



JAZZ

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TAKE-HOME

PACKET

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YOUTUBE PLAYLIST:

ALLEGRA'S JAZZ SONGS

This packet was created by Board-certified Music Therapist, Allegra Hein (MT-BC) who consults with the Perfect Harmony program.

JAZZ APPRECIATION MONTH

Jazz Appreciation Month (fondly known as "JAM") was created at the Smithsonian National Museum of American History in 2001 to recognize and celebrate the extraordinary heritage and history of jazz for the entire month of April.

JAM is intended to stimulate and encourage people of all ages to participate in jazz - to study the music, attend concerts, listen to jazz on radio and recordings, read books about jazz, and more.

This year, JAM celebrates the dynamic impact of the often-overlooked contributions that women have made to jazz, both on and off the stage. As performers and conductors, educators, and producers and directors of jazz festivals, women have made their mark but have continued to struggle for recognition on par with their male counterparts.

Smithsonian Jazz is highlighting a multitude of women artists on student-made posters from the Duke Ellington High School for the Arts. Features include Mary Lou Williams, the Sweethearts of Rhythm, Leigh Pilzer, Billie Holiday, Ella Fitzgerald, and many others. The winning poster features pianist, band leader, and composer Toshiko Akiyoshi.

BILLIE HOLIDAY

Eleanora Fagan (April 7, 1915 – July 17, 1959), professionally known as Billie Holiday, was an American jazz singer with a career spanning nearly thirty years. Nicknamed "Lady Day" by her friend and music partner Lester Young, Holiday had a seminal influence on jazz music and pop singing. Her vocal style, strongly inspired by jazz instrumentalists, pioneered a new way of manipulating phrasing and tempo. She was known for her vocal delivery and improvisational skills.

She won four Grammy Awards, all of them posthumously, for Best Historical Album. She was inducted into the Grammy Hall of Fame in 1973. *Lady Sings the Blues*, a film about her life, starring Diana Ross, was released in 1972. She is the primary character in the play (later made into a film) *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill*; the role was originated by Reenie Upchurch in 1986, and was played by Audra McDonald on Broadway and in the film. In 2017 Holiday was inducted into the National Rhythm & Blues Hall of Fame.

SONG FACTS

1. PENNIES FROM HEAVEN

- "Pennies from Heaven" is a 1936 American popular song with music by Arthur Johnston and lyrics by Johnny Burke
- It was introduced by Bing Crosby with Georgie Stoll and his Orchestra in the 1936 film of the same name
- It was recorded in the same year by Billie Holiday and afterwards performed by Jimmy Dorsey & his Orchestra, Arthur Tracy, Eddy Duchin, Tony Bennett, Dinah Washington, and Dean Martin, among others

SONG LYRICS

1. PENNIES FROM HEAVEN

Every time it rains, it rains
pennies from heaven

Don't you know each cloud
contains pennies from heaven?
You'll find your fortune's fallin'
all over the town
Be sure that your umbrella
is upside down

Trade them for a package of
sunshine and flowers

If you want the things you
love, you must have showers
So, when you hear it thunder,
don't run under a tree
There'll be pennies from
heaven for you and me

SONG FACTS

2. GOD BLESS THE CHILD

- "God Bless the Child" is a song written by Billie Holiday and Arthur Herzog Jr. in 1939
- It was first recorded on May 9, 1941 and released by the Okeh Records in 1942
- Holiday's version of the song was honored with the Grammy Hall of Fame Award in 1976
- It was also included in the list of Songs of the Century, by the Recording Industry Association of America and the National Endowment for the Arts

SONG LYRICS

2. GOD BLESS THE CHILD

Them that's got shall have,
Them that's not shall lose
So the Bible says and it still is news,
Mama may have, Papa may have
But God bless the child that's got his own,
that's got his own

Yes the strong get smart,
While the weak ones fade
Empty pockets don't ever make the grade,
Mama may have, Papa may have
But God bless the child that's got his own,
that's got his own

Money, you've got lots of friends,
They're crowding around your door
But when you're gone and spending ends,
They don't come no more
Rich relations give crusts of bread and such,

You can help yourself, but don't take too much,
Mama may have, Papa may have
But God bless the child that's got his own,
that's got his own

Mama may have, Papa may have
But God bless the child that's got his own,
that's got his own
Here just don't worry about nothing
cause he's got his own

SONG FACTS

3. EASY LIVING

- "Easy Living" (1937) is a jazz standard written by Ralph Rainger and lyrics by Leo Robin for the film Easy Living where it was the main theme of the score but not sung
- A popular recording in 1937 was by Teddy Wilson with Billie Holiday and Lester Young

SONG LYRICS

3. EASY LIVING

Living for you is easy living
It's easy to live when you're in love,

And I'm so in love
There is nothing in life but you

I never regret the things
that I'm giving
They're easy to give when
you're in love
I'm happy to do whatever
I do for you

For you maybe I'm a fool
But it's fun,
People say you rule me with
one wave of your hand
Darling, it's grand,
They just don't understand

Living for you is easy living
It's easy to live when you're in love,
And I'm so in love
There's nothing in life but you

MUSIC AND MOVEMENT

4. MACK THE KNIFE

"Mack the Knife" is a song composed by Kurt Weill with lyrics by Bertolt Brecht for their 1928 music drama *The Threepenny Opera*.

The song has become a popular standard recorded by many artists, including a US and UK number one hit for Bobby Darin in 1959.

Ella Fitzgerald made a famous live recording in 1960 (released on Ella in Berlin: Mack the Knife) in which, after forgetting the lyrics after the first stanza, she improvised new lyrics in a performance that earned her a Grammy Award. Robbie Williams recorded the song on his 2001 album *Swing When You're Winning*.

SUGGESTED MOVEMENTS

4. MACK THE KNIFE



Tap toes

Kick

Sway side to side

Move arms up and down above head

Move shoulders up and down

Jazz hands!

ELLA FITZGERALD

Ella Jane Fitzgerald (April 25, 1917 – June 15, 1996) was an American jazz singer, sometimes referred to as the First Lady of Song, Queen of Jazz, and Lady Ella. She was noted for her purity of tone, impeccable diction, phrasing, timing, intonation, and a "horn-like" improvisational ability, particularly in her scat singing.

Her rendition of the nursery rhyme "A-Tisket, A-Tasket" helped boost both her and Webb to national fame. After taking over the band when Webb died, Fitzgerald left it behind in 1942 to start her solo career. In 1993, after a career of nearly 60 years, she gave her last public performance. Three years later, she died at the age of 79 after years of declining health. Her accolades included fourteen Grammy Awards, the National Medal of Arts, and the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

SONG FACTS

5. I'VE GOT RHYTHM

- "I Got Rhythm" is a piece composed by George Gershwin with lyrics by Ira Gershwin and published in 1930, which became a jazz standard
- Its chord progression, known as the "rhythm changes", is the foundation for many other popular jazz tunes such as Charlie Parker's and Dizzy Gillespie's bebop standard "Anthropology (Thrivin' on a Riff)"

SONG LYRICS

5. I'VE GOT RHYTHM

Days can be sunny, with never a sigh
Don't need what money can buy
Birds in the trees sing their day full of song

Why shouldn't we sing along?
I'm chipper all the day, happy with my lot
How do I get that way? Look at what I've got

I got rhythm, I got music, I got my man
Who could ask for anything more?
I got daisies, in green pastures, I got my man
Who could ask for anything more?

Old man trouble, I don't mind him
You won't find him 'round my door, I got starlight,
I got sweet dreams
I got my man,
Who could ask for anything more?

Old man trouble, I don't mind him
You won't find him, 'round my door,
I got starlight,
I got sweet dreams
I got my man,
Who could ask for anything more?

I got rhythm, I got music, I got daisies,
in green pastures
I got starlight, I got sweet dreams
I got my man,
Who could ask for anything more?

SONG FACTS

6. STORMY WEATHER

- "Stormy Weather" is a 1933 torch song written by Harold Arlen and Ted Koehler
- Ethel Waters first sang it at The Cotton Club night club in Harlem in 1933 and recorded it that year, and in the same year it was sung in London by Elisabeth Welch and recorded by Frances Langford
- The song has since been performed by such diverse artists as Frank Sinatra, Judy Garland, Etta James, Ella Fitzgerald, Dinah Washington, Clodagh Rodgers, Reigning Sound and, most famously, by Lena Horne and Billie Holiday

SONG LYRICS

6. STORMY WEATHER

Don't know why there's no sun up in the sky,
stormy weather

Since my man and I ain't together,
keeps raining all the time

Keeps raining all the time
Life is bare, gloom and misery everywhere,
stormy weather

Just can't get my poor self together

I'm weary, the time, the time, So weary all the time

When he went away the blues walked in and met me

If he stays away, that old rocking chair will get me

All I do is pray the Lord above will let me,

Walk in the sun once more

Can't go on, everything I had is gone,

stormy weather,

Since my man and I ain't together

Keeps raining all the time,

Keeps raining all the time

I walk around, heavy-hearted and sad,

Night comes around, I'm still feelin' bad

Rain pourin' down and blindin' every hope I had

This pitterin', patterin', beatin' and spatterin'

drive me mad,

Love, love, love, love

This misery will be the end of me

When he went away the blues walked in and met me
If he stays away, that old rocking chair will get me

All I do is pray the Lord above will let me

Walk in the sun once more

Can't go on, everything I had is gone,
starney weather

Since my man and I ain't together

Since my man and I ain't together
Keeps raining all the time. The time

Keeps raining all the time,

SONG FACTS

7. DREAM A LITTLE DREAM OF ME

- "Dream a Little Dream of Me" is a 1931 song with music by Fabian Andre and Wilbur Schwandt and lyrics by Gus Kahn
- It was first recorded in February 1931 by Ozzie Nelson and also by Wayne King and His Orchestra, with vocal by Ernie Birchill
- A popular standard, it has seen more than 60 other versions recorded, with one of the highest chart ratings by the Mamas & the Papas in 1968 with Cass Elliot on lead vocals
- In summer 1950, seven recordings of "Dream a Little Dream of Me" were in release, with the versions by Frankie Laine and Jack Owens reaching the US top 20 at respectively numbers 18 and 14: the other versions were by Cathy Mastice, Ella Fitzgerald, Louis Jordan, Vaughn Monroe, Dinah Shore and a duet by Bob Crosby and Georgia Gibbs

SONG LYRICS

7. DREAM A LITTLE DREAM OF ME

Stars shining bright above you,
Night breezes seem to whisper "I love you"

Birds singing in the sycamore trees,

Dream a little dream of me

Say nighty-night and kiss me,

Just hold me tight and

tell me you'll miss me

While I'm alone and blue as can be,

Dream a little dream of me

Stars fading but I linger on dear,

Still craving your kiss

I'm longing to linger till dawn dear,

Just saying this

Sweet dreams till sunbeams find you,

Sweet dreams that leave all worries behind you

But in your dreams whatever they be,

Dream a little dream of me

Stars fading but I linger on dear,

Still craving your kiss

I'm longing to linger till dawn dear,

Just saying this

Sweet dreams, till sunbeams find you

Gotta keep dreaming leave all worries behind you,

But in your dreams whatever they be

You gotta make me a promise, promise to me,

You'll dream, dream a little of me

LIVE AT LINCOLN CENTER

UNTAMED ELEGANCE

Jazz at Lincoln Center is part of the Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts in New York City. The organization was founded in 1987 and opened in October 2004.

Wynton Marsalis is the artistic director and the leader of the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra.

Wanting more jazz?

Enjoy the [final video](#) in our playlist, a live performance recorded in 2016 “Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis.”



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