



Outreach Mission and Offerings

The artists of Body Music have always maintained a strong Educational Outreach program in conjunction with performances, believing that using Body Music to access rhythm, time and timing, ensemble awareness, and intercultural communication is not only extremely effective, but available to all people.

Possible outreach venues include elementary through University level music, dance and theater departments, inner-city teen centers, community centers in the Alaskan bush, Indonesian villages, and institutional intercultural communications programs. The fact that the projects are intercultural attracts those specific cultural communities to the programs. That the artwork involves the instrument we all share means it's accessible to everyone, and opens doors of commonality. In a world with increasing digital connectivity, the community engagement of Body Music demonstrates the ways in which cultures can mix and mingle, while maintaining their distinct identities.

Body Music promotes it's outreach not only as a cultural or artistic expression but a seminal teaching tool, available when there is no budget for instruments, where traditional methods fail. Lack of resources is responsible for both the germination of the art form (Body Music is likely the first music/dance), and a part of its history; i.e. African-American traditional Hambone was born from the banning of drums amongst slaves. In adversity, people use what they have, and we help them do that creatively.

The international cast of BODY MUSIC can perform a variety of residency activities, at all levels of education and in the community:

Family programming:

Targeted Family Concerts - participatory, entertaining, educational

Elementary through High School:

On-site or In-school Assembly Programs, Workshops, Residencies

College and University:

Workshops, Master Classes, Residencies, Lecture-Demonstrations

Teacher Trainings

for Music/Arts Teachers - Professional Development

Teacher Training

for Classroom Teachers

Focus on Rhythm of Math (Crosspulse Media, 2015), a math teaching unit in line with Common Core for grades 3-5, developed with teacher and math visionary Linda Akiyama. Rhythm of Math uses Keith Terry's Body Music Rhythm Blocks to engage students in learning and applying essential mathematical concepts, while composing and performing rhythms. Pilot programs in diverse Oakland and San Francisco public schools received student and teacher feedback that proved the value of the work, especially with students who are unsuccessful with traditional teaching methods.





Public Body Music Workshop

Using the oldest instrument on the planet -- the human body -- we clap, slap, snap, step and vocalize our way through some very fun and funky, original and traditional rhythmic music. BODY MUSIC is an effective way of internalizing rhythmic work, which enhances the development of time, timing, phrasing, listening skills, independence, coordination and ensemble awareness. We will explore a variety of rhythmic systems and concepts from around the world, including polyrhythms, crosspulses, polymeters, phasing, half time/double time, and more. It is a useful tool for musicians, dancers and movers of all kinds, actors, DJs and film editors -- anyone interested in deepening their rhythmic skills. Wear comfortable clothing and clean sneakers or jazz shoes. No previous experience necessary.

Traditional Body Music Styles

Explores traditional styles from a variety of sources, including hambone (US), kecak and saman (Indonesia), solkatu (India) katajaqq (Nunavut), rus (Morocco), palmas (Spain), and more.

Rhythm Studio (interactive lecture-demonstration)

Entertaining and informative, this presentation explores a variety of rhythmic systems and concepts from around the world, including polyrhythms, crosspulses, polymeters, phasing, half time/double time, and more. Guaranteed to open ears and expand rhythmic horizons.