

Drumming is one of the oldest art forms dating back to the earliest Africans. In many instances, music was made with items that were not always traditional musical instruments. This class uses both the West African Call & Response technique and Western Rudimental drumming patterns as a primary method of communication and language respectively. The students are also taught some basic Western music notation concepts to help introduce the mathematical concepts associated within music.

The practice of drumming helps to better develop the skills of pattern recognition, hand-eye and hand-to-hand coordination, speed, endurance, strength, mental sharpness, focus, and accuracy. Additionally by working in small groups, the students gain better communication skills and learn how to better work with one another.

The found sound objects include items commonly found in the local, natural environment. Commonly used instruments include 5 gallon plastic buckets, 5 gallon plastic water coolers, 20-30 gallon plastic trash cans, 10-15 gallon paper barrels, metal pipes, metal cookware and utensils, rubber basketballs, jump ropes, rubber cones, assorted car parts, and wooden and metal poles. Students learn to appreciate and distinguish the tonal difference between metal, wood, plastic, and paper. Students also learn about the importance of recycling and conservation. The Facilitator will supply found sound objects when needed.

Each session is approximately 50 minutes.