

Complete the Week 1 Report Answers of the following:

Melissa Morris Bio:

Twitter: @melissamorr1

Ms. Morris began her global focus with her students in a newly formed World Percussion Ensemble/Drum Circle Facilitation program that she created.

Students acting as drum circle facilitators learn that the contributions of individuals make the experience and the music unique, and they incorporate this appreciation and tolerance of others into everyday life.

Her methods have drawn the attention of the Grammy Foundation, the Recording Academy and Converse, allowing her students to record and release a CD in 2014. She was a quarterfinalist for the prestigious for Grammy Music Educator Award, and has won several awards, including the Bertelsmann Corporation's Teacher Award for Excellence in Creativity and Inspiration and the Distinguished Educator Award from Wagner College. Ms. Morris was a top 50 Finalist for the one-million-dollar Global Teacher Prize in 2015. She takes her place with the other finalists as Varkey Teacher Ambassador for Education.



We are inspired by Drum Circles that have been historically used by civilizations all over the world to communicate and to build comm-UNITY. We strive to build an even larger community by providing the occasion to drum together no matter where we are. Uniting people through rhythm!

We strive to bring people together by providing opportunities and occasions to

amplify our innate ability to come together in commonality and unite as a global community without barrier or prejudice but with respect and appreciation for each contribution to the whole rhythmic experience. It is our belief that people work much more effectively and harmoniously when there is true appreciation for each and every contribution to a common outcome.

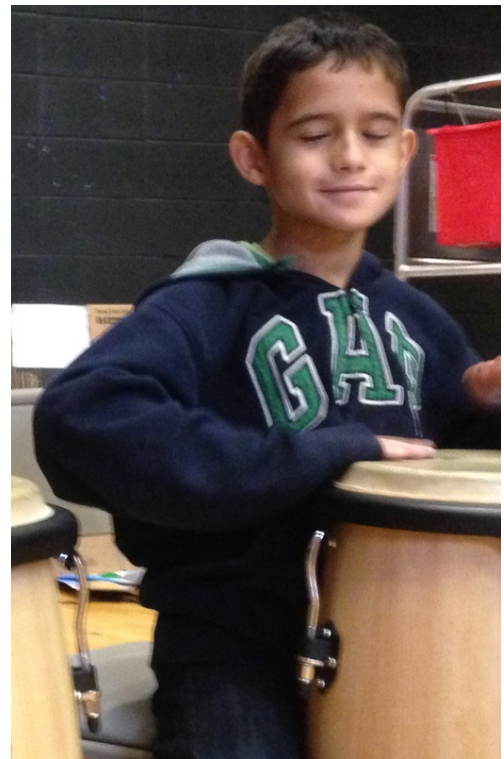
A Drum Circle is:

- a Service Learning Tool
- a Community Building Tool
- a Confidence Building Tool**
- a Team Building tool
- Character Education
- a Criticism Free Zone
- a Place Where We Are All Equal**
- a Place Where Everyone Has a Voice**
- Verbal and Non-Verbal Communication
- an Empowerment Tool**
- Leadership Training
- Follower-ship Training
- an Atmosphere of Universal Respect**
- a Place Where Inspiration Takes Over**
- a Stress Reliever**
- Supportive of Academics
- Artistic Expression
- Cultural Exploration



The creation and growth of this Drum Circle with in the high school has led to a growth mindset with in its student participants/members/facilitators...

It has birthed a service learning initiative “The Gift of Music” concert series which seeks to raise awareness as well as financially support those in need through not for profit organizations in our community.



Live broadcast



the Gift of Music

Featuring:
 Staten Island Technical High School
Jazz Band
 CSI High School for International Studies
World Percussion Ensemble

Tuesday, March 31st 2015
 6:30 P.M.
 Jerome Parker Campus
 Auditorium
 100 Essex Drive SL, NY 10314

Tickets \$5.00 General Admission
 Audience members are encouraged to bring
 ticket items that can be donated to those in need through
Project Hospitality

All Proceeds Donated to PH
 Project Hospitality

The concert will be broadcast live on YouTube. Donations can be made directly to Project Hospitality by following a "DONATE NOW" link on our live feed broadcast OR through our website at www.csihabitatnyc.org/whatsnew



WE CAN'T THANK YOU ENOUGH!

Dear CSIHSIS,

I received your donation letter and wanted to tell you how much we all appreciate your support! In a world where activism is being pushed aside in favor of clicking a like button, it's refreshing to know that there are still young people out there willing to work to support the causes they believe in. You are truly an inspiration!

I would like to invite you to a special build day on Staten Island just for your class. If you are interested, please email me at vreesee@habitatnyc.org to set up a day that works for everyone. Hope to meet you all soon!

Sincerely,
 Victory Reese
 Youth & Community Outreach Coordinator
 Habitat for Humanity New York City
 (212) 991-4000 Ext. 318

Action Plan:

- Teach students to use their innate ability to come together through rhythm.
- Teach students to contribute to a welcoming criticism free zone with guide lines for language usage that includes Helpful Hints and Complimentary language only. (There is no place for criticism in this environment!)
- Empower students to use their musical/rhythmic 'voice' on drums from all over the world.
- Empower students to invite an empower others to join in the drum circle community.
- Grow the community to include students, teachers, parents and other community members of all ages to take part in a monthly hour-long Student facilitated drum circle.
- Empower others to feel appreciated and valued for every contribution to the entire musical and rhythmic whole.
- Create a safe space for emotional wellbeing with opportunities to grow love, respect, value for all contributions to the whole!
- Use our appreciation for our local and global community to want to give of our talents to help those in need. To invite others from other schools to join in the action of sharing talents for a cause. The birth of "THE GIFT OF MUSIC" yearly concert series. This yearly event over 3 years has raised close to \$6000.00 to help those in need through Habitat for Humanity, The Stephen Siller foundation as well as Project Hospitality.

