

All chamber music groups must perform in at least one **Community Engagement** Situation coordinated through the **Outreach Office of Dan Seriff**: danseriff@austin.utexas.edu. This concert must take place by the penultimate week of class. **Video record your outreach concert and upload it to UT Box for your faculty coach to view** within a week of the performance, and no later than the last class day, May 10, 2019.

**Submit to your coach an outline of your community engagement concert**, complete with who will say what, and which bar numbers you will demonstrate for your audience by March 27. One submission per group will suffice. How can you make your presentation relevant to your particular audience? What will get them excited about the music and about you as people?

Each group must sign-up for one of the performance situations Dan Seriff has arranged. Those situations include performing on-campus for a discussion section of MUS 302L, Introduction to Western Music for non-music majors; and performing as one of several groups on concerts being offered in the Austin community. Your goal should be to connect on a personal level to the members of the audience, and to help them experience your music on deeper levels. Aim to heighten their interest in and their understanding of your music making process. Every member of the group should plan to do some speaking. This presentation should include speaking about yourselves, your instruments, your choice of repertoire, rehearsal techniques, and historical background. Provide demonstrations of thematic material, compositional techniques or tone colors. Invite questions. Be charismatic, interesting, funny and professional!

### **Community Engagement Concert Tips**

- Plan ahead and have an outline for the group's presentation so you can establish a good flow, and rehearse the entire presentation together.
- Plan and practice your own speaking so that your words are articulate and cohesive.
- Speak engagingly about yourselves, your instruments, your choices of repertoire, how the music makes you feel, rehearsal techniques and/or historical background.
- Tell a story about your experience with the piece, or about the composer, about something that relates to this audience directly, or about how the music makes you think of something totally unrelated to music.
- Perhaps the music calls for demonstration of a recurring theme, or an accompaniment on which the audience can focus. Some audiences might appreciate individual instrument demonstrations and discussions.
- Know your audience. Elementary school children do not need to know Mozart's dates, and sophisticated audiences do not need to know that a clarinet is a single reed instrument. Keep the material appropriate for the people for whom you are performing.
- Be yourself. Allow your personality to come across as you speak.
- Use humor. Keep it lively!
- If playing for older children or adults, ask if they have any questions about what you are doing. With small children give them some very tangible actions or sounds to notice, or something to do or say, as long as it is a finite and controlled activity.
- Speak louder than you think you have to so your voice projects, especially to audience members who might be hard of hearing.

- Take your time and speak slowly and clearly. It is common to speak fast when you are nervous.
- Take pauses and breathe. This allows the audience to react to a fact, an anecdote or a joke.
- Make eye contact with audience members. This helps build relationships between you and your listeners.
- Walk onto the stage with ease, but with energy that commands attention and says to the audience, “Here we go!”