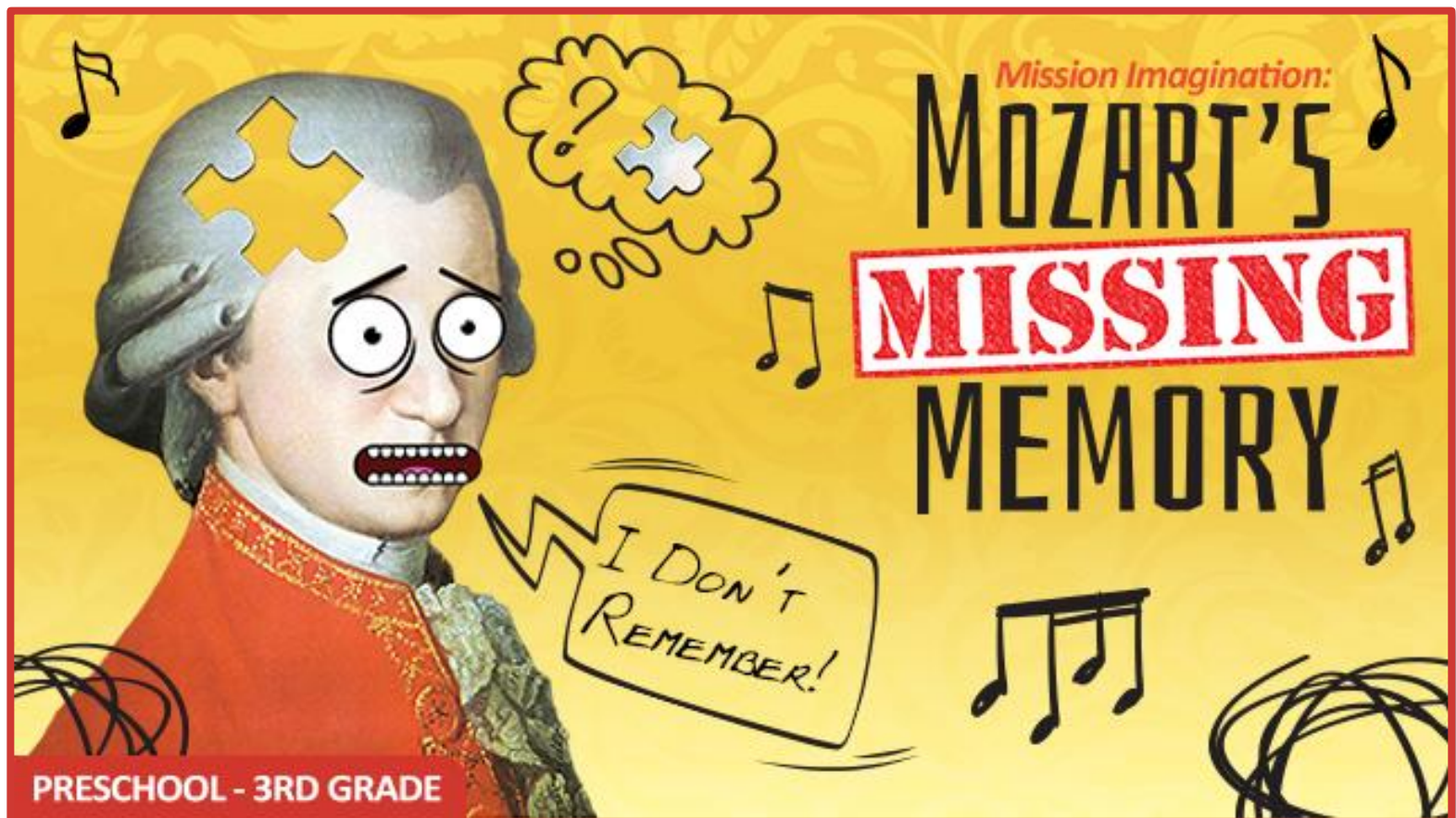




OMAHA
SYMPHONY

Ankush Kumar Bahl, Music Director



-2023/24-

Mission Imagination Educator Packet

Thank you for choosing to participate in our 2023/24 Mission Imagination production. We applaud and appreciate your decision to engage your students in this exciting musical experience with the Omaha Symphony. We hope this packet will serve as a resource as you and your students prepare for the concert.

In this packet, you will find the following:

- I. Education Standards & Objectives (Iowa & Nebraska)
- II. Story Synopsis
- III. Repertoire Listening Guide
- IV. Composer Biographies
- V. Handmade Instrument Ideas
- VI. Additional Video Resources

I. Education Standards & Objectives

This program is designed to address the following Standards for Music Education:

Nebraska Fine Arts Standards

- FA 2.4.2 – Students will sing and/or play instruments to a variety of music that includes music elements of rhythm, pitch, dynamics, and form.
- FA 5.4.2 – Students will sing and/or play instruments to a variety of music that incorporates multiple elements of music.
- FA 2.4.3 – Students will recognize and describe elements of music to demonstrate how music makes them feel (impact of music).
- FA 5.4.3 – Students will identify and describe elements of music to discern how music is appropriate for specific purposes/settings (intent of music).

Iowa Core Fine Arts Alignment:

- FA 1 – Uses song, speech, and movement to effectively communicate, collaborate with a group, and produce a musical product.
- FA 2 – Uses instruments and body percussion to effectively communicate, collaborate with a group, and produce a musical product.
- FA 5 – Listens, responds, describes, analyzes, and evaluates music critically.

Through classroom activities and concert attendance, students will:

- Explore the work and tools of a composer.
- Express ideas and opinions about a music selection.
- Connect music to personal experience through responding.
- Design and create their own musical instrument.

Throughout this musical adventure, we encourage you and your students to:

CREATE

- Students will be invited to play a hand-made instrument during the concert.

SING

- During the performance, your students will be encouraged to sing “Twinkle Twinkle Little Star”.

PARTICIPATE

- Mission Imagination is an interactive production! Students should be ready to participate and follow along in several guided activities.

LISTEN

- Make sure students are familiar with the pieces that will be played during the performance.

CONDUCT

- Students will have the chance to conduct along with the Omaha Symphony. Try your hand at conducting before coming to the concert.

II. Story Synopsis: Mozart's Missing Memory

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart is preparing to premiere his latest composition with the Omaha Symphony. While at rehearsal, Mozart seems reluctant to hand the music over to the Maestro. Instead, he discovers that the symphony will also be performing a handmade instrument concerto with some very talented soloists – your students! Mozart asks the soloists if he may perform the piece with them.

Still stalling for time, Mozart reveals that he has not actually finished the composition for the orchestra – and the concert is only hours away! Mozart promises a very concerned Maestro that there is nothing to fear. He will finish the piece immediately – after all, he is Mozart! Before he can complete the composition, however, there is an accident, and Mozart is stricken with amnesia!

The orchestra and Maestro Alejandro decide to teach Mozart about aspects of music in hopes that it will bring back his memory. They proceed to teach the very confused composer about **dynamics** (*Overture: The Marriage of Figaro*), **pitch** (*Symphony No. 41*), and **tempo** (*“Fin ch’han dal vino,” from Don Giovanni*.) They even teach Mozart about **accompaniment** (*Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star – Sing Along*)!

It will take the help of everyone at the rehearsal to get Mozart's memory back and finish the piece in time for the concert!

III. Repertoire Listening Guide

Embedded in the song titles are hyperlinks to YouTube. Most of the videos are likely too long for younger children in their entirety, so use what works for your students. They will love moving to the music!

Bologne: [Overture, L'Amant Anonime](#)

- This is the first piece of the Mission Imagination concert and we will hear a different part later in the program. Joseph Bologne was a contemporary of Mozart's. They may have even known each other!

Mozart: [Overture, The Abduction from Seraglio](#)

- Play along handmade instrument piece - *Don't forget your instruments!* Shake, scrape, or strike along with the recording to get ready to find the beat with the symphony at the concert!

Mozart: [Overture, The Marriage of Figaro](#)

- This piece is how we introduce dynamics in the concert. Have students notice how the conductor and musician's movements and expressions change when they play soft and loud.

Mozart: [Symphony No. 41 in C Major, K.551, "Jupiter" Allegro Vivace](#)

- This video focuses on the pitch using a graphic score to illustrate variations in pitch and is a great visual companion to listening to high and low.

Mozart: ["Fin ch'han dal vino," from Don Giovanni](#)

- This video focuses on tempo and features a staged performance from the Metropolitan Opera's production of *Don Giovanni*. While Mission Imagination doesn't feature a baritone, this video offers context-building for students learning about Mozart and his pieces!

Bologne: [Overture, L' Amant Anonime \(2nd Excerpt\)](#)

- We will revisit Bologne for our conduct-along in the concert! This video offers close-ups of the musicians playing so they can concentrate on conducting the orchestra when we are together.

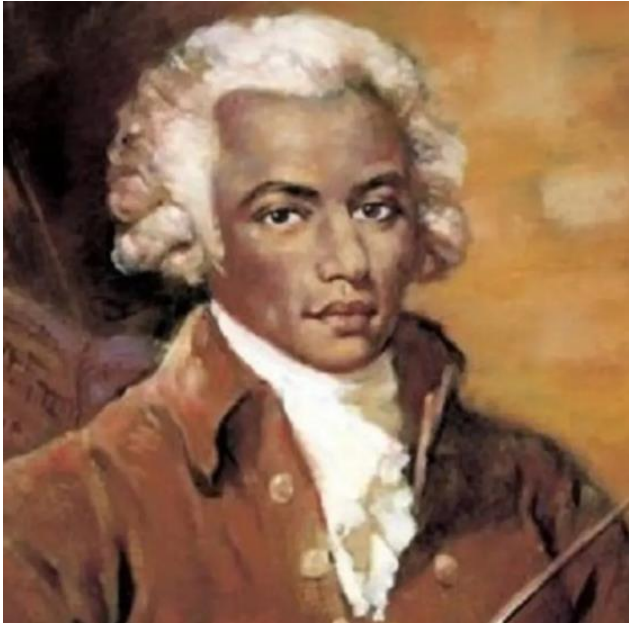
Mozart: [Symphony No. 38 in D Major, K 504, "Prague", Presto](#)

- Mozart's completed finale for the orchestra! We hear samples of this piece throughout the concert as we help Mozart remember how to be a composer.

Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star – Don't miss these videos! This is our sing-along piece for the concert.

- [Twinkle Twinkle Little Star - Instrumental Arrangement - MAGIX Music Maker 16](#) (7:14)
- [Twinkle Twinkle Little Star - Violin & Piano – 92 Keys](#) (3:49)

IV. Composer Biographies



Joseph Bologne

Born in 1745 on the French Caribbean Island of Guadeloupe, Bologne was the first classical composer of African descent to receive widespread popularity and recognition. He was also known for being a virtuoso violinist, champion fencer and a Colonel in the French Revolution. He collaborated with Franz Hyden and later composed his first notable set of six string quartets which launched his career, he would continue to compose orchestral music and later opera. Read more about [Joseph Bologne Saint-Georges.](#)



Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

Born January 27, 1756, in Salzburg, Austria, Mozart was a child prodigy already at the age of five playing proficient piano and violin as well as composing and performing his compositions for royalty. Mozart was a prolific classical composer and is considered the most influential of his time. He is known for composing symphonies, operas, sonatas, concertos, chamber music, and choral music. Though he lived a short life he is considered one of the greatest composers of Western classical music history. Learn more about [Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.](#)

V. Handmade Instrument Ideas

The Lah-Lah Make It Play It! Series of videos demonstrate preschool children creating and playing a variety of handmade instruments. Check out the videos below to get ideas for your students.

Don't let your students miss out on this special play-along opportunity with your Omaha Symphony!

Paper Plate Tambourine (2:11)

DIY Paper plate shaker (1:21)

- Explores the musical concepts of Loud and Soft

Bucket Drum | Make It Play It (2:21)

- Explores the musical concepts of Fast and Slow

A Swing Rhythm & A Rainstick (4:57)

- Explores slow and fast tempos and a play-along!

Rhythm Sticks (2:12)

- Explores loud and soft sounds.

Water Bottle Shaker (2:06)

- Lah-Lah plays a water bottle shaker | Get The Groove
- Explores musical concepts of Loud and Soft

Guiro (2:01)

- Explores the musical concepts of Fast and Slow

Need a quicker, faster, and easier to transport idea? Check out these options to prepare your students:

Paper Plate Tambourine

Water Bottle Shakers

Water Bottle with handles video

VI. Additional Video Resources

Embedded in the video titles are hyperlinks to YouTube. These videos are intended to further engage your students in their Omaha Symphony concert experience as pre- or post-concert activities!

George Meets the Orchestra | An Introduction to the Orchestra for Children (6:30)

- George chats with players of the Sydney Youth Orchestra and learns all about the four families of the orchestra – strings, brass, woodwind and percussion. A perfect introduction to classical music for kids aged 2-5.

Little Einsteins - Leo and the Musical Families (5:53)

- Introduces the families and includes a listening guessing game to challenge students to identify family members by sound. Probably geared toward 1st and 2nd grade students.

Howard B. Wigglebottom Learns to Listen (10:24)

- The video is an audio book of Howard B. Wigglebottom Learns to Listen by Howard Binkow, with examples of how good listeners sit. It also features a fun sing-along song.

Mozart - Alla Turca - Melody Street (2:42)

- Ethan and Val are ready to play Mozart's Alla Turca, But Timmy, Febe and Heidi want to join the show. Luckily, Sammy is there to keep order.

Sesame Street: People in Your Neighborhood -- Conductor (4:03)

- Murray Monster and Ovejita travel to Lincoln Center to join New York Philharmonic Music Director Alan Gilbert to find out just what a conductor really does.

Pretending to be a Conductor

3-year-old Jonathan conducting to the 4th movement of Beethoven's 5th Symphony (4:28)

- This young composer is very expressive. moving his baton with the music.

Mr. Greg's Musical Madness:

- Featured on PBA-30, Atlanta's PBS Station and featured on the GA PBS KIDS! website, Parents' Choice Award-Winning singer/songwriter, Greg Roth (Mr. Greg) and his Mr. Greg's Musical Madness is geared toward educating and entertaining children of all ages.
- Dynamics (3:31)
- Tempo (3:16)

Explore the animated series: Little Amadeus

- *Wunderkind Little Amadeus*, commonly referred to as *Little Amadeus*, is a German animated television series (known as *Die Abenteuer des jungen Mozart* – "The Adventures of Young Mozart") that aired on PBS Kids from September 7, 2008 through March 1, 2009. The episodes debuted on most PBS stations. It was distributed by American Public Television. It showcases a young Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, featuring a soundtrack with the musical works of the famed composer. The series originally aired on KiKa in Germany.