



# MAP : Music, Art and Poetry

## Traveling Through the Arts

### With The Cavani String Quartet

#### Program Goals:

TO GIVE EVERY CHILD THE OPPORTUNITY TO CREATE ART THROUGH MUSICAL INSPIRATION.

TO PROMOTE POWER OF WORDS AND MUSIC AS A FORM OF SELF-EXPRESSION AND A WAY TO RELATE TO THE WORLD.

TO FOSTER A CHILD'S INDEPENDENT THOUGHT AND SELF-ESTEEM THROUGH INTERPRETATION AND PERFORMANCE.

TO FOSTER COMMUNITY COLLABORATION AND TO CREATE A JOYFUL AND MOVING PERFORMANCE..

## MAP PROGRAM DESCRIPTION and OVERVIEW:



The MAP program was first inaugurated by the Cavani Quartet at The Kazoo School in Kalamazoo Michigan. Created to impact a wider audience of students and to involve each child as an individual artist reacting to the music in real time, the MAP program has been performed at public and private schools across the country. Each MAP program is a collaboration between administration, teachers and the quartet, and designed to fit the specific environment of the school. The goal is to offer every student the opportunity to express themselves creatively, interpreting music through poetry or visual art. The MAP program culminates in a Gala performance for family

and friends, which includes students performing side by side with The Cavani Quartet. This performance combines an uplifting concert experience, the energy of a poetry slam, and the excitement of a new art exhibition.

Throughout the project Cavani Quartet members will serve as a resource for teachers and will work closely with students. Teachers will receive links to four performance recordings, between 5-10 minutes in length. Students are not required to know anything about the music before they begin. This project is designed to offer the students the ability to actively engage in the interpretive process - everyone's idea is valid and all interpretations are welcome.

The teachers may wish to choose either a visual art project (painting, sculpture, film, etc.) or a writing project (poem, short story, etc), which will be inspired by one of the musical choices. We found it easiest when each classroom chooses one piece to interpret, however, students and teachers may be inspired differently by all four musical works and we encourage creativity in the process.

As students become familiar with and more curious about the different works, the Cavani Quartet will offer context about the composers and background about the genre and style of music. Teachers may choose to play music in the classroom for quiet listening or send the links to students to listen to on their own.

The classes will have an agreed upon number of weeks to complete their poetry or visual art interpretations. The culmination of this project is a mixed media performance, part poetry slam, art exhibit, and live performance for families, friends and the community. Students gain self esteem and confidence from creating and sharing art and ideas in a safe, celebratory and welcoming space.

**Poetry:** Each class will choose one or more readers to perform a poetry or work of prose with the quartet. This may be a class project written together or written as individuals. All poetry and or short stories will be compiled and printed in a booklet for the program.

**Visual Art:** The visual art can be photographed and compiled as slide presentation with names of student artists underneath paintings (or other works of art) and grouped by the music that inspired the artwork.

**CAVANI VISITS TO SCHOOLS:** The Cavani Quartet will be visiting all participating classes either in larger assemblies or in the classroom. The details of these visits are to be mutually agreed upon by the teachers, principal and the quartet. The quartet will perform and interact with the students as well as help coach students readers.

#### **FINAL PROJECT: MAP GALA PERFORMANCE**

A multi-media event, student readers will perform side by side with the Cavani Quartet. The Quartet will also perform with the visual art as a backdrop. MAP provides an opportunity for all voices to be heard through artistic expression, and brings us all together in a celebration through the hearts and minds of children.

#### **MAP PROGRAM STRUCTURE:**

1. **TIMELINE:** Teachers and principal meet with the Cavani Quartet members to discuss a timeline and how MAP can best support the ongoing curriculum and needs of students.
2. **QUARTET INTRODUCTORY PERFORMANCE & DEMONSTRATION:** The Cavani String Quartet will present an interactive performance for designated grade levels designed to illustrate the fundamentals of teamwork while creating an appreciation of the artists, their instruments and their music. Drawing a connection between group activities as seemingly diverse as sports and chamber music, the program creates a fast-paced, fun and interactive atmosphere with repertoire ranging from Beethoven to Bruno Mars and will feature the music that the students will use to inspire their visual art and poetry.
3. **MUSIC:** Each classroom is provided with a recording of the music introduced at the performances described above. The musical selections will be chosen to represent a wide variety of compositional voices, styles and genres, as well as a range evocative moods, rhythms and musical textures.
4. **ART:** While listening to recordings, students in selected grades will be invited to create paintings, drawings or sculptures inspired by the music. These works will be shown in a slide show at the culminating MAP program concert presentation.
5. **POETRY:** Taking inspiration from the music they hear in their classroom, students will embark on writing projects, poetry, lyrics and short stories. The students will be invited to have their writing read in a side by side performance with the Quartet at the final event.
6. **REHEARSE:** The Cavani Quartet will rehearse with student readers and writers in their classroom.

7. **COMPILE AND PHOTOGRAPH STUDENT ARTWORK/ POETRY:** Art is compiled and photographed by teachers for the slideshow. Writing may be compiled into a booklet available to read electronically and/or in print.

8. **MAP PROGRAM FINAL PERFORMANCE:** The MAP program will culminate with a performance for parents, students, teachers and the community. Performance features visual art on display and slide show coordinated with performance by the Cavani Quartet. Selected students will read their poetry, or a poem written by their peer, in a side by side performance with the Cavani String Quartet. All poetry will be compiled into a booklet available to read electronically and/or in print.

## **ABOUT THE CAVANI STRING QUARTET**

[cavani.org](http://cavani.org)

Annie Fullard and Catherine Cosbey, violins; Eric Wong ,viola; Kyle Price, cello

Described by the Washington Post as “completely engrossing, powerful and elegant” the Cavani Quartet’s artistic excellence, generous spirit, and their fervent ambassadorship for great music has placed them among America’s greatest string quartets. The Cavani Quartet continues its unique journey maintaining



an energetic balance between performing cycles of works by composers such as Beethoven and Bartok, collaborating with diverse and innovative living composers and creating multi-faceted programming that joins music with poetry, visual art and dance. The quartet continues to inspire and shape the musical lives of the next generation through their acclaimed Art of Collaboration Seminar which emphasizes a team-work approach. The quartet’s thirty year legacy has garnered impressive recognition including the Ohio Governors Award for the Arts, Musical America Magazine's Young Artists of the Year, Naumburg Chamber Music Award,

The Cleveland Quartet Award, the ASCAP Award for Adventurous Programming, the Guarneri Quartet Award Artistic Excellence, and for their devotion to community arts education, more than ten National Residency Partnership Grants from Chamber Music America. The Cavani Quartet has toured throughout all fifty states and internationally, performing at some of the worlds most prestigious festivals, including Aspen Music Festival, The New World Symphony, Norfolk Chamber Music Festival, Kniesel Hall, Interlochen, Madeline Island, Chautauqua Festival, Encore Chamber Music and The Perlman Music Program. As passionate advocates for arts education, the Cavani Quartet views the empathy and connectivity of chamber music as a metaphor for the kind of communication that we should strive for between cultures and nations.