

# Summer Nights

"Some Enchanted Evening"

"Night and Day"

"Dancing in the Street"

"Under the Boardwalk"

"Summer Nights"

## *Summer Vacations in the Archives*

With the nights getting longer and the days getting hotter, it looks like summer is officially here! In the Great American Songbook Library & Archives, there are a variety of summer-worthy items including [Meredith Willson's](#) many vacation scrapbooks and videos. *The Music Man* creator visited numerous places including France, Germany, England, and Hawaii. Usually, his trips centered on meeting fans of his radio show and watching performances of *The Music Man*. Did you know that he also visited [Disney World at its opening in 1971](#) to lead their parade as they performed "76 Trombones"? For a more relaxing vacation, Willson went on cruises and enjoyed taking videos of the beaches and coastal cities he visited. Shown here are some of Willson's vacation photos with his wife, Rosemary.



Perfect   
Harmony

**Song: Some Enchanted Evening (1949)**

**Musical: South Pacific**

***Brief Context:*** "Some Enchanted Evening" is from Rodgers and Hammerstein's 1949 musical *South Pacific*. This stunning love ballad is sung by the character Emile de Becque, a French plantation owner, who quickly falls in love with Nellie Forbush, an optimistic navy nurse from Arkansas. *South Pacific* was a smash hit and won the Pulitzer Prize for Drama in 1950.

**Activity: Listening**

**What do you need?**

- Perfect Harmony "Some Enchanted Evening" video

**Additional Engagement:**

- In the 1958 blockbuster film version of *South Pacific*, the character of Nellie Forbush was played by Emmy-winning and Golden Globe-nominated actress, Mitzi Gaynor. The Songbook Foundation is proud to house some of Mitzi's musical arrangements and materials in our Archives. [View the collection](#) behind-the-scenes with a special interview from Mitzi's Songbook Hall of Fame induction.

*This resource made possible by the*

INDIANAPOLIS OPERA





**Song: Night and Day (1932)**  
**Songwriter: Cole Porter**

***Brief Context:*** Indiana composer and lyricist Cole Porter wrote one of his most popular standards "Night and Day" for the 1932 Broadway musical *The Gay Divorce*, starring Fred Astaire and his sister, Adele. The song is about the obsession and passion between a lovestruck person and their unrequited love.

***Activity: Singing & Engaged Discussion***

***What do you need?***

- **Perfect Harmony "Night and Day" video**
- **Perfect Harmony lyrics sheet**

***Suggested Discussion Prompt***

- **Do you have a music artist you like to listen to every day?**
- **What do you like about their music? (how it makes you feel, musical genre, sound of their voice or instrument, shared connection with loved ones)**



# **Night and Day**

**Night and day, you are the one  
Only you beneath the moon and under the sun  
Whether near to me or far  
It's no matter, darling, where you are  
I think of you**

**Night and day, day and night, why is it so  
That this longing for you follows wherever I go?  
In the roaring traffic's boom  
In the silence of my lonely room  
I think of you**

**Night and day, night and day  
Under the hide of me  
There's an, oh, such a humble yearning  
burning inside of me  
And its torment won't be through  
'Till you let me spend my life making love to you  
Day and night, night and day**

**Song: Dancing in the Street (1964)**  
**Made popular by: Martha Reeves & The Vandellas**

***Brief Context:*** Marvin Gaye wrote "Dancing in the Street" in 1964 and asked the secretary of Motown Records, Martha Reeves, to try singing his new song. Of the song and Gaye, Martha said: "The words are very simple: [Marvin] wanted everybody to dance in the street. Everybody to rejoice and have a very good time. It was a hot, #1 hit, and it spread love all over the world. When you play it today, people get up and do what? Dance!"

***Activity:*** Movement (upper and lower body)

***What do you need?***

- Perfect Harmony "Dancing in the Street" video
- A hat to dance with (physical or imaginary)!

***Suggested Seated Movement***

1. Breathe in while raising arms overhead, breathe out while lowering arms to the side
2. Cross one hand along rim of hat and raise hat up to the ceiling (3 times) followed by 3 snaps
4. Single point, single point, double point twice to one side (repeat on opposite side)
5. Reach one arm up, other arm up, one arm down, other arm down
6. Cross one hand along rim of hat and raise hat up to the ceiling (3 times) followed by 3 snaps
7. Alternating heel touches with running arms (4 times)
8. 8 quick alternating marches followed by 2 alternating heel touches
9. Step to the side and point one toe forward with arms reaching to side (alternate toe touches and arm level 12 times) Reach arms to hip, shoulder, ceiling and back again!
10. Single point, single point, double point twice to one side (repeat on opposite side)
11. Reach one arm up, other arm up, one arm down, other arm down
12. Cross hand along rim of hat, raise to ceiling (2 times) followed by 3 snaps (repeat other side)
14. Two hands to hat, raise up, spin out to front (4 times)
15. Snap to the beat and swing arms to the side, around in a circle or do the monkey!



## **Song: Under the Boardwalk (1964)**

***Made popular by: The Drifters***

***Brief Context:*** "Under the Boardwalk" made popular by the doo-wop band The Drifters, charted at number four on the *Billboard* Hot 100 in 1964. The song's lyrics paint a picture of two lovers on a blanket by the sea enjoying a beautiful night on a boardwalk.

### ***Activity: Listening***

#### ***What do you need?***

- "Under the Boardwalk" Perfect Harmony video

#### ***Fun Fact***

- In America, boardwalks have been around since the 1870s and gave travelers a one-stop destination spot for fun. In the 1920s, Coney Island opened to the public and was an immediate success. The magical boardwalk at Coney Island featured amusement rides and race tracks, but visitors could also explore the many concessions, bathing pavilions, theaters, hotels, and restaurants, too.



**Song: Summer Nights**  
**Musical: Grease**

***Brief Context:*** "Summer Nights" is a song from the musical *Grease* which starred John Travolta as Danny and Olivia Newton-John as Sandy in the 1978 movie adaptation. The high school sweethearts had a summer romance and share their adventures with their friends. Both Sandy and Danny have different perspectives on what really happened on those summer nights.

***Activity: Singing & Engaged Discussion***

***What do you need?***

- "Summer Nights" Perfect Harmony video
- "Summer Nights" lyrics sheet

***Suggested Discussion Prompts***

- Have you ever had a school crush or sweetheart?
- How did you meet that special someone?
- What kind of dates do/did you go on? (going to the movies, taking a walk, eating at a restaurant)





# Summer Nights

**Summer lovin' had me a blast**

**Summer lovin' happened so fast**

**Met a girl crazy for me**

**Met a boy cute as can be**

**Summer day drifted away to uh oh, those summer nights**

**Took her bowling in the arcade**

**We went strolling drank lemonade**

**Watched the moon shine on the sand**

**Pretty soon he took my hand**

**Summer fun something's begun then uh oh, those summer nights**

**Tell me more, tell me more it's a story we know**

**Tell me more, tell me more easy come easy go**

**We went rowing out on the bay**

**Our love growing more every day**

**Made the cove our hiding place**

**Found a grove where we'd embrace**

**Summer heat, boy and girl meet then uh oh, those summer nights**

**It gets colder that's where it ends**

**So I told her we'd still be friends**

**Then we made our true love vow**

**Wonder what she's doing now**

**Summer dreams ripped at the seams but uh oh, those summer nights**

**Tell me more, tell me more**