



Blues in the Schools Workshops

“TRY, TRUST, and TRIUMPH”

with Fruteland Jackson

www.Fruteland.com

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"Try, Trust and Triumph"

The purpose of Blues in the Schools programs is to create a deeper appreciation and greater awareness of blues music-*Fruteland Jackson*

Blues 101 Is a one-hour lecture /performance that discusses the origins of blues music from its early beginnings. Students learn Blues music history through song, lecture, and discussion while hearing instrumental examples played on guitar. Basic definitions of Blues music such as "What is the Blues?" and "Where did the blues come from?" are answered in this workshop aimed towards the middle school and high school grade levels or individuals learning blues history for the first time. The biographies of significant players in Blues music development, including W.C. Handy, Huddie "Leadbelly" Ledbetter, Robert Johnson, and B.B. King, are introduced. Students are encouraged to expand their musical choices. This workshop works well in a classroom, auditorium, or library environment. This workshop includes an interactive singing workshop and a Q and A period. Blues 101 is our most popular and recommended workshop for the uninitiated and reaches a mass listening audience.

Blues 201 is an introduction to music instruction to performing blues music. This workshop employs more interaction with students focusing on playing blues music. Students learn the basic blues form (chord progressions) and instructions on playing blues in its basic styles. Musical instruction is provided for the acoustic guitar and harmonica. Journals are encouraged to take notes on various parts of their musical instruments. Tips and instructions on how to purchase, tune, maintain instruments and a book report. This workshop is ideal for small groups of music students. Music literacy skills are gained through performance and listening sessions. This course is the recommended follow-up for students interested in music instructions. This workshop is for first-time hands-on music student's prerequisite: **Blues 101**

Blues 301 This workshop further extends the student's knowledge and musical range by introducing the Blues scale and listening to music various vocal and musical styles and the geographical regions that included Piedmont, Mississippi Delta, and the East Texas Coast. Songwriting workshops and singing workshops are included in this workshop and the oral histories of famous blues artists such as Bessie Smith, Muddy Waters, Robert Johnson, Willie Dixon while listening to their recordings. Students are encouraged to sing and to begin writing original songs. Students learn the difference between a major scale, a minor scale, and a five-note (pentatonic) scale. Provide examples of how other musical styles, such as rock and roll, rhythm, and blues rap music evolved. Journals known as "My Blues Book" are encouraged for notetaking. Literacy skills have further developed through studying Blues music history throughout American history as a long-term homework assignment. And for reference material. **Blues 101, 201.**

Workshops continued

Blues 401 is a course that emphasizes the active exploration of performance techniques on stage in preparation for the student showcase. Students provided instruction on the use of stage etiquette and non-verbal communications between musicians. Several blues styles include country blues, shuffles, boogie-woogie, 8 bar blues, and instrument soloing, are introduced. How to prepare and practice are also in this lesson. The final evaluation is based on student participation, performance, listening, creative activity, and attendance. Covers everything A certificate of participation is awarded to the successful student. A songwriting workshop is the third option. Basic definitions and a glossary of terms are provided for the beginning songwriter. Prerequisite: **Blues 101, 201, 301.**

Blues 501 "From Cottonfields to Skyscrapers" The Emergence and Evolvement of Blues Culture in America Is a one-hour lecture-performance narrated by **Fruteland Jackson**. He begins by shedding light on the origins of blues music. From its early folk roots I until today's contemporary sounds with song, lecture, and a slide presentation. WHAT IS THE BLUES? The AFRICAN CONNECTION, or the West African Roots of American Blues Music, THE SOUTHERN LEGACY includes the Mississippi Delta, the East Texas Coast, and the Piedmont regions. THE GREAT MIGRATION AND URBAN STYLE BLUES and THE BLUES TODAY and the souls and scenes that gave birth to blues music. Fruteland Jackson demonstrates singing and playing styles showcasing their geographical playing styles. All aspects of this program are brought together into a unique 75-minute overview American **musical** genre. This workshop may include a virtual Q and A period.

The artist residency scheduling works in conjunction with other classroom activities. An artist residency can range from one-day workshops to a six-week program. An artist residency is tailored to fit specific groups, including senior care facilities and veteran homes. The lesson plan includes goals and timetables (syllabus).

The Remedial Effects of **Blues in the Schools** programs:

BITS programs were developed as an after-school program, focusing on middle school students during core hours 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

- Educates and entertains
- Enhances students creativity
- Increases thinking and problem-solving ability
- BITS programs instill a sense of pride and accomplishment
- Measures music potential
- Enhances literacy both academically and socially
- Develops self-esteem
- Remove self-doubt
- It helps develop the aesthetic judgment
- Develops self-esteem (removes self-doubt)

- It brings about cross-cultural understanding

Workshops continued

- It breaks down social barriers
- Teaches tolerance
- c Improve school attendance (decreases dropout rate).
- Provides career opportunities
- Valuable teaching tool for students with special needs
- Creates Blues culture
- BITS programs may use blues music as a second language to close the literacy gap
- Works well with students from all walks of life

