



West African percussion and dance: workshops / presentations / performances **“An Authentic African Musical Journey” – Virtual & live events available!**

Benefits of bringing our West African drumming / dancing services to your school:

Our special engaging method of teaching drumming and dancing to West African percussive music has proven to:

- Develop team work
- Improve concentration and focus
- Develop listening skills
- Improve memorization
- Develop multitasking capabilities
- Facilitate left-and-right hand coordination and independence.
- Explore a new form of non-verbal communication
- Stimulate creativity
- Develop confidence in unknown/new activities
- experience new cultures and traditions

Drumming workshops:

The workshops have multiple components:

- An introductory video about drumming in West Africa and the meaning of drumming in these cultures and traditions (For weekly workshop series)
- A warm-up exercise composed of clapping and walking exercises to introduce students to the notion of percussive rhythms.
- The drumming workshop being composed of progressive exercises to lead all students to the goal of playing a full orchestra rhythm by the end of the session.
- Simple music patterns given as homework in between each session (Online library of sound files and music notation) (For weekly workshop series)
- Q&A
- Our Drumming workshops are intended for beginners and are customized according to each grade level.
- Preferred audience: Grade 6 to grade12 students.

The following is a list of the main items we will need to discuss in order to organize a drum workshop in your school:

- Grade level audience and number of students to be enrolled (40 max recommended per workshop)
- Number of back-to-back workshop / day and time (Weekly workshop series also available)
- 1 Chair required per participant.
- Drum storage space (For weekly workshop series only)
- Video / DVD player (For weekly workshop series only)
- Projector (For weekly workshop series only)

We provide 1 drum per participant for all workshops

At the end of these workshops, all “grade 5 and up” students will know a full orchestra rhythm which can be performed in front of an audience, if required. Students will be very familiar with the main Mandingue percussive musical instruments from West Africa.

We can also organize special “staff team building” drumming workshops.

Dance workshop with live drumming:

The workshops have multiple components:

- A warm-up exercise in music to introduce students to the notion of percussive rhythms.
- The dance workshop being composed of progressive moves to lead all students to the goal of dancing a full choreography for a specific rhythm by the end of the typical 50 Minutes session.
- Dance workshops are intended for beginners and are customized according to each grade level.
- Preferred school audience: Grade1 to grade 5 students / Also available for older students.
- **Students need to be wearing comfortable clothes and sneakers**

The following is a list of some of the items we will need to discuss in order to organize a dance workshop in your school:

- Grade level audience, and number of students to be enrolled (About 60 students maximum recommended per workshop)
- Number of back-to-back workshops / day and time (Weekly workshop series also available)

At the end of these workshops, all students will know a full dance choreography for a specific Mandingue West African rhythm which can be performed in front of an audience, if required. Students will be familiar with the relationship “music / dance” from West Africa.

West African history through traditional musical instruments presentations:

Presentations will be customized to your needs, and can include:

- A projected presentation about the multiple instruments and their composition, manufacturing process, pictures, sound files, origins, history. (A sample of some of the instruments will also be brought to the school for students to try and a basic demonstration will be done on some of them)
- A projected presentation about the Guinean percussion orchestra. (Some students will be taken from the audience to briefly demonstrate a basic Guinean orchestra - Target audience: music students)
- Interactive live percussion story telling presentation (Smaller groups recommended –Target audience: Kindergarten).
- Q&A

Drumming performances:

We have Authentic West African percussion performances in full traditional outfits, including some audience participation in the form of dance and clapping, as well as a presentation of the Mandingue musical instruments/rhythms and their place in Mandingue cultures. All performances end with a student Q&A (A typical live performance is 40 minutes long).

- These events are organized by Alpha, who has successfully worked with many schools in Ontario since 2003.
- Alpha passed a course jointly proposed by the Ontario Arts council and York university:
(Artistic education certificate - Artist working in the Ontarian schools)
- The company is a TDSB official partner (Approved vendor)
- Our Members passed 1st Aid course
- We have passed a Police vulnerable sector screening (VSS), which allows us to work in all the schools in Ontario.
- Language: Alpha and most of his artists are fluent in both English and French

You are just one step away from a unique event that will change your students forever! If you have an interest for One of these amazing educational activities, request a quotation using our online inquiry form below:

<https://www.alpharhythmroots.com/drummingbooking>

For further information about Alpha's activities, and to read our Bio / customer testimonials, please follow this link:

<https://www.alpharhythmroots.com/aboutus>



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