



**St. Louis Symphony
Orchestra**

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picture *the* music 2023

.....
inspire creativity



*An educational program for
grades k-6 presented by the
St. Louis Symphony
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A special invitation for teachers and student artists

Showcase your students' imagination and creativity with Picture the Music, now in its 33rd year of celebrating artwork from public, private, parochial, and homeschools throughout the region. This year, this FREE cross-curricular art competition invites students in grades K-6 to discover "**Jupiter, the Bringer of Jollity**" from **Gustav Holst's *The Planets*** and respond with paintings and drawings that express creative thought and emotion inspired by the music.

How it Works

Students listen, create, and share. Teachers encourage creativity and imagination then choose seven (7) pieces to submit.

Guided by you, students listen to this year's musical selection, "**Jupiter, the Bringer of Jollity**" from **Gustav Holst's *The Planets*** and respond to its impact and structure through drawings, paintings, or colorings. Teachers choose and submit up to seven (7) students' artwork per school, preferably one from each grade K-6. Each homeschool network may enter one (1) piece of art per student up to seven (7) students. There are several ways to integrate this project into your curriculum. Information about this year's musical selection is at the end of this document.

Where to Find the Music

1. YouTube:
[Chicago Symphony Orchestra, James Levine, conductor](#)
2. [Spotify](#)
3. Your school's music teacher
4. Your school or local library

Encourage your students to share the music with their families! Your SLSO is performing Holst's *The Planets* live November 18-20 at Powell Hall. For more information, parents can visit slo.org

Artwork Requirements

Each artwork entry must fulfill these requirements:

- Artwork must be created on **12" x 18"** paper.
- Acceptable media include crayon, oil pastels, pen, ink, paints, batik, or mixed media collage. If using collage, use only firmly glued, flat materials.
- Students' names should NOT appear on the front of the artwork. Names should ONLY appear as part of the online submission forms. (Names on the back of artwork are okay).

Please consider the following when creating artwork:

- Mounting is not required for entry into the competition. If you choose to mount the artwork, do not use white glue as it will warp the paper.
- Do not mount on foam core or cardboard.
- Do not use soft pastels or powdered chalk because they may smear and ruin the artwork.
- Consider that the artwork will be viewed from a distance as you choose your media.
- Do not mat the artwork.

Photographing Artwork for Submission

Digital photographs of the artwork will be uploaded via an online submission platform. Please take extra care when photographing student artwork.

- Take the photograph in a well-lit room.
- Avoid photographing the art from above.
- Place the artwork on an easel or hang it on the wall. Angle camera to be parallel to the artwork.
- Put a solid background behind the art (preferably white).
- Determine whether the photograph should be taken as landscape or portrait.

How to Submit Entries

Visit slo.org/picture to access the online submission form.

- Complete one Submission Form for each school. On this form, you will be able to submit up to seven (7) student entries. If you are entering artwork for more than one school, submit a separate Submission Form (with up to seven entries) for each school.
- Please double check the spelling of student names, artwork titles, and the orientation of the file uploads before hitting submit. Names and artwork will be reproduced exactly as submitted.
- If you are unable to access the online platform, please contact education@slo.org

All entries must be submitted online by Wednesday, January 18, 2023.

Questions? Email svapicturethemusic@slo.org.

Judging

- A panel of judges—experts in art, music, and education—will judge the artwork on originality, creativity, and imagination.
- Artwork must meet all requirements to be entered into the competition.
- Judges select 100 finalists who are invited to an awards ceremony at Powell Hall.

Finalist Artwork Submission

Teachers will receive results via email in early February. Instructions for mounting finalists' artwork and a deadline for artwork mailing and/or drop-off later that month will be included in the email. Physical artwork from all 100 finalists must be received by February 24, 2023.

Awards Ceremony

An awards ceremony honoring the 100 finalists will take place at 7:00pm on March 29, 2023, at Powell Hall. Finalists' parents, relatives, friends, teachers, principals, and district superintendents are encouraged to attend. The following awards will be presented:

Maestro Award (2 winners) Awarded to one student artist from grades K-3 and one student artist from grades 4-6 whose works were identified as best capturing the essence of the music and spirit of Picture the Music.

St. Louis Symphony Orchestra Award (7 winners) Awarded to one student artist from each grade whose work was identified as best capturing the essence of the music.

Blue Ribbon Award (25 winners) Awarded to 25 student artists for works of excellence.

Special Recognition Honorees (66 winners) Awarded to 66 student artists for outstanding work.

Each finalist receives a certificate and has their artwork on display in the Wightman Grand Foyer in Powell Hall prior to being displayed in the Picture the Music traveling art exhibit. The travelling exhibit showcases students' artwork at several public locations throughout St. Louis following the awards ceremony.

Every student whose artwork is submitted to Picture the Music will receive a Certificate of Merit. Certificates for finalists will be handed out at the awards ceremony; certificates for all other entries will be emailed to teachers directly.

Artwork Pickup

For the 100 finalists, physical artwork pickup will be arranged after the completion of the traveling art exhibit. Teachers with finalists will be emailed directly with information on artwork pickup in spring 2023.

Dates to Remember

- Artwork submission deadline: January 18, 2023
- Email to teachers announcing top 100 finalists: February 2023
- Finalist artwork postmark date: February 15, 2023
- Finalist artwork drop off: February 20-24, 2023
- Awards ceremony: March 29, 2023
- Traveling Exhibit: April 2023
- Finalist artwork pickup: May 2023

Tips for Teachers

- When art and music teachers work collaboratively, students have the best learning experience.
- Play the musical selection for the students on good quality audio equipment.
- Encourage students to share whatever thoughts come to their minds. What feelings, images, and memories does the music evoke? Encourage students to make their own unique interpretations.
- Use the music to spark student creativity. It does not need to be analyzed.
- Allow enough time for students to listen to the music more than once to explore the emotions and thoughts that form in their minds. They will become more familiar and comfortable with it through repeated listening.

About the Composer and Composition

Note: Discuss the composer's life, culture, and historical context ONLY AFTER students have completed their artwork to ensure that the students' work reflects their own personal and individual emotions and thoughts about the musical selection.

Gustav Holst (1874-1934) was born in England to a Swedish father and an English mother, both accomplished pianists. Holst began playing the piano at a very young age. His father wanted Holst to become a great pianist, but a condition in his hands prevented him from continuing as an adult. Holst instead took up composing and began to play the trombone as his primary instrument.

Gustav Holst started composing *The Planets* in 1914 when he was almost 40 years old. Holst was a very shy man and at the time an unknown composer. He once said, "If nobody likes your work, you have to go on just for the sake of the work ..." When *The Planets* premiered in 1918, it was well received, and Holst became a celebrity.

Holst was fascinated by astrology. So a friend suggested he write a piece inspired by the astrological, mythical representations of the planets (as opposed to their astronomical, scientific characteristics). Jupiter is named the Bringer of Jollity, which Holst portrays in two ways: the liveliness in the beginning of the movement and the calm theme in the middle of the movement. Holst later took the calm, hymnlike theme in the middle of the movement and set it to the poem, "I Vow to Thee My Country." It became a patriotic English anthem.

Engaging with STEAM

The SLSO is proud to partner with the McDonnell Planetarium at the Saint Louis Science Center. Explore Jupiter and the other planets with your students with these [great resources](#).

Encourage your students to visit the [Planetarium](#) with their families.

State Standards for Visual Art and Music

Picture the Music fulfills many components of the Missouri Learning Standards in music and visual arts, as well as the Illinois Fine Arts Learning Standards, including the following:

[Missouri Learning Standards](#)

Visual Art Grade-Level Expectations: VA:Cr1A, VA:Cr1B, VA:Cn10A

Music Grade-Level Expectations: MU:Re7A, MU:Cn10A, MU:Cn11A

[Illinois Fine Arts Learning Standards](#)

Visual Arts: VA:Cr1.1.K-6, VA:Cr2.1.K-6, VA:Cn10.1.K-6

Music: MU:Re8.1.K-6, MU:Cn10.1.K-6, MU:Cn11.1.K-6