



Dancing, singing,
drumming, and
drawing.



The Ivory Coast is our
final destination for
this year of musical
storytelling.



Check out the M.I.S.
year-overview
infographic on p. 4.



Next year's theme:
Voices of Immigration.
[REGISTER TODAY!](#)

Kotchegna Dance Company

And wrapping up the year with 92Y...



Talented students from Future Leaders Institute join Kotchegna on 92Y's Kaufmann Concert Hall stage to lead 900 of their peers in African dance.
Photo credit: Stylish and Hip Kids Photography

Last Stop: Côte d'Ivoire with Kotchegna!

Our year of musical storytelling wraps up with the traditional music, stories, dances, and costumes of Côte d'Ivoire (the Ivory Coast), presented by the Kotchegna Dance Company. In their classrooms, students listened to a variety of rhythms that accompany each folk tale, and learned to drum some patterns, while improvising dance moves to others. They also practiced singing parts of West African songs in customary call-and-response style. This combination of



Teaching Artist Terence Murren demonstrates how to play the djembe to a P.S. 41 student.

What Teachers Are Saying About Kotchegna:

"The show was great. Kids loved it... My little guy was in the aisle dancing the whole time. He's Hispanic and speaks zero English, and struggles with Spanish too. He danced and smiled the entire time. You made his day and mine too. He struggles every day in class and acts out, and today he shined." – Diana Lourenso, P.S. 111X 1st grade teacher

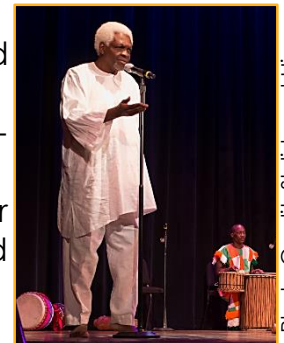
"[The students] enjoyed recognizing and connecting the music in the show to what they did in class."

"Learning about a different culture, what they believe in and how they interpret stories to show their way of life was the most valuable part of the Kotchegna Dance Company lesson series."

dancing, singing, drumming, and storytelling provided the students with multiple entry points for experiencing the authentic culture of people in West Africa, including the Mahou and Senufo.

Felani

One of the folk tales children studied in class was about an orphaned girl named Felani, whose story resembles the Cinderella archetype found in folklore from all over the world. After being mistreated by her wicked stepmother, Felani heads to the forest to forage for food and hears her mother's spirit calling to her from inside a large fruit tree. During the concert, a narrator imparted the story while students protested in the orphan girl's defense. Then they cheered as she re-gained her strength from the food imbued with her mother's love and led her village to victory over evildoers. The young audience members were able to witness Felani's dancing change and hear the rhythms pick up speed and excitement over the course of the story, becoming immersed in the multi-sensory world of Kotchegna's culture and folklore.



Narrator Kwesi Camara

Photo Credit: Stylish and Hip Kids Photography

Kotchegna's Drums

Throughout the Kotchegna unit, students learned to recognize rhythms associated with each story, mask, or character. To deepen their understanding and aid their recognition of these rhythms, students also learned about three different drums that they would see Kotchegna play. Do you recognize any of them?



A



B



C

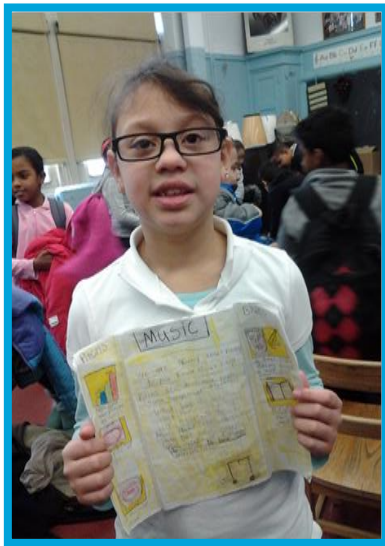
A) Djembe B) Yadaba C) Down Doun

Our Talented Students!

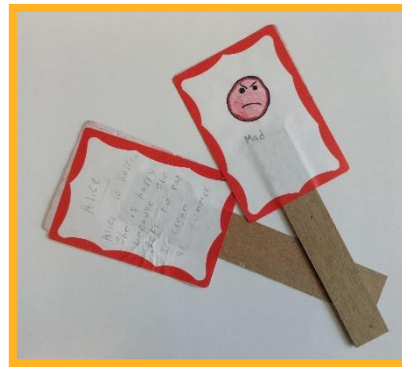
Every student enrolled in the Musical Introduction Series receives his or her own music journal full of pictures, maps, performer biographies, song lyrics, and a variety of activity pages that provide them an opportunity to freely reflect on their musical and cultural experiences throughout the year. Unsurprisingly, the young people in our program produced some truly amazing writing, drawings, and other creative pieces inspired by the music and artists (some in their journals, and others on their own!). Here are a few examples:



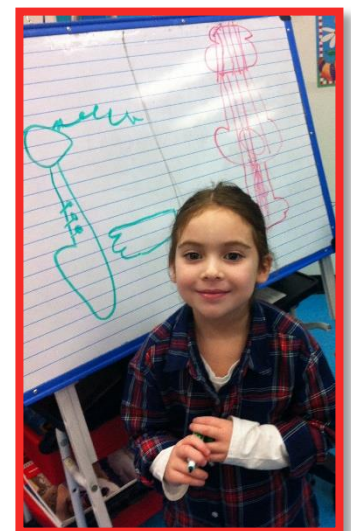
A mask designed with story-relevant symbols during the Kotchegna unit (P.S. 189).



A student from P.S. 189 demonstrates her understanding of pitch and instruments.



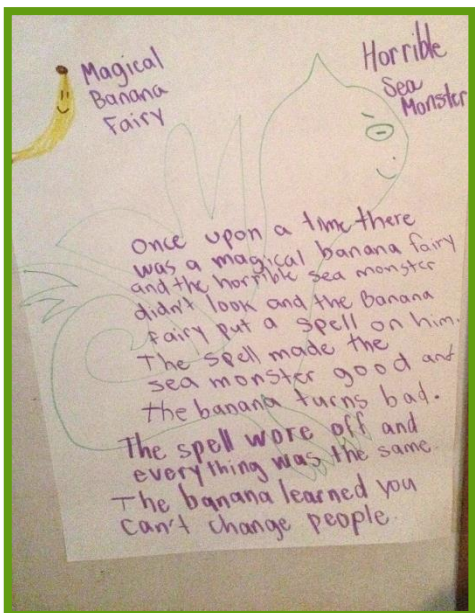
Understanding emotions expressed by dancers in a ballet through puppetry.



Inventing instruments for the four families of the orchestra at P.S. 527.



A P.S. 189 student's interpretation of Hazmat Modine's song "Mockingbird."



A class at Ella Baker School wrote a fairy tale inspired by the music of Igor Stravinsky's *Firebird Suite*.



Third graders at Central Park East II acting out the story of *La Revue de Cuisine* with teaching artist Lynne Wilson.

A Year of Musical Storytelling

MIS By the Numbers

Participation

4 NYC Boroughs



27 schools



144 classrooms



4,000 students



Concerts

4 sets of concerts



22 performances



51 performers



18.3 hours of
live music



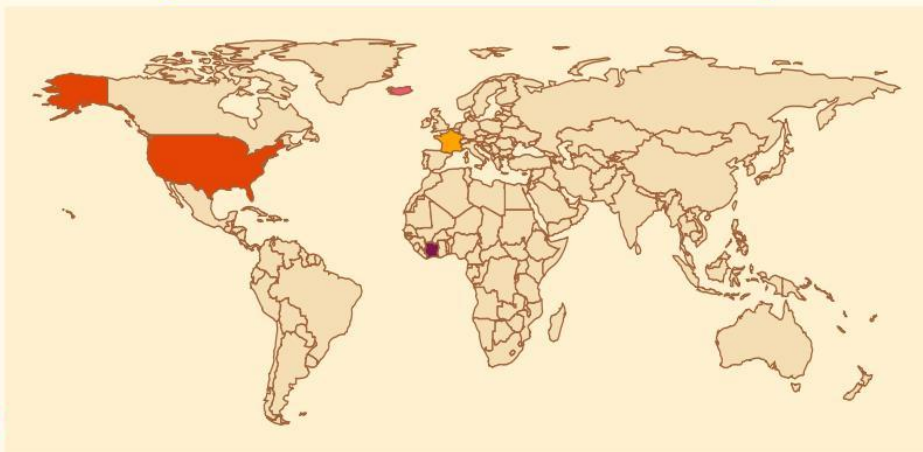
Music



Iceland:
*Maximus
Musicus Visits
the Orchestra*



United States:
Hazmat Modine



France:
*Who Stole the
Mona Lisa?
&
La Revue de
Cuisine*



Ivory Coast:
*Kotchezna Dance
Company*

“Now It’s Time To Say Adios Amigos...”

We would like to take this opportunity to extend our sincere thanks to all of our partner schools for another great year of world music education, especially the coordinators with whom we communicated extensively throughout the year, and the teachers who bring their best to the classroom every single day. It is always a pleasure to work with you and learn from each other.



Next year, our concerts are programmed around the theme of **Voices of Immigration**. We will be exploring the music of some of the most influential groups of immigrants in New York City, and are delighted by the positive responses many of you have shared with us about this theme's connection to your classroom curriculum. If you would like your school to re-enroll in the Musical Introduction Series, you must reserve your spot before **June 20** to lock in your rate of \$900 per class. After the 20th, the cost to enroll will be \$950 per class. Email LGelman@92y.org or click [here](#) to register. We sincerely hope to see you in the fall!

Here's a sneak preview of the 2015-16 season:



Villalobos Brothers
(Mexican)



Metropolitan Klezmer
(Jewish)



Lúnasa
(Irish)



Young People's Chorus
of New York City
(Global)

MIS Participating Schools

Bronx Little School
Central Park East II
Ella Baker School
Future Leaders Institute
Manhattan New School
River East Elementary School
Yorkville Community School
P.S. 3 Bedford Village
P.S. 5 The Port Morris School
P.S. 19 Marino Jeantet
P.S. 30 Hernandez/Hughes
P.S. 31 Samuel F. Dupont
P.S. 35 Nathaniel Woodhull
P.S. 36 Margaret Douglas
P.S. 38 The Rosedale School
P.S. 41 Gun Hill road
P.S. 57 James Weldon Johnson
P.S. 84 Lillian Weber
P.S. 111 Seton Falls
P.S. 114 Ryder Elementary
P.S. 132 The Conselyea School
P.S. 146 Anna M. Short
P.S. 189
P.S. 228 Early Childhood
Magnet School of the Arts
P.S./I.S. 278 Paula Hedbavny
School
P.S. 303 Academy for
Excellence in the Arts
P.S. 527 East Side School for
Social Action

