

Naomi Sommers' Elementary Enrichment Class

Songwriting, Grades 3-5

Class Description:

An introduction to songwriting! Students will gain basic understanding of song structure and elements (ex: verse & chorus, melody & harmony, story & rhyme), and be guided in writing an original song, either in groups or individually. We will learn about a few American songwriters, such as Stephen Foster, Elizabeth Cotten, & Woody Guthrie, and we will analyze and sing songs together (possibly including favorite songs suggested by the students). Instructor Naomi will have her guitar in class for accompaniment. At the beginning of each class we will warm up with vocal and movement techniques, and sing some simple songs to get into a music mindset. Copies of the lyrics and chords for all songs will be sent home with the students!

About the instructor:

Naomi Sommers has 25 years of experience writing songs, and over 30 years of experience performing and recording as a singer and multi-instrumentalist (flute, guitar, piano, mandolin, and banjo). She has played folk & bluegrass, jazz, classical, and rock music both solo and with numerous ensembles and collaborators. Naomi has released three albums of original songs on her father bluegrass musician Phil Rosenthal's American Melody record label, in addition to playing or singing on over 20 other recordings. <http://www.naomisommers.com>