

## EVERYDAY MUSIC HANDOUTS

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## EVERYDAY MUSIC FIELD NOTES

Folklorists like Alan Govenar who document community events and local artists take lots of notes while they are doing fieldwork research. As you read and listen to *Everyday Music* artists' stories and songs, taking notes will help you focus more closely. You do not have to write exact phrases. Key words can help you remember details so that later you can review and summarize what you learned.

Artist's Name

Birth and Death Dates

Hometown

Other places the artist has lived

Circumstances (who, what, when, where)

Sounds

How the artist learned

At what age the artist learned

Special techniques, tools, or instruments

Special events and times of the year when the artist plays

Gathering places in the artist's life and community

Occupations of the artist

Music genres

Other skills

How the artist is passing on music and skills

What surprises me

What I would ask the artist

## EVERYDAY MUSIC IMAGE ANALYSIS WORKSHEET

Photographs and images are primary source documents that help illustrate history. Elements below will aid close observation of *Everyday Music* images. Not all will relate to each image.

Artist's Name

Medium (photo, drawing, map, painting, etc.)

Main Subject

Circumstances

Location

Photographer or Artist (if available)

What do you see? (forms, structures, shadows, colors, arrangement of people or things)

What is the mood? (happy, sad, curious, excited, etc.)

What surprises or interests you?

### PHOTOS

Is this a professional photo or a candid photo taken by a family member, friend, or fan?

What do you think was happening just before the photo was taken? Just after?

How does the photo help tell the story of the person or place?

### OTHER ILLUSTRATIONS

What is the medium? (map, drawing, painting, etc.)

What do you think the illustration reveals about the person or place?

How does the illustration help tell the story of the person or place?

## EVERYDAY MUSIC SONGWRITING WORKSHEET

Each artist profiled in *Everyday Music* contributes to a region's sense of place and exhibits mastery of a rich traditional genre of music that may be new to you. This worksheet will help you write lyrics for any genre from *Everyday Music*, for example, blues, *corridos*, historical ballads, bluegrass, Texas swing, or cowboy songs.

Brainstorm ideas for a song by listing people, places, events, or causes important to you and then use the elements below to help you get started.

Theme (What do you want the song to be about?)

Mood (What emotions do you want to relay? Include adjectives. Call on all five senses: sight, sound, smell, taste, texture.)

Action (Will the song tell a story, convey a feeling, or both?)

Point of View (Who is telling the story? Whose point of view is represented?)

Characters (Are there characters? Are they heroes, villains, animals, tricksters? What do they represent?)

Rhyme Scheme (If the song will rhyme, what is the pattern? AABB, ABAB, etc.)

Chorus (Will the song have a chorus? If so, writing it first may help the verses to flow more easily. Not all songs have a chorus, however.)

Verse Structure (How many lines will go in each verse? How many syllables will go in each line?)

Style (Is the song fast, slow, loping, edgy? What genre is it? Why did you choose this genre?)

Melody (Do you have a melody of another song in mind, or do you want to create your own melody?)

Title (How will you grab listeners and convey what your song is about?)

Dedication (Do you want to dedicate your song to anyone?)

Edit and revise your lyrics.

Sing your song!

## *EVERYDAY MUSIC* INTERVIEW WORKSHEET

Music is universal yet unique. A generation may experience music in common, for example, or a community or family may have special music traditions. Questions below will help you discover more about music in your community. Use this interview worksheet to get started. You may not want to use all of these questions, and you may want to add questions of your own. Be sure to use a Release Form for all interviews. You may use the interview to write a profile of the person you interviewed and include photos and images.

Person Interviewed

Age

What is your favorite kind of music?

What was your favorite song when you were my age?

What is a song that you learned in childhood?

Can you sing all the verses?

How did you learn it?

At what age did you learn it?

Where and when was it sung?

Can you dance to the song or does it have movements?

Is this song for special occasions or anytime?

Is the song part of a religious tradition?

Does this song relate to a particular place, time, or person?

Have you taught the song to anyone? If so, whom?

What memories do you have of this song?

## *EVERYDAY MUSIC* LISTENING LOG

Taking notes as you listen to the music of *Everyday Music* will help you to listen more closely and compare musicians as well as the types of music they play and sing.

Artist's Name

Song Title

Genre (type of music)

Location

Musicians

Number of musicians

Main musician

Other musicians

Vocals

Number of singers

A capella (no instruments)

Accompanied by an instrument

Instruments

Language of lyrics

Occasion

Dance or movement done with the music

Religious, nonreligious, or both

Rhythm (fast, slow)

Mood

Theme

How the music expresses a sense of place

What surprises me

What I would ask the musician

# TRADITIONS VENN DIAGRAM

As you learn about an *Everyday Music* artist, compare the artist's life and traditions with your own. For example, is the artist male or female? Does the artist live in a city, a town, or the country? What languages do you both speak? What surprises you about similarities that you discover? What tradition would you like to share with the artist?

ME

EVERYDAY MUSIC ARTIST



