YOUTH EMPIRE

MUSIC WORKSHOP

STAND BY ME TOUR
THE MUSIC WORKSHOP
2014
5th-9th May 2014
St. John’s Anglican Church Hall,
225 Beechworth road
Wodonga

YOUTH EMPIRE INC

"WE DON'T DREAM WE BUILD HOPE"
Recording Studio and Production, Drum Workshop, Bass
and Guitar Tutoring Vocal Tutoring, Hip hop Dancing
Cultural Dancing Basic Film Production, Songwriting
Techniques Lighting Operator Torres Strait Arts

ALBURY/WODONGA

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What, and who is Youth Empire?

“Mission Statement”

“WE DON’T BUILD DREAMS WE BUILD HOPE”

Youth Empire effective youth participation music concept is creating opportunities for young people to be involved in influencing, shaping, designing and contributing to policy and the development of services and programmes.

Youth Empire participation is based on the principles of young people:
• being informed
• having an effect on outcomes
• organising themselves
• making decisions or being involved in decision-making
• being involved in follow-up.
• Building quality leadership in the community

The Youth Empire Music development program is about young people growing up and developing the skills and attitudes they need. Positive youth development occurs when young people have the opportunity and support to contribute to society in a way that is valued and respected (Meaningful involvement).

We provide real opportunities for young people to be actively involved in decisions that affect their lives and communities. Having access to effective youth participation in our communities is important for young people’s wellbeing and their sense of belonging, identity and citizenship plus Cultural values.

Government and non-Government agencies including churches are increasingly involving consumers and community in decision-making. Evidence shows that policies and programmes designed after consultation with users are more likely to be effective.

By utilising youth participation principles, one is more likely to get it right the first time and avoid wasting time and money on services young people don’t want to use. The years from age 12 to 24 are important for the development of young people as they move from childhood to adulthood.

Learning by doing, and being involved in decision-making is part of young people’s contribution to changes in society. Youth Empire is about providing opportunities for young people to be involved in real issues, in partnership with adults, where their ideas and views are valued by their outcome.
1. Why Music?

Youth Empire believes that music can impact the lives of even the hardest to reach individuals. It can have a highly positive effect when delivered in a sensitive and client centered way, by trained community music tutors and practitioners. Music enriches lives; it can be liberating, exciting, soothing and joyful - the act of creating music is, in itself, empowering.

Music is suitable for all groups – all ages and all abilities – activities can be tailored to capture the imagination and interest of all people. Music is not just for people who are, or want to become musicians; it provides new opportunities for people to learn and to socialise. Using community music activities with groups can cross cultural divides and bridge age gaps whilst building cohesion and in doing so, bring communities together.

The aim of community music is not necessarily about the end product of a musical piece but the journey to get there. Along the way participants can increase their confidence, levels of basic skills, community cohesion and strengthen community ties, as well as develop practical skills.

Music is easy to combine within larger creative projects using other art forms and therefore, can be linked to visual arts, film making, animation, dance and theatre, to name a few.

2. Drums & Percussion

Why choose drumming and percussion?

- This activity is suitable for people with different music skills and abilities.
- The activity creates music instantly so that the sense of achievement is immediate.

What are the aims of this activity?

- Increased confidence, self-esteem and other transferable skills such as team work
- Increased numeracy. Participants are constantly multiplying and working on numeric patterns
- Increase coordination
- Increase activity levels and overall fitness as communication
- As this workshop relies on listening to others and cooperating with them to create music, increased listening and co-operation skills in teamwork are highly enhanced
- Increased ability to work within a group activity whilst developing individual expression

Age Group

This activity will work well with this project’s target audience of participants aged between 12-25.

Size of groups

A drumming circle can range in size so this activity is suitable for both small and very large groups.
Time
As drumming and percussion can be a very immediate activity, in that participants are involved as soon as they join the drumming circle, this activity will be for a fixed 2 hour sessions.

Instruments
Participants can develop skills for a variety of instruments, such as larger drums mixed with small hand held percussion instruments, or combined with hand clapping or finger clicking and making sounds with the body.

How flexible is the activity?
Drums can be used with other kinds of music - singing and vocal work lends itself well to this. Participants can play games with rhythm and people’s names, making up songs and playing with syllable forms.

How can the activity be adapted?
Other art forms can be linked into this activity; samba work in particular has links to carnival and parade type performance so this activity can become part of a larger performance. Participants can engage with other art forms through creating costumes or accessories for the performance or, for example, create puppets to parade with them. This can be a very active workshop and collaborating with dance and movement works very well.

3. Songwriting & Composition

What is it?
Songwriting covers a huge range of musical styles and genres but at it’s heart, is writing original music. This activity creates a piece of music and builds to an end performance or recording of the created piece.

Why choose songwriting?
• Suitable for people with beginner and advanced music skills
• Suitable for those wishing to be musicians
• Is able to be done with instruments participants already play
• Increase confidence, self esteem and other transferable skills such as team work
• Fun and enjoyable
• Works towards an ‘end piece’ giving a sense of achievement

What are the aims of this activity?
• Increased literacy - participants are writing lyrics so they have to consider structure, rhyme and language
• Increased musical skills
• Build mutual respect and encourage communication – participants are working together to create their piece so they must listen to one another and respect the ideas of others
• Increased self-esteem and confidence
• These workshops need smaller groups so participants increase their ability to work with smaller teams as they depend on each other for the sharing of ideas. For example, groups will be from 2-6 but if we have to have more we can split the overall group into smaller
groups who can then perform their work to one another, which can be very rewarding
• As this is composition work, any instruments can be used, from traditional instruments to
  instruments made from recycled waste, to combining more traditional rock instruments
  for example with turn tables. A computer loop can also be used to create a beat or backing
  track upon so participants increase their skills to create melody and lyrics.
• Songwriting works with a wide range of musical genres from creating rock and metal
  songs to acoustic or folk music, RnB etc…. to rap. Participants can therefore increase
  their ability to incorporate a variety of musical interests within each group.
• An advantage of a songwriting workshop is that it can be used to explore specific issues,
  such as those that affect the participants or particular issues the project funder may be
  interested in.
• This activity has a definite outcome – a song is written. Participant’s songs will then be
  performed at the final performance as it allows participants to show their work and gain a
  sense of achievement. Recording the song and/or performance may also be an option to
  add to the participants’ achievement
• Songwriting can work with all sorts of other art activities. Participants, if they chose to
  work harder, can compose pieces for dance, animation, film, theatre and many, many
  more. Compositions can then part of the overall performances at the final concert,
  interlinking with the performance/piece and not just acting as a background.

4. DJ WORKSHOP

What is it?
Using DJ turntables with vinyl, CD DJ Mixer and CDs or MP3 files and computer based
mixing software, participants have the opportunity to learn to beat match, scratch, cut and
beat juggle

Why choose DJ?
• Suitable for people with beginner and advanced music skills
• Suitable for those wishing to be musicians
• Suitable for small groups (1-3 participants) to work intensively
• Suitable for one or two hour sessions either as a one off session or as part of a longer
  course
• Increase confidence, self-esteem and other transferable skills such as team work
• Fun and enjoyable
• Works towards an ‘end piece’ giving sense of achievement

What are the aims of this activity?
• Increased numeracy – participants are working with rhythms and beats which will require
  thinking about beats per minute and how to play these within a rhythm
• Increased musical skills
• Build mutual respect and encourage communication
• Increase self-esteem and confidence
Size of Groups
These workshops need smaller groups as they depend on a sharing of ideas and the tutor being able to support each member of the group equally. Ideally we will use groups of 2-6, but if we have more participants, then we will split the overall group into smaller groups who can work separately.

Instruments
DJ with software: we will provide two turntables, a mixer, headphones and vinyl. Amplifier and speakers are optional.
DJ with CDs: CD DJ mixer, CDs and headphones. Amplifier and speakers are optional.
DJ with MP3s: we will provide a computer, music mixing software, mp3 music files and headphones. Amplifier and speakers are optional. Alternatively, software will be used to emulate vinyl mixing with mp3s by linking vinyl turntables to a computer. The music files are lined up on the computer package but can be ‘scratched, mixed or spun back’ on a dummy vinyl disc that produces an effect on the mp3 cued up.

5. Vocals Workshop

What is it?
Vocal workshops can be very broad and cover a large amount of different types of music genres. At its heart, it is using the voice to make sounds and melodies.

Why choose voice?
• Suitable for people with beginner and advanced music and vocal skills
• Suitable for those wishing to be vocalists or musicians
• Suitable for all ages

What are the aims of this activity?
• Contribute to an overall song or melody (STAND BY ME)
• Build mutual respect and encourage
• Increased confidence, self esteem and other transferable skills such as team work.
• Fun and enjoyable
• Using the voice to create rhythmical sound communication
• Increased self-esteem and confidence

Size of groups
• This activity is suitable for all ages
• This kind of activity often works best with large groups, as some people feel more comfortable singing in a crowd to begin with

Instruments
These workshops can run with no instruments at all

How flexible is the activity?
• Voice workshops are not just about singing, they can encompass rap, MC and other exercises aimed at using the voice to make sounds
• Voice is the most adaptable workshop, running particularly with songwriting, digital music, drumming and percussion and DJ workshops and multi-arts projects such as
animation, theatre, dance and many more

6. Digital Music

What is it?
Digital Music covers many areas. In this example, we are showcasing recording music or sounds and then using a computer to manipulate those recordings to create musical compositions using advanced music skills.

Why choose digital music?
• Suitable for people with beginner and to work intensively
• Suitable for all ages
• Fun and enjoyable
• Works towards an ‘end piece’ giving a sense of the enjoyment that playing with sounds brings

What are the aims of this activity?
• Increased confidence, self-esteem and other of achievement
• Increased musical skills
• Increased ICT skills
• Build mutual respect and encourage communication
• Increased self-esteem and confidence
• Increased transferable skills such as team work
• Showcase the enjoyment that playing with sounds brings

Size of groups
These workshops need smaller groups as they depend on a sharing of equipment and the tutor being able to support each member of the group equally. Ideally we will use groups of 2-4, if we have more we can split the overall group into smaller groups which can work separately.

Instruments
For these workshops, we will be relying computers with suitable programmes

How flexible is the activity?
• This kind of workshop can be used to explore specific issues, such as those that affect the participants or particular issues the auspicing body may be interested in.
• This can work with all sorts of other art activities as participants can compose pieces for dance, animation, film, theatre and many, many more.
• Compositions can work as part of overall performances, interlinking with the performance/piece and not just acting as a background.
• This activity has a definite outcome – a final piece is created. This will then be shown/played allowing participants to show their work and gain a sense of achievement.