



*The Great American
Songbook Foundation*
Michael Feinstein, Founder

AT THE CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

Perfect Harmony Virtual Resource Focus Group

Consent Form

PURPOSE:

The Great American Songbook Foundation is conducting a program assessment of the newly established virtual resources of the Perfect Harmony program. You are invited to participate. The purpose of this focus group is to examine how the resources are being used by caregivers. Specifically, we want to understand whether these resources are contributing to an increased access and active use of music as a tool in elder care. We will use this information to improve the virtual resources we offer moving forward in 2021.

Learn about the Perfect Harmony program by [clicking here](#).

PROCEDURES:

If you participate in this focus group, you will be provided with 8-10 musical activities for your use with an individual or small group of older adults in your care. There will be a one-time, short pre and post survey that asks questions relating to your current use or comfort level in utilizing music as a tool to engage those in your care. You will also be asked to complete a brief questionnaire (under 5 min. to complete) after every use of a song and accompanying activity. These questions will help us to better understand how, when and where you utilize these music resources.

Access to additional or alternative song selection and accompanying resources will be provided.

Timeline:

- Resources will be sent in 2 sets on 7/30/21 and 8/30/21
- Recommended completion of first 5 activities by 8/30/21
- Full completion by 9/30/21

Your participation is voluntary.

If the need arises, you may withdraw from this focus group at any time.

BENEFITS AND RISKS:

Your participation may benefit you and other care partners in the elder care community by helping to improve access to quality music resources that are created to engage older adults.



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Please note: Individuals may cry or appear upset when engaging in music. This does not always mean they are having a negative experience, i.e. songs may make someone feel sad if they are remembering someone who passed away. Validate all emotions – do not ignore a negative response.

Ways to validate:

- “I’m sorry you’re feeling sad”
- “It sounds like you had a wonderful time together”

CONFIDENTIALITY

Anonymous data from this focus group will be analyzed by Great American Songbook staff and Perfect Harmony program consultants. No individual participant will be identified or linked to the results. Study records, including this consent form signed by you, may be inspected by program staff. The results of this focus group may be presented to the Great American Songbook Foundation board of directors and to attendees of the Perfect Harmony workshop in 2021; however, your identity will not be disclosed. All information obtained in this study will be kept strictly confidential. All materials will be stored in a secure location within the Great American Songbook Foundation and access to files will be restricted to program staff.

Consent

By signing this consent form, you are indicating that you fully understand the above information and agree to participate in this focus group.

Participant’s signature: _____

Printed name: _____

Date: _____

If you have any questions or concerns about this study, please contact Program Coordinator Chelsea Reynowsky at creynowsky@thesongbook.org.

If you are in the position to provide video or photo representation of your use of these resources, please email creynowsky@thesongbook.org. We realize that this may not be possible out of respect and privacy for those in your care, but would welcome the opportunity to have visual representation of the use of these resources. Songbook staff are happy to assist via Zoom.