

**SRO Artists, Inc.**

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**PROPOSED OUTREACH ACTIVITIES: Randy Sabien**

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When You Learned to Ride a Bike Did You...

- do it alone by trial and error?
- learn it from a book?
- listen, watch and then go off on your own to try it?
- get on the bike, while someone held on to it, start peddling, listening and bracing yourself as your coach did their best to get you going on your own?

RANDY SABIEN favors the latter approach. As his student, you'll be participating within minutes of his entrance into the classroom. You'll learn to play simple, attainable, musical ideas. By the end of the class, YOU will be improvising. Another bonus?... If you are like most students, you'll love the tunes.

In college Randy developed a burning desire to play like the jazz violinists of the swing era. There were no jazz professors or improvisational method books, so he devised his own teaching program. He was soon enrolled at Berklee College of Music in Boston. At age 21, after only one year as a student, he was hired by Berklee to create and chair a jazz string department. He did this for 3 years.

Now, with 20 years of experience, he offers his knowledge about teaching jazz through highly effective, hands-on, programs. He teaches students and educators in schools, colleges, summer camps, Suzuki programs, string alongs, and music workshops all over the U.S and abroad.

**“Sabien’s jazz clinics are so fun, they should be illegal!”**  
*~ American String Teachers Association*

- I. Basic Improvisation:** Grades 4-12 students who are not studying an instrument  
*Randy will perform on violin and piano*

Activities & Objectives

Definition of improvisation, explanation of rhythm section (i.e. percussion, piano, guitar and bass), discussion of two basic elements of music and improvisation (rhythm & melody), call and answer exercise using melodies, learn a “blues” scale using vocal sounds (scat singing).

*Randy will have each student improvise a rhythm solo, and later improvise a solo using both melody and rhythms.*

- II. Advanced Improvisation:** Grades 4-12 students who are currently studying an instrument  
*Randy will perform on violin and piano*

Activities & Objectives

Definition of improvisation, explanation of rhythm section (i.e. percussion, piano, guitar and bass), discussion of two basic elements of music and improvisation (rhythm & melody), call and answer exercise using instruments.

*If time permits, Randy will teach class to read lead sheets and arrangements, and teach jazz theory by having the class listen and analyze jazz recordings.*

**III. String Workshop:** Grades 7-12 band and orchestra students

Activities & Objectives

Teach students the function of the string section in an ensemble

**IV. Rhythm-Ensemble Workshops:** Grades 4-12 rhythm students (drummers, pianists, guitarists, bassists)

Activities & Objectives

Work with these students and help define their function in the rhythm section.

*If the workshop goes well, Randy would like to bring selected students with him for concerts at other schools (particularly grade schools, where students haven't had a chance to play an instrument yet).*

**V. Performances:**

- 1) Major city-wide performances
- 2) Community performances (i.e. senior citizens, service organizations, handicapped citizens, mentally disabled patients, etc.)
- 3) Mini-performance (i.e. nooner at area school)

**VI. Basic Composition:** Grades 4-12 students previously in Basic or Advanced Improvisation Workshop

Activities & Objectives

Teach students other basics of jazz and improvisation, and have class write a song.

*Randy's final objective is to have the class write a blues tune.*