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.
**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.
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. Breath 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
3. Single point, single point, double point twice to one side (repeat on opposite side)
4. Reach one arm up, other arm up, one arm down, other arm down
5. Cross one hand along rim of hat and raise hat up to the ceiling (3 times) followed by 3 snaps
6. Alternating heel touches with running arms (4 times)
7. 8 quick alternating marches followed by 2 alternating heel touches
8. 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!
9. Single point, single point, double point twice to one side (repeat on opposite side)
10. Reach one arm up, other arm up, one arm down, other arm down
11. Cross hand along rim of hat, raise to ceiling (2 times) followed by 3 snaps (repeat other side)
12. Two hands to hat, raise up, spin out to front (4 times)
13. 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