Teacher Guide The Port Angeles Symphony String Quartet

Performers: Jory Noble: violin Morgan Bartholick: violin

Tyrone Beatty: viola

Tracy Winters Tyson: Cello

Goal: To teach students about string instruments.

Objectives: The Student will:

- Learn about different string instruments.
- Learn how string sounds are produced and manipulated.
- Hear various musical styles of string instruments.

ABOUT THE PERFORMANCE...

The performers are all members of the PA Symphony Orchestra. Jory is the current concertmaster.

The video covers the four "families" of the orchestra and then zeroes in on the string section, the section's instruments and their sounds.

After each performer explains their particular instrument and various bowing and playing techniques, they combine to play some of Mozart's "Eine Kleine Nachtmusik" and Antonin Dvorak's "American String Quartet."

VOCABULARY: bow pizzicato violin viola legato cello rosin mute slur staccato

POST ASSEMBLY CLASSROOM ACTIVITIES:

- Stretch a string or wire and pluck it. Then get one of a different length and pluck that one. Notice what happens to the pitch when the string is either longer or shorter.
- © Research the history of stringed instruments. Notice all the middle-eastern and Chinese instruments that are similar to Western instruments (such as the Chinese Erhu). Listen to a recording of George Gao playing the Erhu and see how much it sometimes sounds like a violin.
- © Listen to a violin, viola, cello and bass. Notice the difference in pitch between the larger instruments (bass and cello) and the smaller ones (violin, viola). Which instruments produce higher sounds? Why?



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