

Verona Quartet

Winner, 2015 Concert Artists Guild Competition

Educational Programming

Artists Without Borders:

Storytelling transcends discipline. The Verona Quartet takes their name from Shakespeare as an emblem of this blending of genre and offers the chance for students from across disciplines to collaborate together. Based on a shared piece of music, students may create a short inter-disciplinary presentation including poetry, dance, jazz performance, woodworking, painting, science and many other subjects.

"BTS" Behind the Scenes

The Verona Quartet welcomes everyone into the rehearsal room and shatters the mystique of what goes on behind closed doors!

45 minute to 1 hour session including open rehearsal with lecture-style demonstration and Q&A. The rehearsal may include interactive elements depending on the audience demographic including 'Mirroring' (communication), 'Storytime' (imaginative interpretation/understanding form), 'The Buck Stops Here' (giving and receiving criticism) and many others.

ON-STAGE with the VQ:

The Verona Quartet offers an opportunity for students to become an integral part of a short performance by joining the Quartet onstage! Sit in and amongst the artists on the floor, feel the cello vibrate through the floorboards, what does it sound like to hear the viola from below, sit between the antiphonal violins as they play musical "toss" across the group!

Note: Alternatively depending on student level, the Quartet offers the opportunity for select students to join in for a sight-reading and mini-rehearsal session of Schubert's Cello Quintet in C Major, Mendelssohn Octet or Piano Quintet (selection TBD).

“IN FAIR VERONA WHERE WE LAY OUR SCENE...”

The Verona Quartet guides students through the form and development of a movement or piece (derived from concert programming) following the archetype of the Hero's Journey (Departure-Revelation-Transformation-Return).

K-5: Students encouraged to create drawings of the story to be collected and featured on the VQ social media

6-8: Sample clips will be provided so teachers (across disciplines) can prepare students to write their own programmatic stories to the music!

TRICKS OF THE TRADE:

The Verona Quartet curates an interactive, lecture performance series for students and audience members on subjects ranging from conflict resolution to career development. Demonstration can include a mini-performance by the Quartet or presented in the form of a public or private masterclass depending on context and availability. Other subjects include:

- 1) Quartet intonation (possible guests upon availability either in person or via video chat: Merry Peckham, Paul Katz or Atar Arad*)
- 2) Rehearsal techniques
- 3) Collegial relationships and building a career in the modern day

Note: The presenter has the opportunity to take part in the filming of the Verona Quartet's Educational and Outreach film series.

Masterclasses and Coachings

The Verona Quartet offers chamber music/solo masterclasses and coachings at both the collegiate and K-12 level. In these settings, the Quartet shares practical tips on how to practice, rehearse and communicate efficiently, as well as offer exercises for rhythm, sound production, and basic fundamentals of chamber music playing, always with a fun and positive approach. In addition to this, Quartet members lead orchestra rehearsals and sectionals, encouraging active listening in large ensemble settings through the employment of chamber music techniques.

Classes can be held in a public setting for an audience, or in private between teacher and student(s).

VQ?:

The Quartet leads an open book, internal interview. No holds barred! Ask anything! To be presented at intermission, post-concert or at schools in preparation for concert programming.

E.g.

Favorite part about being a traveling musician? Least favorite part?

3 most memorable Quartet trips?

If you could play another instrument, what would it be?

What's the strangest thing that's happened to you while performing?

Unlikely past time you'd be found doing on a Saturday night...

Favorite 90s sitcom...

Lengths you would go to for a good cup of joe on the road...

It's almost Halloween and You have one wish left. Which composer would you bring back from the dead?

True and false about the movie "A Late Quartet"