



Kodály Society of Canada
Société Kodály du Canada



KSNS Winter Newsletter, 2021/2022

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**Kodály Society
of Nova Scotia**

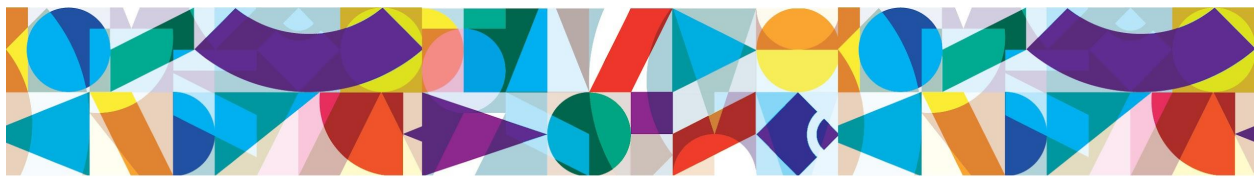


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KSNS Activities

- **Annual Fall Workshop 2020**
Denise Gagne
Saturday, September 27th, Virtual
- **KSNS Newsletter 2020**
Tara Sampson
- **NSMEA Conference Day**
Soul Science Lab, October 2021
Maureen Dunn, October 2021
- **Virtual Workshops (in partnership with KSC, KSO & KSBC)**
Jennifer Moir, August, 2021
Georgia Newlin, September, 2021
Laszlo Nemes, November, 2021
- **KSC Board Members**
Louise Grinstead, Treasurer



| Kodály Society of Nova Scotia

NSMEA KSNS Workshop - Soul Science Lab


This October NSMEA hosted their annual Fall Workshop online on Friday, October 22nd. KSNS invited clinicians Chen Lo and Asante Amin from Soul Science Lab to share their presentation Hip Hop Chronicles. This session shared a cultural and historical overview of hip hop music from its roots in West African oral traditions to its birth in the South Bronx, NYC.

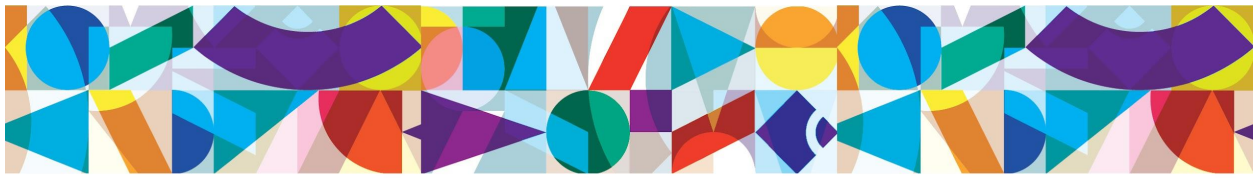


Soul Science Lab founders have a massive resume in performing, producing, song-writing, and working directly with students in schools. Chen Lo and Asante Amin were incredibly inspiring and offer templates, projects, and courses that music teachers can access virtually through their website: [Soul Science Lab: Home](#)

KSNS president Maureen Dunn also offered an NSMEA session describing how her students went through the process of writing and recording their own hip hop songs after attending SSL courses. Maureen's examples from her classes assured that creating hip hop with your students is absolutely fun and achievable!

For a beautiful introduction to Chen Lo and Asante Amin and their work check out the documentary Creating Make a Joyful Noize.

 [Creating Make a Joyful Noize \(The documentary\) - SSL](#)



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Hey Jack!

This fall our school had a day of Halloween stations where groups of students moved from class to class to participate in creating stories, artwork, and games. The groups were mixed grades from Primary to 5 with student leaders taking them from room to room for a twenty minute station. These fun days are so memorable for students but it can be tricky to find new and exciting multi-age activities each year. Rick Darnbrough's jack o'lantern song "Hey Jack" was the perfect fit for our music class station.

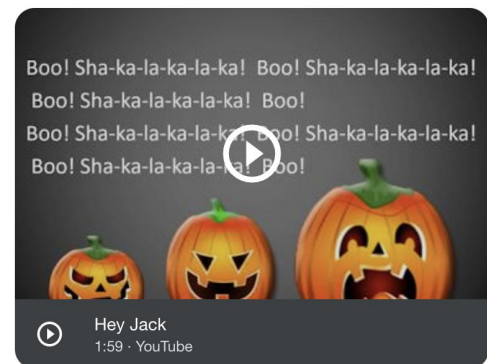
Last year, we relied heavily on rhythmic activities and bucket drumming was something that our older students had become quite familiar with. Hey Jack is available in the music publication K-8 (Volume 22, Number 1) and an accompanying video is available on YouTube. We had all students sit in a circle to first learn to sing the chorus, then lap drum on the chorus, and finally bucket drum on the chorus. For the verse we simply tossed a jack o'lantern stuffy randomly around the circle and there was so much laughter and giggles you could see the smiles even behind their masks. This simple song was a hit with all ages!

Hey Jack

Song by Rick Darnbrough

Overview


Listen





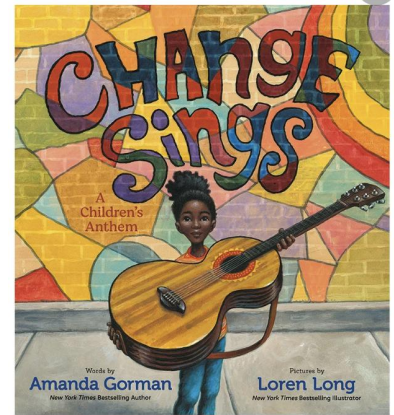
Amanda Gorman's Change Sings

Change Sings is a beautifully written children's book by American Poet Laureate Amanda Gorman and illustrated by award winning illustrator Loren Long. We read this story in grade 2/3 class showing the students a short introductory video of Amanda Gorman to entice the older ones who may be a bit disinterested in a picture book.

 [Amanda Gorman | Change Sings Picture Book](#)

With a title like this, and the fact that this fall we were finally allowed to sing again, of course the class wanted to know if this book was also a song. Dr Karen Stafford's music education blog Dr Stafford's Musical Cures created a lesson plan for grade three students to create a simple rondo with phrases from Amanda Gorman's storybook. We learned the A part through reading the solfege and rhythm then created the other parts in groups with so-mi manipulatives. We actually used bingo chips and a laminated staff for this part which worked fine, feel free to use whatever manipulatives your students are already familiar with. The full lesson can be found through the Dr. Stafford link below. This timely children's anthem is certainly accessible and enjoyable for all elementary students.

<http://www.drstaffordsmusicalcures.com/>

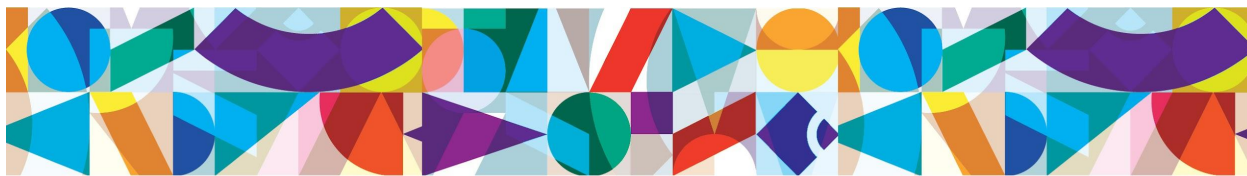



S L S L S
Sing-ing of the world


D D M M R
Sing my chang-ing song.


D D S S L L S
Sing-ing how I'll lead the way


L S M R D D D
In the world where I be-long.



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Developing Part Singing in the Choral Rehearsal

**Dr. László Nemes Director of the Kodály Institute,
Kecskémet, Hungary**

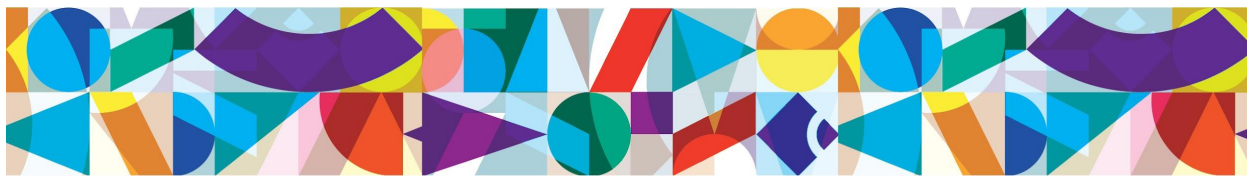
**Written by: Cathy Horbas, Kodály Society of Canada
Registrar**

I don't know about you, but I am getting tired of being on ZOOM for meetings, workshops, and rehearsals. I long to see my colleagues in person, sing and play with them, watch their body language, see their unmasked expressions, and mostly feel the joy of making music together. The online workshops being offered by the Kodály Society of Canada have been the exception for me. In particular, the session offered by Dr. László Nemes was enjoyable and inspiring.

I reflected on why I was so inspired by this workshop. I believe it was because I actually sang, had the opportunity to sing beautiful duets with Dr. Nemes, and was able to work on my own musicianship throughout the session. It might also be that I'm really excited to be singing in person with my choirs this week! (One that I conduct and one as a singer). We have not been able to do that in Manitoba for such a long time and I'm so happy to be able to sing together again.

Dr. Nemes has a very easy manner and because he has lived in Canada and knows many of the KSC members, it was like reacquainting ourselves with an old friend. (Even though I have never met him before). His pedagogy was so logical and easy to follow and the music he chose was very accessible even for those who may not have studied Kodály methodology in depth.

He included many ways of presenting music notation (stick notation, solfa circles, word cues) and each presentation had a specific purpose and value. The sequence of moving from simple songs with rhythmic patterns to complex three-part harmonies was so seamless. The flow of the whole workshop was every pedagogue's dream lesson.

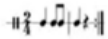


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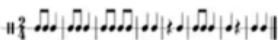


RHYTHM EXERCISES

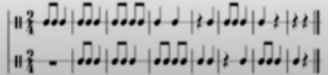
1.
Sing the song and perform the following ostinato with it!



2.
Sing the song and perform it with the following rhythm accompaniment!



3.
Sing the song and perform the following rhythm canon together with it!



We often think of two-part singing as melody only. Not true! Dr. Nemes reminded us of how we introduce part singing through use of rhythmic ostinato to accompany known songs. He also encouraged us to add movement to those rhythms to further develop the children's grounding to the beat. It was great fun on the third exercise to

tap one line in the right hand and the other in the left.

My favorite of the partner songs was the triple threat of *This Old Man*, *There Was an Old Man named Michael Finnegan* and *Here We Go Round the Mulberry Bush*. A great trio to add a bit of rhythmic polyphony to the children's repertoire.

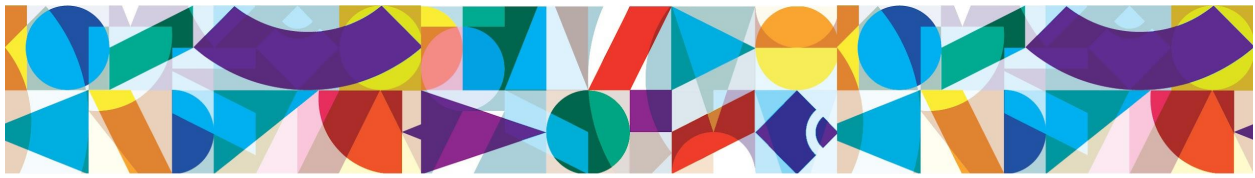
I was particularly drawn to the way he used solfa circles to represent pitches and how he stacked the circles vertically, allowing students to choose any pitch that would fit harmonically within the piece. The use of this strategy makes so much sense to me, allowing students to understand the harmonic context of a piece.



He used this color pattern in many ways, none having any rhythmic context, but giving a rich visual to the harmonic and melodic way of presenting new material.



And what would a Kodály workshop be without a stunning piece of music for children? *Weave Me a Poem* by Tim Blichan is a beautiful piece that any one of us could use with our groups in a concert setting, with a classroom choir, and adult choir or simply with a classroom full of children. The melody and harmony are so accessible (especially if you use the methodology Dr. Nemes presented) and it was a lovely way to end a wonderful workshop.



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Tim Blickhan's Weave Me A Poem

Many participants in Lazslo Neme's online session on Part-Singing Skills in the Choral Classroom were quite taken with Tim Blickhan's piece Weave me a Poem. The lyrics in this piece are lovely and the chorus is singable for young choristers.

The full work is available on the Choral Public Domain Library linked below.



Allegro $\text{♩} = 148$ 3

mf

Weave me a po - em of rib - bons and strings.
Build me a po - em of tim - ber and stone.

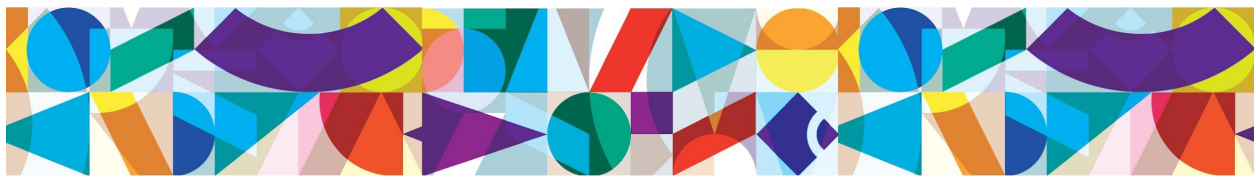
mf

Hatch me a po - em of feath - ers and wings.
Dance me a po - em of mus - cle and bone.

Grow me a po - em of sun - light and soil.
Bake me a po - em of su - gar and cream.

Paint me a po - em of can - vas and oil.
Sing me a po - em, I'm read - y to dream!

[https://www.cpdlib.org/wiki/index.php/Weave_Me_A_Poem_\(Tim_Blickhan\)](https://www.cpdlib.org/wiki/index.php/Weave_Me_A_Poem_(Tim_Blickhan))



Summer Course Info



University of Manitoba

U of M is offering level 1 from July 18-29, 2022.

For more information contact Jody Stark at jody.stark@umanitoba.ca



Université du Québec à Montréal

Univeristé du Québec à Montréal (UQAM), in French:

Level I - June 17 to July 8

Level II - August 8 to 19

For information: boucher.helene@uqam.ca



Western University Level I, Level II, and Level III July 4-July 15.

For more information: Dr. Cathy Benedict cbenedi3@uwo.ca

Dr. Kim Eyre at aeyre@uwo.ca

Thank you to all virtual clinicians!

Thank you to all presenters who provided excellent online professional development through our Kodály branches across the country. Thank you Minami Cohen, Jennifer Moir, Georgia Newlin, and Laszlo Nemes. At this time we especially value getting together virtually to share various perspectives and expertise.

Kodály Society of Canada FREE* Online Workshop Series for K-12 Music Educators

Love, Hope & COVID: Reimagining Music Class for Online and Physically Distanced Contexts
with Minami Cohen

Saturday, March 13, 2021
10:00 PST; 11:00 MST; 12:00 CST; 13:00 EST; 14:00 AST

*This session will include the AGM for the Kodály Society of Canada

A native of Okinawa, Japan, Minami Cohen earned her M.M. in Music Ed. with Kodály Emphasis from Holy Names University (HNU). In this workshop, Minami will share several activities for creating meaningful learning opportunities and connections for elementary music students in spite of the challenges of teaching online or in physically distant contexts. Beginning with her personal philosophy on respect, equity, love, and hope, Minami will share her process of making pedagogical decisions in order to engage and include all students regardless of ability and circumstances, while also sharing some helpful application and tools for teaching music during this challenging time.



Registration & information at www.kodaly.com

*FREE for members & non members of the KSC & branches



Kodály Society of Canada FREE* Online Workshop Series for K-12 Music Educators

A Kickstart for a New Year!

Featuring Jennifer Moir, University of the Arts, Helsinki, in the Global Music Department of the Sibelius Academy

Tuesday, August 31 2021 9:00 EDT, 10:00 ADT

Join us for a session for music teachers looking for ways to help students, and themselves, to thrive online and in real life! Presenter, Jennifer Moir (Sibelius Academy, Finland, formerly Western University, Canada) will focus on strategies for enhancing student wellness, engagement, and connection in both online and live learning environments. Come ready to refresh yourself and your approach to ensemble, studio, and class-based music learning! All Kodály members are welcome.

NOTE: This session will be recorded and available on the KSC Members Only Portal until September 30, 2021



Registration & information at www.kodaly.com

*FREE for current members of the Kodály Society of Canada



Kodály Society of British Columbia Fall Virtual Workshop

From Folk to Pop Music

Saturday, September 18 9:00am-12:00pm* PDT



Featuring Georgia Newlin

Where is the line crossed and where is it blurred? Explore with songs, games, dances, and interesting comparisons among folk, pop, and classical tunes. Applicable to K-12 teachers.

Georgia A. Newlin, DMA is an independent Music Education Consultant. She has taught in early childhood and public school music positions for sixteen years and at the collegiate level for fifteen. Currently, she is called upon as a conductor for choral festivals, as a clinician for choral workshops, teaching sessions, and intermediate grade methodology, as well as a consultant for curriculum planning. Georgia has two daughters, Eliza and Sylvia, both named after American folk song characters. She considers herself most fortunate in that, through her vocation, she has spent her life making music with others.

New Members: Regular \$90 - Retired \$30 - Student \$20
Register at www.kodaly.com

*Note this workshop will be followed by the KSC AGM

Kodály Society of Canada Online Workshop Series for K-12 Music Educators

The Development of Part-Singing Skills in the Choral Rehearsal

Featuring Dr. László Nemes, Director Liszt Academy - Kodály Institute, Choir - Department of Music Pedagogy, Hungary

Saturday, November 13, 2021
9:00am (BC) / 10:00 (AB) / 11am (MB) / 12 (ON & QB) / 1pm (NS)

Registration & information at www.kodaly.com

*FREE for current members of the Kodály Society of Canada






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Kodály Society of Canada
Maritime Music Educators

We hope you have enjoyed this edition of the Kodály Society of Nova Scotia Newsletter.



**Kodály Society
of Nova Scotia**