

## **MUSICAL IMPROV**

**AGES:** Elementary School, Middle School, High School

### **DESCRIPTION**

Use when studying how the music moves the plot or sets the tone of a show.

### **FULL LESSON PLAN**

Have 2 or 3 students perform at a time. You will need to have preselected instrumental music of various styles and moods to be played as background music.

Have students write suggestions of locations of pieces of paper to collect in a basket. For example: the movies, the mall, the beach, the library, a doctor's office, etc. The actors select a location randomly by pulling one of the slips of paper from the basket. The actors begin the scene with a normal exchange/ conversation:

- I hope this movie is not too scary
- Let's check out the new jeans on sale
- Susie, how is that loose tooth

Once the conversation has begun, the instructor plays the music. The melody can alternate between dramatic, whimsical, romantic, western, sci-fi, etc. The actors must then create action and dialogue that matches the mood of the music. Whenever the music changes, the behavior of the characters change.