CSO SCHOOL CONCERTS
March 20, 2015 10:15 and 12:00

CSO FAMILY MATINEE SERIES
March 21, 2015 11:00 and 12:45

The CSO Family Matinee Series
is sponsored by:

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Welcome to Kidsbook, your guide to the Chicago Symphony Orchestra School Concerts and CSO Family Matinee Concerts!

A composer is like an author and an illustrator, and can design characters to tell a story. Instead of using words and pictures, the composer chooses lots of musical ways to tell the story, including tempo, dynamics, rhythm and instruments.

As we prepare for our musical safari, gather the tools you’ll need to explore the characters found in the music of this concert.

Let’s begin our adventure by searching for the musical characteristics in The Marriage of Figaro by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.

Figaro is a witty guy who likes to crack jokes and sing funny songs! Do you think the music describing Figaro is loud or soft, fast or slow?

Search in the forest for the words that you think will best describe this music.

In the Russian folktale The Firebird, Igor Stravinsky cleverly uses instruments in the orchestra to portray the story’s characters. Match how the music plays to each character’s experience:

CHARACTER

Prince Ivan gets frustrated because he can’t capture the firebird.

Prince Ivan because she can’t be caught.

The firebird teases Prince Ivan because she can’t be caught.

MUSIC

The clarinet plays a taunting trill.

The string instruments get louder and faster.

As you listen to Romanian Folk Dances by Béla Bartók, imagine people who can’t keep their feet still because the rhythm in the music makes them want to get up and dance! Does your body want to move to the rhythm in these dances, too?
AFRICAN ELEPHANT

**Scientific Name:** Loxodonta africana cyclotis

**Habitat:** Savanna, open woodland, tropical, and subtropical forest

**Life Span:** Late 30s to more than 50

**Fun Fact:** An elephant’s trunk can be used to make a loud trumpeting sound.

In the Carnival of the Animals, the elephant is slowly swinging its trunk back and forth as the piano begins to play. Why do you think Camille Saint-Saëns uses the lowest sounding string instrument, the bass, to represent an elephant?

**Firebird**

**Russian Name:** Жар-птица, Zhar-pititsa

**Habitat:** A faraway land

**Life Span:** Mythical creatures live forever in stories

**Fun Fact:** The firebird is a mythical bird with bright yellow, red, or orange feathers that can light up an entire room!

In The Dance of the Firebird this quick, lively piece of music illustrated the firebird trying to escape from Prince Ivan’s grip. Listen as the flute plays the part of the firebird trying to push her body up towards the freedom of the sky!

**Galápagos Tortoise**

**Scientific Name:** Geochelone nigra

**Habitat:** Open, grassy areas to rocky, volcanic outcrops

**Life Span:** Unknown – documented that one tortoise lived to be 171 years old

**Fun Fact:** Galápagos tortoise needs thick, sturdy legs to hold up its weight of 500 pounds.

In the Carnival of the Animals, the music for the tortoise is soft, and is portrayed by a piano playing a steady pattern over a very slow version of Offenbach’s Can-Can played by the strings.

**Lion**

**Scientific Name:** Panthera leo

**Habitat:** Grassy plains, savannas, open woodlands, and scrubland

**Life Span:** 10-14 years in the wild — 30 years in zoos

**Fun Fact:** A lion’s roar can be heard from 3 miles away.

In the Carnival of the Animals, the lion roars when the lowest notes on the piano are being played up and down, up and down. The music played up and down has a steady beat that gives this piece its “Royal March” sound.

**Dinosaur Fossils**

**Scientific Name:** Fossils, means “dug up”

**Habitat:** Dinosaur fossils have been found on every continent on Earth, including Antarctica.

**Life Span:** A fossil is any evidence of life that is at least 10,000 years old.

**Fun Facts:** Body fossils were once part of the animal. A trace fossil is evidence of something left behind, like a dinosaur footprint.

In the Carnival of the Animals, the fossils are represented by an instrument called the xylophone. Imagine you are searching for fossils. When you hear the fast, bony sound of the xylophone, you’ve found them!

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As you read the character trading cards, think about the way the music helps to illustrate each character being played by the orchestra.

**Investigate the characters of Camille Saint-Saëns’ Carnival of the Animals.**

**Make your own trading card!**

What does the music describing this animal sound like?
POETRY CENTER OF CHICAGO

An independent not-for-profit arts organization founded in 1974, The Poetry Center of Chicago’s mission is to promote poetry through readings, workshops, and arts education, to make poetry accessible to the general public, to stimulate and encourage young poets, and to advance the careers of poets by offering them professional opportunities. The Poetry Center is in residence at the Chicago Cultural Center.

To fulfill the need for creative learning opportunities in Chicago classrooms, The Poetry Center offers Hands on Stanzas, a dynamic program that enhances literacy through poetry. The program places Chicago poets in public school classrooms for 20-week sessions. On a weekly basis these poets guide students in reading and discussing the work of published poets, and in writing and presenting their own poetry.

Vladimir Kulenovic was born in the city of Belgrade, of the former Yugoslavia.

Vladimir has always had music at the center of his life.

He is the music director of the Lake Forest Symphony, associate conductor of the Utah Symphony, and resident conductor of the Belgrade Philharmonic Orchestra in Serbia.

Vladimir formerly served as the Principal Conductor of the Kyoto International Music Festival in Japan.

An alumnus of the Juilliard School with graduate degrees from the Peabody Institute and the Boston Conservatory, Vladimir also studied with Kurt Masur from 2008-2012.

Vladimir studied piano as a child and was a second prize winner of the Rubinstein International Piano Competition in Paris.

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INSTRUMENTS OF THE ORCHESTRA

THE STRING FAMILY includes violin, viola, cello, bass and harp. These instruments are made of wood and strings, and are played by vibrating the strings using a bow or plucking or striking with a finger.

THE WOODWIND FAMILY includes flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon and saxophone. These instruments all have the same basic shape: a long tube with a mouthpiece at one end. The flute is played by blowing across a hole to create a vibration. Oboe, clarinet, bassoon, and saxophone are all played by blowing air into a single or double reed attached to the mouthpiece, creating a vibration that results in sound.

THE BRASS FAMILY includes horn, trumpet, trombone, euphonium and tuba. To make a sound on any brass instrument, the player vibrates his or her lips against a mouthpiece, which is fitted into the instrument. The player can change pitch on a trumpet, horn or tuba by pressing on valves. Trombone players change pitch by moving the slide back and forth.

THE PERCUSSION FAMILY includes snare drum, bass drum, gong, triangle, xylophone, timpani and piano, among many others. Percussion instruments are struck, scraped or shaken.

Kidsbook® is a publication of the Negaunee Music Institute of the CSO.
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