

SENSORY FRIENDLY CONCERT WITH BETH SILVER AND JENNA RICHARDS

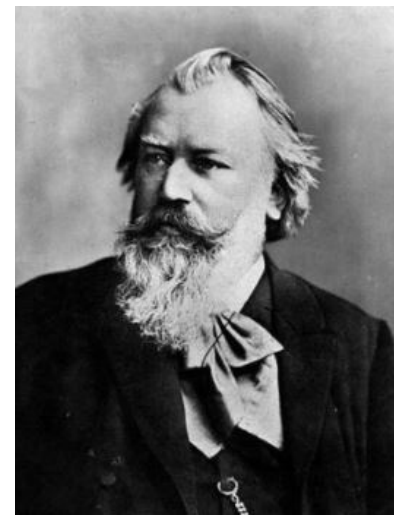
Presented in collaboration by Ottawa Chamberfest and
Lotus Centre for Special Music Education



Thank you for joining us for our in-person, sensory friendly concert! Keep reading to learn more about the composers, pieces, and musical elements you'll hear. There are also some fun activities for you to try before or after the concert!

Johannes Brahms

Johannes Brahms was a German composer, pianist and conductor born in 1833. Brahms started playing the piano at the age of 7 years old. He also started composing at a young age, but he was very critical of his early works and destroyed many of his early compositions. Luckily, he continued writing and composed piano music, symphony orchestras, chamber ensembles, and more that we can still listen to today!



Fun Fact: Some people referred to Johannes Brahms as one of the "Three Bs" of music, along with Johann Sebastian Bach and Ludwig van Beethoven.

Major and Minor

Music can use different sounds to help create different moods or feelings. One way composers do this is with major and minor sounds. Major sounds can sound happy or cheerful (like sunshine), while minor sounds can sound sad or angry (like rainclouds).

Today you will hear Dvorak's *Zigeunermelodien* which goes back and forth between major and minor sounds.

Listen closely to see if you can hear the happy or sad sounds!

Extra activity: Use the back of this page to draw some happy things you might picture when you listen to major music!



Staccato and Legato

Staccato and Legato are opposites in music. Legato means smooth and connected, while staccato means short and detached.

Pianists can make legato or staccato sounds using their fingers on the keys. They can also use the pedals to make long legato sounds.

Cellists can use their bows to make legato sounds. They can also use their fingers to pluck the strings and make short, staccato sounds. This is called playing *pizzicato*.

Listen carefully to the *Violin Sonata No. 2* by Brahms that you will hear today. Do you hear the different legato and staccato sounds?

Extra activity: Can you do some actions that remind you of legato sounds (like pretending to swim across a calm lake)? Can you do some actions that remind you of staccato sounds (like bouncing a basketball)?



Red Canoe

Today you will hear a brand new song called *Red Canoe* by Andrew Downing. You can use your imagination and create your own story about a red canoe to go with the music. Is the canoe paddling through water? Is someone carrying it on land? Is it drying on a stand? You get to choose!

Extra activity: Draw a picture of your red canoe story below.



More Listening

Click below to listen to some other pieces by the composers you heard today:

Gloria, FP 177 by Poulenc: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YVpeU8_ZHEM

New World Symphony (Symphony No. 9 in E minor) by Dvorak:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=56Tm6qnVEgQ>

Intermezzo, Op. 118, No. 2 by Brahms: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cqBzK5tKFVc>

All Alone on the Mountain by Downing: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-BddAeFogY&list=PLM13XTelxsNI2lwG9SRkPjSY8WhEpuLg&index=2>