

La Crosse Symphony Orchestra

SYMPHONY for YOUTH

**MAYO CLINIC
EDUCATION PROGRAMS**



30TH ANNUAL SYMPHONY FOR YOUTH CONCERT

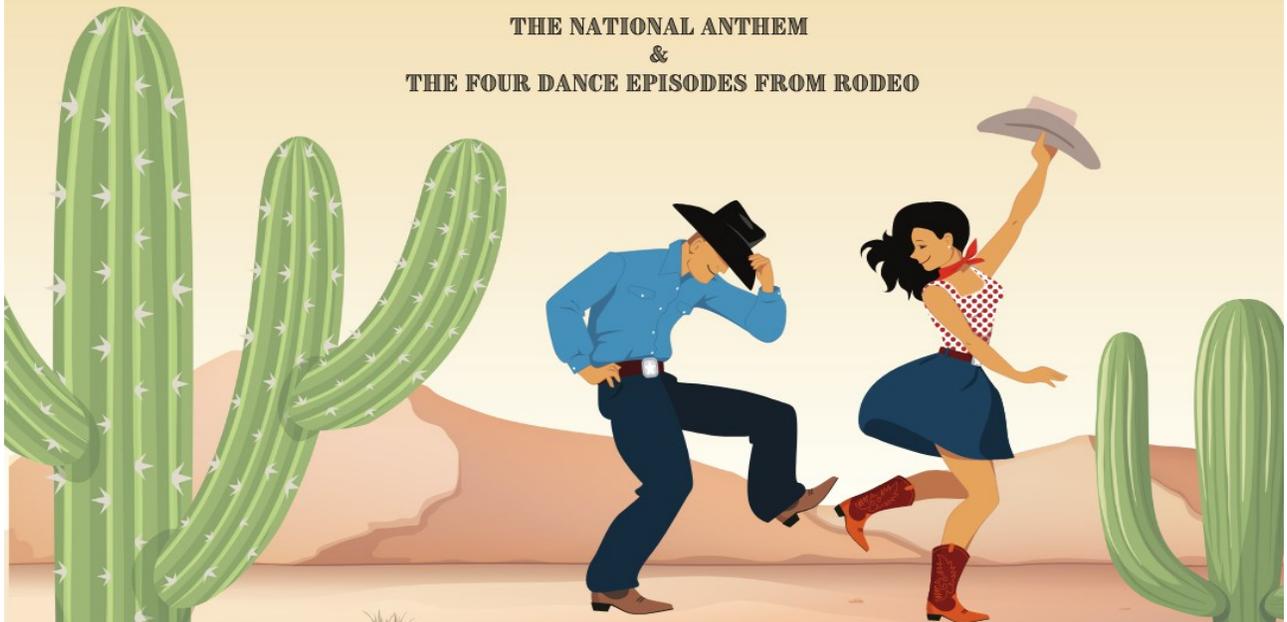
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 2023

CELEBRATING AMERICA!

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

&

THE FOUR DANCE EPISODES FROM RODEO



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BILL KOUTSKY



Aaron Copland
(1900-1990)

Greetings!

Welcome to the La Crosse Symphony Orchestra's 30th annual
Symphony for Youth concert!

Today's program:

- **Francis Scott Key:** *The Star-Spangled Banner*
- **Alexander Platt** - Introduction of Instruments
- **Aaron Copland:** *Four Dance Episodes from RODEO*
*Walt Whitman poems read before each Episode

A bit of history on Francis Scott Key & "The Star-Spangled Banner"

The Star-Spangled Banner, originally written during the war of 1812 by American lawyer and poet Francis Scott Key, was officially adopted as our national anthem on March 4, 1931 by President Herbert Hoover. The war of 1812, fought between the U.S. and Great Britain, had been raging for nearly two years when American lawyer Francis Scott Key was sent to a British ship to negotiate the release of some American prisoners. When he overheard a plan by the British to attack Fort McHenry in Baltimore, Maryland, Key was detained until after the attack. Key witnessed the 25-hour attack on the fort, lasting from September 13, 1814 - September 14, 1814, and was inspired to write what eventually became the National Anthem.

Aaron Copland: Four Dance Episodes from "RODEO"

Aaron Copland was a famous American composer, teacher, writer, and conductor. Copland composed many successful ballets, with one of his most highly-regarded ballets being *RODEO*, a five-act ballet composed and premiered in 1942. The music of this ballet was so well-received that Copland formed a symphonic version that left out the middle episode, "Ranch House Party," creating Four Dance Episodes. The story of Rodeo centers around a cowgirl who was raised on a ranch and tries to get rid of her "just one of the guys" identity. She seeks the attention of the head wrangler, who like the rest of the cowboys, is in love with the rancher's daughter. Eventually, she catches the eye of the champion roper who has just lost the rancher's daughter to the head wrangler. The cowgirl puts on a beautiful dress for the Hoe-Down and finally attracts the attention of the head wrangler, with the two of them eventually falling in love.

Episode 1: "Buckaroo Holiday"

Alexander Platt: *"To Foreign Lands" by Walt Whitman*

"Buckaroo Holiday" opens with an extravagant theme performed by the brass section. The movement gradually softens with the use of woodwinds to introduce the protagonist, a shy cowgirl, in pursuit of finding love. A dance party ensues where various cowboys enter the tune with the use of the percussion and brass section. Attempting to attract the cowboys, the cowgirl's theme, "If He'd Be a Buckaroo," is introduced in hopes of getting their attention. The cowboys do not notice her, leaving the cowgirl feeling lonely and heartbroken.

Episode 2: "Corral Nocturne"

Alexander Platt: *"I Hear America Singing" by Walt Whitman*

In "Corral Nocturne," Copland uses the oboes and bassoons to convey the emotions of grief, sadness, and despair that the cowgirl is feeling.

Episode 3: "Saturday Night Waltz"

Alexander Platt: *"Poets to Come" by Walt Whitman*

"Saturday Night Waltz" begins with the cowboys and cowgirls pairing off to dance. Sadly, the cowgirl is left standing alone until the champion roper approaches her and asks her to dance. They dance to the tune of "I Ride an old Paint," where the oboe is featured.

Episode 4: "Hoe-Down"

Alexander Platt: *"To Thee Old Cause" by Walt Whitman*

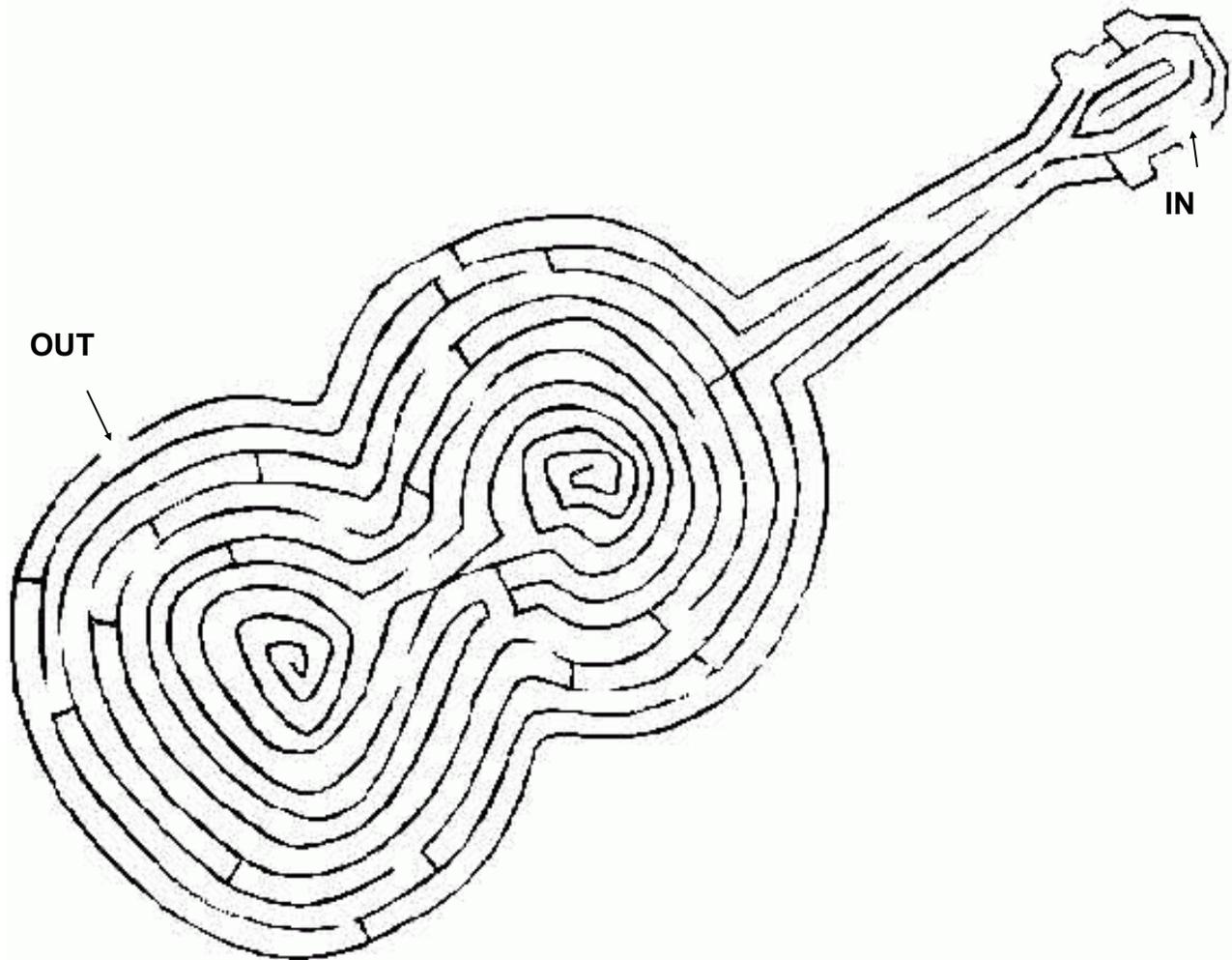
"Hoe-Down" is meant to celebrate the cowgirl's dream of finding love finally coming true. Two square dance tunes are included: "Bonaparte's Retreat" and "McLeod's Reel." The Rodeo theme returns toward the end of the movement, slowing down dramatically and finally ending with a major chord featuring the strings section, which signifies the first kiss between the cowgirl and the head wrangler.

Do you want to show your parents what you learned today?
Have them visit:

The History of the Star-Spangled Banner for Kids: Francis Scott Key and Fort McHenry:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Umg8v6DLZjs>

Aaron Copland's Four Dance Episodes from RODEO:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SXikDnYZYpM>

VIOLIN MAZE



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RODEO Word Search!

Words can be found in any direction (including diagonals) and can overlap each other. Use the word bank below.

D B J M T D K O N W S X O M P
 B D F Q M H A I H O R S E U E
 F L I O Y T C T Q N W B E B M
 O O O R A K C U B R A B J Y Z
 Z U Y T A O H C C T L Q N O E
 Y N N I M R R C A C T U S B C
 G J O R A X H C L I Z N K W N
 E D H P C R O C H R O E U O A
 P L P H I O L M B E O E W C D
 H R M K R D I H Q H S O U M F
 J I Y H E E D M Z P C T E N E
 J G S V M O A Q W O Q N R G E
 F W B X A T Y G T S T J A A O
 F O F N O R A A A A S H T R T
 C C Y E R G C O P L A N D C N

Word Bank

- | | | | |
|------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|
| 1. waltz | 2. cowboy | 3. ranch | 4. aaron |
| 5. holiday | 6. cowgirl | 7. dance | 8. rodeo |
| 9. cactus | 10. symphony | 11. copland | 12. buckaroo |
| 13. horse | 14. orchestra | 15. america | |

Dictionary.com

Interested in taking lessons
or renting an instrument?

Check out these locations near you:

Leithold Music

www.leitholdmusic.com
 116 4th St South, La Crosse, WI
 54601 (608) 784-7555

Reed Music Studios

www.reedmusicstudios.com
 2845 Midwest Drive, Onalaska, WI
 54650 (608) 783-6382

SSE Music

www.ssemusic.com
 2609 George St, La Crosse, WI 54603
 (608) 781-2850

The La Crosse Symphony website:

www.lacrossesymphony.org

Giddy up cowboys & cowgirls!

Race a friend to see who can lasso all the words first!

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