

# NYSSMA MUSIC VIEWS

Standards-Based Teaching & Learning Across the State



## Lesson Plan for NYSSMA Music Views

**Name:** Dr. Stephen Shewan

**Title:** Through the Eyes of a Composer

### Level

Elementary

Middle School

High School

### Content Area

Band

Chorus

Classroom

Orchestra

### Objective

The objective is to do aural and theoretical analysis of Michael Daugherty's "Bells for Stokowski" in a rehearsal setting.

**The NYS Learning Standard(s)** this lesson will address...

- Creating, Performing and Participating in the Arts
- Knowing and Using Arts Materials and Resources
- Responding to and Analyzing Works of Art
- Understanding the Cultural Dimensions and Contributions of the Arts

**National Standards for Music Education** this lesson...

- Singing – alone and with others – a varied repertoire of music
- Performing on instruments – alone and with others – a varied repertoire of music
  - Improvising melodies, variations and accompaniments
  - Composing and arranging music within specific guidelines
- Reading and notating music
- Listening to, analyzing and describing music
- Evaluating music and music performances
  - Understanding relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts
  - Understanding music in relation to history and culture

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## **Instructional Ideas**

1. The students will perform passages of the piece. Upon completion of each section, the instructor will ask directed listening questions. The students will be asked to identify and comment upon melodic, harmonic, rhythmic and formal structures relating to the piece.
2. The students will be asked to sing and perform major themes from the piece without written notation.

## **Assessment**

1. Verbal feedback from the students.
2. Performance vocal/instrumental

## **References/Resources**

1. "Bells for Stokowski" by Michael Daugherty
2. Student voices and instruments
3. White board
4. Piano

## **Notes**

Playing themes by ear is a regular component of our daily rehearsals. It is frequently done during the warm up time. This allows all students to perform themes while developing aural skills as well as performing musically with characteristic tone quality. Analysis of the piece helps the students understand and organize the music. This ultimately is a rehearsal "short cut," resulting in less rehearsal time spent on drill. It's the old adage, knowledge is power.