

Spencer Bohren
School Arts Residency
October 30-November 3, 2006

Watchmaker cases

Spencer collects small items that interest him visually and displays them artfully in watchmaker cases. Each child will choose an item or two for display in his or her own case. At mid-week, students will arrange the cases, with guidelines from Spencer, to display each class's collection of objects.

Grades: all school activity

Time: initial explanation and demonstration – 15 minutes
Class arrangement – 20 minutes

Supplies: watchmaker cases (provided by Spencer)
Items chosen by students

Content standards 1 and 2

Shadow box art instruction

Spencer creates miniature realities within the framework of small boxes, using found objects and collage. Students will be instructed in technique and learn how to transform ordinary objects into extraordinary artwork.

Grades: 5-8 (Spencer is available for lower grades at the art teacher's discretion).

Time: 2 class periods

Supplies: one cigar box (or sturdy box of similar size) per student
White school glue, thinned with water
Student objects d'art
Magazine pictures of texture and graphics (provided by Spencer and students)

Content standards 1 and 3

Down the Dirt Road Blues performance / lecture

Spencer follows one song's journey from 16th Century Africa through America's culture and history to the present. Utilizing appropriate vintage instruments, he brings the singers and the musicians of the past to life.

Grades: 5-8

Time: 45 minutes

Supplies: none, unless PA system is necessary for room

Content standards 5 and 6

Intro to instruments

Spencer plays a variety of stringed instruments and occasional percussion for students, describing how they work, their derivation, and their tonal qualities.

Grades: K-4

Time: 30 minutes

Supplies: none

Content standards 5 and 6

Halloween face painting

Two decades of preparing his children and their friends for Mardi Gras has sharpened Spencer's face-painting skills. He proposes to share his tips with interested middle school students, who will then assist him in painting the faces of students in the lower grades for the school's Halloween party.

Grades: all school activity

Time: 10 minutes per face (2 classes in the day)

Supplies: small cups of water and face paints (provided by Spencer)

Content standard 1

Public concert

Spencer is available to perform a public concert for parents, their children, and the community. School may charge admission if they wish, with the proceeds to benefit the school.

Time: one-hour concert, preferably in the evening.

Supplies: PA system appropriate to the room

Public art workshop

Spencer creates miniature realities within the framework of small boxes, using found objects and collage. Adults will be instructed in technique and encouraged to transform ordinary objects into extraordinary artwork.

Time: 1 ½ hours

Supplies: one cigar box (or sturdy box of similar size) per person

White school glue, thinned with water (provided by school)

Participant objects d'art

Magazine pictures of texture and graphics (provided by Spencer and participants)

Art Exhibit

Students display the artwork they have created during the week, including the class collections in watchmaker cases. All students and parents will be invited to attend the art show.

Grades: K-8

Supplies: Tables for display

Proper lighting

Content standards 1 and 4

Concurrently:

Spencer requests a space in which to create art. It should be accessible to students for the purpose of encouraging further artistic dialogue throughout the course of the week.

Proposed Calendar:

- October 30** **Distribute watchmaker's cases as intro to residency (15 minutes in each class)**
- First shadowbox artwork session (1 class for 5th & 6th and one class for 7th and 8th)**
- Set up personal / public work space**
- October 31** **Halloween Face Painting**
- November 1** **Watchmaker's cases – assemble class collections (20 minutes in each class)**
- Intro to instruments for lower grades (30 minutes)**
- Public shadowbox workshop – 1 ½ hours, evening**
- November 2** **Second shadowbox artwork session (1 class for 5th and 6th, and another class for 7th and 8th)**
- Public concert – one hour, evening**
- November 3** **Down the Dirt Road Blues performance / lecture (1 class, Grades 5-8)**
- Set up art exhibit**

MONTANA STANDARDS FOR ARTS

Content Standard 1 **Students create, perform/exhibit, and respond in the Arts.**

Content Standard 2 **Students apply and describe the concepts, structures, and processes in the Arts.**

Content Standard 3 **Students develop and refine arts skills and techniques to express ideas, pose and solve problems, and discover meaning.**

Content Standard 4 **Students analyze characteristics and merits of their work and the work of others.**

Content Standard 5 **Students understand the role of the Arts in society, diverse cultures, and historical periods.**

Content Standard 6 **Students make connections among the Arts, other subject areas, life, and work.**

Student body:

K 15

1st 24

2nd 20

3rd 18

4th 24

5/6th 24

7th 16

8th 15