

A Recommendation for One World Taiko Educational Assembly

I am a music specialist at Assumption-St. Bridget School in Seattle, and we recently had One World Taiko do two assemblies for our k-8 student body. (October, 2009) It was one of the best performance assemblies we have ever had. (and I've been at this a long time!) I appreciated the professionalism of Gary Tsujimoto and Nancy Ozaki every step of the way, from the booking through the completion of the performances. What I loved the most about it was how engaged the students were throughout the entire forty minutes (and I mean from kindergarteners to eighth graders!). Gary and Nancy struck the perfect balance between sharing information about Taiko drumming (techniques, costumes, the drums themselves, their own training) and performance pieces that were just the right length. The balance of traditional and contemporary compositions was also just perfect. Of course, the students who had the chance to actually play loved it the most! Even watching other students perform was a lot of fun for the audience. The audience participation was also great!

The most affirming thing I can say about this assembly was that I had dozens of students, across the grades, come up to me later that day, and even for the next couple of days, thanking me for arranging the Taiko drum assembly for them. The kids universally loved it!

I give One World Taiko an A+ for providing us with an outstanding experience in every way.

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