



## Plan Your Program

### Group Project

Have you ever wondered how orchestra concerts are put together? From nature-inspired music to legendary tales, concert programs are carefully designed to tell a story or explore a theme.

In this activity, you will work with a group to create a one-hour concert experience for an audience of your choice. Work together to think through the following components, then plan your specific program. Use the template attached to outline the details for your concert.

### 1. Theme

Choose a theme that will connect the music in your program. Some ideas include:

- Nature
- Mythology or legends
- A historical moment or social issue
- A specific composer or musician
- Music from a specific country or culture

Every piece (repertoire) you pick will clearly connect to this theme.

### 2. Intended Audience

Decide who your concert is for. Options could include:

- Students
- Young adults
- Families
- Older adults
- Teens
- Another type of group

### 3. Repertoire

Pick orchestral pieces that fit your theme and your intended audience. Be mindful of your selections. Try to include a combination of pieces so that you have some music that will be pleasing and some that may potentially be challenging to your audience.

**Pro Tip:** You don't have to use full symphonies! Choose shorter pieces and/or single movements of longer pieces to keep your concert program exciting and varied.

### 4. Audience Engagement

How will the concert be shaped to hold the audience's attention and bring them deeper into the music? Elements to consider include:

- Special lighting
- Images to show before, during, or after the music
- Speaking from stage – by the conductor, performers, staff, or special guests
- Dancing that accompanies the music
- Dramatic portrayals or readings that connect to the concert theme
- Questions or comments from the audience
- Anything else you imagine would be meaningful!

### 5. Title

Make your program stand out! Craft a title that captures the concert theme and will inspire people to attend.

## Concert Program Template

<b>Title:</b>
<b>Theme:</b>
<b>Intended Audience:</b>

## Repertoire

Composer	Name of Work	Duration (in min.)
Total Music		
Total Concert Length		

## **Audience Engagement:**

## **Additional Details or Considerations:**

## **Optional Extension**

### **Create a Program Book!**

Draft content for a program book to accompany your concert. Program book content can take many forms, including text, images, activities, and anything else you imagine.

Make sure to include:

- The name of each piece on the concert and who wrote it
- How each piece connects to your concert theme
- Any other context related to the concert that you think might interest the intended audience. That context could be about the repertoire, performers, why the theme was chosen, the performance space, or non-musical insights that connect in some way to the concert.