GORD DOWNIE & CHANIE WENJACK FUND

Lesson Plan

DWF LIVE WITH JULIAN TAYLOR WORKSHEET

SUGGESTED AGES:

ELEMENTARY, MIDDLE SCHOOL, HIGH SCHOOL

WATCH ON YOUTUBE

SUGGESTED SUBJECT AREAS:

FINE ARTS, SOCIAL STUDIES AND THE HUMANITIES, ENGLISH, AND GEOGRAPHY

Disclaimer: Educators and group leaders are responsible for ensuring lessons and materials presented in their classrooms or groups are appropriate for their unique students.

ABOUT JULIAN TAYLOR:

Julian Taylor is a Canadian singer-songwriter of West Indian and Mohawk descent. Formerly associated with the band Staggered Crossing, he has continued to record and perform as a solo artist. He is a prolific artist who has released nine studio albums since 2001.

Join us on February 8 to enjoy Julian's music and ask him questions about his career!

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS:

Julian shares his music and interesting stories about his career with us in this engaging DWF LIVE.

GUIDED QUESTIONS AND LESSON IDEAS

1. Background and Heritage:

- Where is Julian Taylor from, and what is his cultural heritage?
- How has his West Indian and Mohawk heritage influenced his music and identity?

2. Musical Journey:

- What is Julian Taylor's connection with the band Staggered Crossing, and how did his career lead him to become a solo artist?
- How has his musical style evolved over the course of his albums?

GUIDED QUESTIONS AND LESSON IDEAS

3. Prolific Career:

- What makes Julian Taylor a prolific artist, and how has he maintained a consistent output of music since 2001?
- Are there specific themes or messages that he often incorporates into his music?

4. Live Performance:

- How does Julian Taylor approach live performances, and what makes them unique?
- Have there been any notable moments or experiences from his live shows that stand out?

GUIDED QUESTIONS AND LESSON IDEAS

5. Audience Interaction:

- Why is the opportunity to ask Julian Taylor questions about his career significant for fans?
- What kind of insights can we gain from direct interaction with artists?

NOTES

MINI LESSON IDEA:
"EXPLORING THE MUSICAL JOURNEY OF JULIAN TAYLOR"

OBJECTIVE:

Students will gain an understanding of Julian Taylor's background, musical journey, and career highlights.

INTRODUCTION:

1. Begin by introducing Julian Taylor and providing a brief overview of his bio.
2. Discuss the significance of exploring the background and journey of a musician to better appreciate their art.

GUIDED EXPLORATION:

3. Divide students into small groups and assign each group one of the guiding questions.
4. Have groups conduct research using reliable sources to find information related to their assigned question.
5. Encourage students to share their findings with the class and discuss any interesting or surprising facts they discovered.

CLASS DISCUSSION:

6. Facilitate a class discussion based on the information gathered, allowing students to share insights and reflections on Julian Taylor's career.
7. Connect the information to broader concepts such as cultural influence on art, musical evolution, and the significance of audience interaction.

INTERACTIVE SESSION:

8. Discuss the upcoming event on February 8, where students can enjoy Julian Taylor's music and ask him questions.
9. Encourage students to brainstorm thoughtful questions they might want to ask the artist, fostering engagement and curiosity.

CONCLUSION:

10. Summarize the key points learned about Julian Taylor's musical journey and emphasize the excitement for the upcoming event.
11. Encourage students to attend the event and actively participate by asking questions that reflect their understanding of his career.

This mini lesson aims to engage middle school students in a meaningful exploration of Julian Taylor's musical journey, fostering a connection between the artist's background and their appreciation of his work.