

MUSIC ACTIVITY #3: AMERICAN COMPOSER OF THE WEEK

At-Home Family Activity

1. Have each member of your family choose one American composer from the list below:

Samuel Barber

Leonard Bernstein

Aaron Copland

Joan Tower

George Gershwin

John Williams

Charles Ives

Libby Larsen

2. Create a bulletin/poster board with each composer name written on it. Place the board where everyone can see it, like on the refrigerator door.

3. Do some research about your composer to find the answers to the following questions:

A. Composer's full name

B. Date of birth and Date of death

C. Place of birth

D. One interesting fact about the composer's childhood

E. One interesting fact about the composer's musical training

F. The names of two of the composer's works

4. Find recordings on YouTube of the composer's works. Listen to the recordings. Select two different live performances of the composer's works to share with your family.

5. Prepare to share the information you find with your family. Don't forget to include the title of the compositions that you choose and where and when the piece was written.

6. Set up a listening center in your home and agree on a time that you will listen to each others American composer presentation.

7. Take turns presenting your American composer to the family each week. See how much you learn about each composer by the end. Repeat as many times as you like with other composers.