



# The Copper Street Brass Quintet

## THE EVOLUTION OF THE BRASS QUINTET

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### Residency Activities Outline

**Classroom Showcase:** Typically occurring on the first day with each class, the quintet performs some of its “greatest hits” from pops to jazz to classical music. In addition to a mini-concerts, students have the opportunity to ask questions and will learn about some of the techniques employed by us to have success in music (how to make a beautiful sound, tips for playing together as an ensemble, etc.).

**Brass Masterclass:** Can be split up by instrument groups, or all the brass can be together for the class. Students will have the unique opportunity to ask specific questions to professional players on their instrument, as well as learn practice techniques and exercises that will immediately improve their playing in band. The CSBQ will provide handouts for the students to keep to refer to throughout the year.

**Arranging Project:** Created by The CSBQ, this fun project lets students explore the process to listening to music, analyzing it, and playing it on their instrument! Intended for students with at least one year of playing experience, the project often culminates in the students performing their project on the capstone performance. Using the tune “All You Need is Love” by The Beatles, we walk the students step-by-step through the process of creating an arrangement, and provide finished parts once the students have identified the time signature, rhythms, parts, and notes.

**Elementary School Lyceum:** Performing for young audiences is one of our favorite activities! This 30-minute program introduces students to the brass family and features up tempo music to get bodies moving to the beat.

**General Music Performance - “Brass Petting Zoo”:** Performances for the general music classes are most valuable when students have recently been introduced to the instruments in the brass family, and The CSBQ can provide a curriculum for classes leading up to our performance. In this class, we ask students to identify the instruments, as well as practice basic listening skills like faster/slower, higher/lower, and louder/softer.

**CSBQ Concert:** On one evening, The Copper Street Brass Quintet presents *The Evolution of the Brass Quintet*. The CSBQ’s concert tour program has been a hit in communities across the country. This exciting show features music from Mozart to Dave Brubeck to Billy Joel, and has wowed audiences with its innovative blend of musical styles and dazzling fusion of electronic effects with breathtaking brass. The quintet shatters the divide between listener and performer with lively banter and audience interaction - bringing people to their feet from Montana to Massachusetts. Venues for this performance can be the school’s performance stage or a community theater. This concert is open to the public, and in many granting scenarios ticket sales go directly to the band program to cover and match in the grant award.

**Capstone Performance:** The Capstone Performance on the evening of Day Four is a chance for the participating students to share what they have learned with the community. Here, the band(s) perform a piece with The CSBQ, and possibly the arranging project tune. During the afternoon before the Capstone Performance, The CSBQ will rehearse with each of the ensembles on the music for the Capstone performance. The music, created by The CSBQ for educational residencies, combines the school band with the quintet for a joint performance, therefore The CSBQ must rehearse with each band to fit the parts together. This unique opportunity affords all of the music students the chance to share the stage and perform with professional musicians. Some programs charge admission for this concert, and proceeds may also go towards any grant match.

### **Things to keep in mind:**

- Educational activities are typically 45-55 minutes in length, depending on the class period length. Elementary programs are typically 30 minutes.
- The CSBQ requires a minimum of 3 hours for set-up and sound check at the performance venue. Ideally this happens the afternoon of the concert.
- There are MANY different options to put together a residency to fit your program. For example, the sample schedule does not include an arranging project class, but it could happen instead of the elementary lyceum or the brass classes.
- If we are writing the grant for your program, we will send you a questionnaire to gather information for our grant writer to complete the application. We will hopefully have all the information we need from you in the completed questionnaire, but we may need to contact you for signatures or other information as we write the grant.
- Most grants require a post-residency evaluation from the music teacher to be completed within a month or so from the completion of the project. We are happy to help if you need assistance with the final evaluation.
- The CSBQ will provide all of the promotional materials for the concerts, such as large full-color posters, smaller flyers, tickets (if needed), press releases, and online ticketing setup. Our goal is to get as many people to the concerts as possible, especially if you are covering a match with ticket sales!
- Consider seeking support for funding from local businesses and community organizations. Many local businesses or groups are very interested in supporting a residency that will have meaningful, long-term impacts on the students.

If you have any other questions, give us a call at (612) 722-3667 or email us at [staff@copperstreetbrass.com](mailto:staff@copperstreetbrass.com)! We are looking forward to working with your students!