

## A Texas Quilt

**Apollo Chamber Players**

**Grades: 4-12**

### ABOUT THE PERFORMANCE

*Apollo Chamber Players bring the rich global history of Texas to life in this musical Texas History program. Folk music from Greece, Ireland, the Czech Republic, Mexico, and others are performed, as students and Apollo musicians construct a huge quilt with the flags from each of these immigrant communities that settled in the Texas region, alongside historical trivia, and thought-provoking discussion.*

### TEKS (Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills):

	Music	Language Arts	Math	Science	Social Studies	The Student Will:
4	4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.5	4.1, 4.11	4.1	4.6	4.17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Demonstrate appropriate etiquette during live performances.</li> <li>* Investigate diverse cultures.</li> <li>* Explore and define concepts across the curriculum.</li> <li>* Write original reports, stories, poems, and other forms.</li> </ul>
5	5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 5.5	5.1, 5.11	5.1,	5.6	5.20, 5.21	
6	MS 1, 2, 3, 4, 5	6.1, 6.10	6.2,	6.8	6.13, 6.14, 6.15, 6.16, 6.17	
7		7.1, 7.10	7.2,	7.7	7.18	
8		8.1, 8.10	8.2,	8.6	8.23, 8.24, 8.25, 8.26	
H.S.	H.S.1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Eng I.1, 9	Alg/Geometry	Physics	World hist.	

### STAAR (State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness):

#### Writing

Grade 4, 7

Recording Category 1

(10) Composition: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking using multiple texts--writing process. The student uses the writing process recursively to compose multiple texts that are legible and uses appropriate conventions.

#### Science

Reporting Category 2

Grade 5

(6) Force, motion, and energy. The student knows that energy occurs in many forms and can be observed in cycles, patterns, and systems.

#### Social Studies

Reporting Category 2

Grade 8

(26) Culture. The student understands the relationship between the arts and the times during which they were created.

**Academic Vocabulary:**

Sirtaki	* A popular dance of Greek origin, choreographed by Giorgos Provias for the 1964 film Zorba the Greek. The dance is based on traditional Greek musical traditions. Often the dancers are in a line or circle with their arms on each other's shoulders.
Jig	*A folkdance, usually solo, that was popular in Scotland and northern England in the 16th and 17th centuries and in Ireland since the 18th century. It is an improvised dance performed with rapid footwork and a rigid torso.
Reel	* A folk-dance type as well as the accompanying dance tune type. The Virginia Reel a lively American country dance performed by several couples facing each other in parallel lines.
Polka	* A lively Czech dance of Bohemian origin in duple time. Mexican polka is called "conjunto."
Mariachi	*Traditional Mexican folk music, a mix of numerous regional music styles and dances, usually performed by a strolling band of musicians. Mariachi song forms include the <i>bolero</i> and <i>canción ranchera</i> .

**CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS:**

***Before the performance***

- What do you think of when you think of Texas music?
- Does anyone know a folksong, especially one learned from your family?
- Where do you think people originally came from who now live in Texas?

***After the performance:***

- What did you learn from the presentation?
- Write, draw, tell, sing, dance, or act out your favorite part.

**Language Arts:**

- Write a story, poem, song, or rap about a kind of music people brought to Texas.
- Write about your favorite kind of music and research where it came from originally.
- Read, research, write about, and discuss Texas cultures.

**Math:**

- Make up and solve math problems related to the presentation.
- Create a song or dance about a mathematical concept such as “decimals.”
- Create a quilt design, using geometric shapes.

**Social Studies:**

- On a map/globe, find where different Texas groups originated. Create paths to show how they got to Texas.
- Research Native American music in Texas.
- Research Negro spirituals.
- Find out more about the traditions of different ethnic groups in Texas.

**Science:**

- Learn how sound is produced by string instruments.
- Create simple string instruments and experiment with how to make the sound higher or lower.
- Research famous Texas inventors. <https://www.texasmonthly.com/articles/brief-history-texas-innovators/>

**Resources:**

**About Texas Cultures:**



*Texans: A Story of Texan Cultures for Young People* by Barbara Stanush.

<https://texancultures.utsa.edu/about/>

<https://texascultures.housing.utexas.edu/gallery.php>

**About string instruments:**

[https://promusicvault.com/string-](https://promusicvault.com/string-instruments/#:~:text=1%20Guitar.%20A%20guitar%20is%20a%20stringed%20instrument,Banjo.%20...%208%20Mandolin.%20...%209%20Harp.%20)

[instruments/#:~:text=1%20Guitar.%20A%20guitar%20is%20a%20stringed%20instrument,Banjo.%20...%208%20Mandolin.%20...%209%20Harp.%20](https://promusicvault.com/string-instruments/#:~:text=1%20Guitar.%20A%20guitar%20is%20a%20stringed%20instrument,Banjo.%20...%208%20Mandolin.%20...%209%20Harp.%20)

**ABOUT THE ARTIST:**

The Apollo Chamber Players, a quartet of string musicians, studied at Rice University's Shepherd School of Music and made their Carnegie Hall debut in 2013. Apollo's trademark is a program that highlights the intersection between classical and folk music. The Apollo Quartet programming reflects the ethnic diversity of classical composers and the unique folk sounds and styles imbued in their music. The cultural melting pot that is the city of Houston provides a perfect palate with which to showcase the unique musical folk elements in the cultures of the globe.