
- Music Maps
- Musical Bingo
- Pick the Parts

<https://insidetheorchestra.org/musical-games/>

Materials Needed for the Trip

What should students/teachers bring on the field trip/experience? Special clothing/footwear?

Guests do not need to bring anything or wear special clothing/footwear.

Lesson Activity

What will students be doing during the field trip/experience? Does this trip involve topics that involve sensitive or mature content, water activities or water contact, contact with animals, hazardous activities, or any other important information? Indicate here if on-campus/virtual options are available.

The performance does not include sensitive or mature content, water, or water contact, contact with live or hazardous activities, or live animals. The students will be audience members for a live symphony orchestra show especially crafted for youth. There will be a live performance by the Palm Beach Symphony under the baton of Music Director Gerard Schwarz. On-campus and virtual options are not available for these Children's Concerts. They are only available live and in-person.

How will the Learning Goal be assessed at the end of the field trip/experience?

Will there be a student product?

There will be a Teacher Survey and a Student Survey.

Provide follow-up resources here. (Websites, etc)

For more information on our production of *A TV Guide to the Orchestra*, please visit

<https://www.palmbeachsymphony.org/programs/tvguide>



FOR INQUIRIES RELATING TO ANY OF THESE RESOURCES NOTED BELOW, PLEASE CONTACT:

Bryce Seliger, DMA

Education & Programming Associate

Palm Beach Symphony

bseliger@palmbeachsymphony.org

PALM BEACH SYMPHONY (PBS) HOMEPAGE:

www.palmbeachsymphony.org

MUSIC EDUCATION & COMMUNITY OUTREACH SUMMARY IMPACT VIDEOS:

- Holly Jolly Symphony Fête Education and Community Outreach Video for 2024-25 Season – <https://youtu.be/TKFXIH6NGfA?si=PtNOM7PXEFfNoNCY>
- Annual Gala Video from for 2024-25 Season – https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/mfp827ikvzvvg60gzo3gh/Gala_V_fEB16.mp4?rlkey=efjctamvyuudxcijpfcpl3d6m&st=5zic3ebu&dl=0

PBS EDUCATION PAGE:

Our PBS music education webpage that includes children's concerts we have provided for the previous four years is <https://www.palmbeachsymphony.org/education/education>

PBS COMMUNITY OUTREACH PAGE:

<https://www.palmbeachsymphony.org/programs/community-outreach>

FREE POSTER OF "INSTRUMENTS IN A SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA" THAT MAY BE PRINTED OUT (FIRST IMAGE SHOWN IN THIS LESSON PLAN):

https://palmbeachsymphony-my.sharepoint.com/:b/g/personal/bseliger_palmbeachsymphony_org/EZ1yU6sZHfPkyHbfMAa2tgBwkEFQVYqeWQW8JblgZDqLg?e=U4JOMt

MASTERWORKS CONCERT SERIES COMPLIMENTARY AND DISCOUNTED TICKETS FOR STUDENTS, EDUCATORS, AND THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS:

We believe you need to see it to be it! Thanks to the generous support of sponsors and donors, we provide a limited number of free tickets to most of our Children's Concerts and all of our Masterworks Concerts to music teachers, music students, and their families. For complimentary tickets, please contact Bryce Seliger at bseliger@palmbeachsymphony.org. Beyond this, we offer \$10 tickets to students, educators, and their family members that can be purchased through our Box Office by contacting Sage Lehman, Patron Relations Concierge, at (561) 281-0415 – boxoffice@palmbeachsymphony.org or **online with the code STU25**.

TODD BARRON INSTRUMENT DONATION FUND AND PROGRAM:

<https://www.palmbeachsymphony.org/education/instrument-donations>

Palm Beach Symphony happily accepts donations of professional or amateur quality band and orchestral instruments for needy young musicians. We ensure the instruments meet performance standards and then donate them to underserved Kindergarten – 12th grade students or school music programs in Palm Beach County. The instruments come fully equipped with appropriate accessories, such as bows, rosin, reeds, and mouth pieces, and are sanitized on site by masked instrument technicians. Once sanitized, the instrument case isn't opened until it is delivered to the student recipient.

LISA BRUNA B-MAJOR AWARD FOR HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS WHO WIN BRAND-NEW PROFESSIONAL MODEL INSTRUMENTS:

Nominations for the 2025-26 season will open in August 2025

<https://www.palmbeachsymphony.org/programs/b-major>

IN-SCHOOL CONCERTS & LECTURE DEMONSTRATIONS:

<https://www.palmbeachsymphony.org/programs/lecture-demonstrations-and-in-school-concerts>

In-School Concerts are unique Lecture Demonstrations offering students an opportunity to hear and speak to a small group of professional musicians in a more personal and intimate setting. The purpose of this program is to provide mentorship, guidance, and inspiration not only to further students' musical interests and abilities, but to help develop and foster collaboration, communication, and creativity - leading them toward understanding their role in a culturally diverse global society. This highly sought after program is offered directly to school sites, or as a virtual option. Through generous grants and the support of sponsors and donors, In-School Concerts are offered free of charge to Title 1 schools. Limited funding available. Others may hire us for a fee.

RESIDENCIES & COACHING SESSIONS:

Palm Beach Symphony musicians are teaching artists that can lead coaching sessions with students. **This year we held residencies at a record seven Title I schools in elementary, middle, and high school music programs with band and string programs.** Student musicians learn technique, tone, posture, proper instrument position, and much more in small group settings under the tutelage of our professional Palm Beach Symphony musicians called coaches. Depending on the needs of the students at the schools, the students come together in a large group at the end of the session to work on ensemble balance rehearsing alongside our PBS musicians. Schools with a Palm Beach Symphony residency benefit from coaching sessions for specific instruments on a continuous basis throughout the school year. Through funding generously supported by donors, sponsors, and Palm Beach Symphony, we provide select Title I schools with a residency program each year that is free of charge. A school or foundation may also fund a Symphony residency or individual coaching session if desired.

OPEN REHEARSALS & SPECIAL TOPIC SEMINARS:

We occasionally offer highly insightful opportunities for students to observe open rehearsals featuring world renowned soloists as they work with our Music Director Gerard Schwarz and the Palm Beach Symphony. This season, we also had the magnificent opportunity to observe a rehearsal of the Renaissance String Quartet through the [Itzhak and Toby] Perlman Music Program. It is extraordinarily educational for students to observe how musicians put the music together and how the conductor chooses to rehearse them to prepare for performances up close and in person. This offering is free of charge. Please contact us if you are interested in this opportunity. We also occasionally offer special topic seminars open to the public that are free of charge.

MASTERCLASSES:

A masterclass is an individual coaching session by a master musician in front an audience, a class, or in public. Student musicians will perform a prepared piece for expert feedback on areas for improvement, including musical technique, style, interpretative qualities, presentation, and overall musicality. We provide masterclasses led by some of our world-renowned featured Masterworks Concert Series soloists as well as by our own Palm Beach Symphony musicians per the request of instrumental music teachers. Our masterclasses provided by our featured Masterworks soloists are free admission and open to the public. Our featured guest soloists Julian Schwarz (cello) and Anne-Marie McDermott (piano) gave masterclasses within days of their Palm Beach Symphony performances this 2024-25 season.

STEAM AT THE COX SCIENCE CENTER & AQUARIUM:

In partnership with the Cox Science Center and Aquarium, we provide STEAM (Science, Technology, Arts, Engineering, and Mathematics) sessions throughout the academic year. Each 3-hour session is led by a Palm Beach Symphony musician who teaches about the intersection of music and a STEM topic. These fun, educational, and engaging sessions have themes, and children actively participate in the lesson and leave with a toy instrument that encapsulates what they learned. They even get the chance to play real instruments taught by our master musicians.

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD:

Nominations for the 2025-26 season will open in August 2025

<https://www.palmbeachsymphony.org/programs/instrumental-music-teacher-of-the-year>

Eligibility – Teacher nominees must meet the following criteria:

- Teach in a K-12 public, private, or charter school in Palm Beach County
- Have a minimum of three years of experience as a band or orchestra instructor
- Have an exemplary history of work as a music educator and leader
- Exhibit an active role in the community as a performing arts educator
- Demonstrate an ability to successfully transfer knowledge, passion, and love of music to students and to inspire them to build musical knowledge and experiences
- Meet standards of professional and ethical conduct and demonstrate respect and integrity in working with students, parents, and colleagues

Award Package:

- Official Instrumental Music Teacher of the Year framed certificate
- Coaching sessions and/or Masterclasses by Palm Beach Symphony musicians at winner's school during spring semester (\$2,000 value)
- Classroom visit and conducting coaching by Palm Beach Symphony Music Director Gerard Schwarz
- Invitation for a student music ensemble of the winning teacher's choice to perform at a Palm Beach Symphony event

- Complimentary tickets for winner and students to attend a Palm Beach Symphony Masterworks concert at the Kravis Center (date and time TBD)
- Basket of Indulgences: Enjoyable personal and pampering gift items as well as local gift certificates
- Official award presentation at a Palm Beach Symphony event
- Press Release announcement with photo in local media

THE RANDOLPH A. FRANK PRIZE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS:

Nominations for the 2025-26 season will open in Fall 2025

<https://www.palmbeachsymphony.org/programs/randolph-a-frank-prize-for-performing-arts>

The mission of the Randolph A. Frank Prize for the Performing Arts is to recognize and reward individual performing artists and dedicated educators who enrich the quality of the performing arts in Palm Beach County, Florida. All established and emerging individuals who regularly perform or engage in performing arts education in Palm Beach County are eligible for consideration for the Frank Prize that is awarded annually. Prize categories include Performing Artist, Performing Arts Educator, and Emerging Artist. One to three winners are selected and awarded a total of \$10,000. For more information including eligibility criteria, visit the webpage noted above.

Scheduling Information

How should the teacher contact you to schedule a field trip/experience?

What days/times are available?

Note: School buses are available Monday - Friday. Students cannot depart earlier than 9:30 AM and must be back on campus by 1:00 PM.

Reference the [SDPBC Approved Calendar](#) for important dates.

SCHOOL SHOW FIELD TRIPS 1-3:

SCHOOL SHOW FIELD TRIP 1

Tuesday, September 30, 2025 from 10:30-11:30am

Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center at Palm Beach State College

1977 SW College Drive, Belle Glade, FL 33430

FREE ADMISSION

To attend, please contact Tashna Richards at richardst@palmbeachstate.edu and Mary-Margaret Dale at dalem@palmbeachstate.edu or (561) 993-1160.

SCHOOL SHOW FIELD TRIP 2

Friday, October 3, 2025 from 10:30-11:30am

Duncan Theater at Palm Beach State College

4200 S Congress Ave, Lake Worth Beach, FL 33461

FREE ADMISSION

To attend, please contact Sage Lehman at (561)281-0145 or slehman@palmbeachsymphony.org

SCHOOL SHOW FIELD TRIP 3

Monday, October 20, 2025 from 10:30-11:30am

The Kravis Center for the Performing Arts in Dreyfoos Hall

701 Okeechobee Blvd, West Palm Beach, FL 33401

The *S*T*A*R Series* Teacher Ticket On Sale Day is Saturday, August 23 at 11 am. Tickets may be requested online by visiting <https://link.edgepilot.com/s/3ed552dd/VYJMgiVgfEu5JBkvLt6qAw?u=https://www.kravis.org/education-community/for-educators/star/>

Tickets are \$5 per person – Palm Beach County public school students enrolled in the Federal Free/Reduced Lunch Program receive an Admission Waiver. If the performance is Sold Out, teachers may request to be waitlisted for the event. One chaperone is recommended for every 10 students and is admitted free. Tickets sold are general admission. There are no seat assignments.

FAMILY SHOW:

FAMILY CONCERT (Not a School Show Field Trip and does not have free bussing)

Sunday, October 5, 2025 from 3-4pm

The Kravis Center for the Performing Arts in Dreyfoos Hall

701 Okeechobee Blvd, West Palm Beach, FL 33401

Tickets: Students starting at \$10 and Adults starting at \$20 with VIP and exclusive VIP packages available.

To attend, please contact Sage Lehman at

(561) 281-0145 or slehman@palmbeachsymphony.org

For more information on our production of *A TV Guide to the Orchestra*, please visit

<https://www.palmbeachsymphony.org/programs/tvguide>



Directions to the venue

(Google maps links are great!)

Dolly Hand Cultural Arts Center at Palm Beach State College

1977 SW College Drive, Belle Glade, FL 33430

https://www.google.com/maps/place/Dolly+Hand+Cultural+Arts+Center/@26.6759431,-80.6912045,17z/data=!3m2!4b1!5s0x88d95a7786bf6d51:0xed41ff1c0df60bf1!4m6!3m5!1s0x88d95a779d23e2c1:0x4cb68ca08f62defd!8m2!3d26.6759383!4d-80.6886296!16s%2Fq%2F1tdyl_tw?authuser=0&entry=ttu

Duncan Theater at Palm Beach State College

4200 S Congress Ave, Lake Worth Beach, FL 33461

https://www.google.com/maps/place/Duncan+Theatre/@26.6118348,-80.089473,17z/data=!3m2!4b1!5s0x88d8d86d3f6c78b9:0x56ffb12fc5916edc!4m6!3m5!1s0x88d8d872790d585b:0xfec795a19ae74dec!8m2!3d26.6118348!4d-80.0868981!16s%2Fq%2F1tf58pkh?entry=ttu&_ep=EgoyMDI1MDQyOC4wKXMDSoASAFQAw%3D%3D

Kravis Center for the Performing Arts

701 Okeechobee Blvd, West Palm Beach, FL 33401

<https://www.google.com/maps/place/Raymond+F.+Kravis+Center+for+the+Performing+Arts/@26.7067816,-80.0605434,17z/data=!3m2!4b1!4m6!3m5!1s0x88d8d66764a30ed3:0xffbba0c49ebb176a!8m2!3d26.7067816!4d-80.0605434!16zL20vMGdudDVr?authuser=0&entry=ttu>