



San Francisco Opera's Mozart's *DON GIOVANNI*

Curriculum Connections California Content Standards Kindergarten through Grade 12

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

What dances could you do to music from the different scenes?

What kinds of dances would you use to represent different characters?

How do you move differently when you're young and old?

MOVEMENT

Walking, dancing, jumping, balancing, leaping, lifting, etc. Ex. Move your body in different ways using the example of each character.

Act out how Don Giovanni and Leperello would walk. What are the differences? What about Masetto or Zerlina?

Choreograph dances for selected scenes in *Don Giovanni*.

Practice dancing to music from the opera. What music selections lend themselves to dancing?

Research dances of the time (minuets and contradances); how were dances different for different classes?

What would dances of the period have looked like? What are the dance forms Don Giovanni asks the ensembles to play during Act II?

PHYSICALITY OF PERFORMING

Endurance & strength, posture, breathing techniques.

Examine stage combat; how do performers stay safe in a fight?

Choreograph stage combat for the duel between Don Giovanni and Commendatore in Act I.

TEAM-BUILDING

Cooperative games encourage collaboration and build trust.

Play number games, where students have to gather in groups of two, three, and so on. The object is to get together as quickly as possible. They can also be instructed to create pictures with their bodies, or move in unison.

The characters in Don Giovanni are constantly parrying with words; how does that relate to the concept of volleying in sports? Exercises to move together as a group. Building the ensemble.

Partner dancing, changing partners, partnering exercises, mirroring activities.