

**Short Bio:**

Singer, artist, and best sister in the world Darshini Stark is a California native who enjoys hanging out with adorable dogs and dancing to loud music in her car. Her passion for music was clear from the start, as she often got in trouble for singing at the dinner table or humming during class. Since then, she's lent her voice to the South Bay Children's Choir, SFCM Gilbert and Sullivan Scenes, and Willow & Oak (her college cover band). Now she's a solo artist finishing up her debut album with the help of her BA in Music from Naropa University. Her favorite pastimes include reading, long walks in nature, cooking, writing, and goofing off with her little brother.

**ArtSeed Statement:**

ArtSeed was introduced to me through my mom, as she was inspired by Josefa's diversity work and knew I would be equally as thrilled to be acquainted with this organization. As a child, I always turned to art and creativity as my main form of expression and hope to inspire a love of arts in others. Art is healing and through creative expression, connection is inevitable. This would be my first summer contributing to the Summer Intensive and I am excited to bring the kids some fun and empowering activities!

**Lesson#: 1**

**Title:** Parody of Favorite Song

**Date:** 7/20

**Time of day:** 11:30-12:00

**Artists:** Darshini

**Materials/Prep:** Lyrics and recording of your favorite song, paper, pen, something to record yourself with (laptop, phone, camera).

**Introduction/Goals:** Have you ever wanted to write your own song, but didn't know where to start? Do you ever make up your own lyrics to songs you know? In this activity you get the best

of both worlds! With the melody already written, all you have to do is get creative and have fun with the lyrics. Make them silly or make them serious, it's your choice. Maybe you could share this at Open Mic?

**Activity:** Listen to your favorite song and sing along with the lyrics. Once you feel like you understand and remember the melody, decide on the topic of your song. Take some time to write the new lyrics. You can rewrite the whole song or a portion. When you're done, record yourself singing your lyrics using the song's melody!

Tips for lyric writing: When writing your own lyrics remember to pay attention to rhyme and rhythm. To make sure your new lyrics fit well with the original melody, count the number of syllables in each phrase in the original lyrics and use that as a guide for your new lyrics.

Examples:

[Nations of the World - Animaniacs](#)

["Weird Al" Yankovic - I Love Rocky Road](#)

["Beethoven's Wig \(Symphony No. 5\)" - Beethoven's Wig](#)

**Vocabulary:** lyrics, parody, topic, record, rhyme, rhythm, melody, syllables, phrase, verse, bridge, chorus

**Closing:** Students can present their new and improved songs to each other.

**Successes:** Students are excited, have fun, and finish the project feeling accomplished

**Challenges:** Students struggle to identify parts of songs or find it difficult to match the syllable count.

**CA State Standard(s):** K.MU:Cr1, 2.MU:Cr1, K.MU:Cr3.2, 1.MU:Pr4.2, K.MU:Pr6

**Relevant Artist(s) and Distinguished People:** "Weird Al" Yankovic, Animaniacs, Beethoven's Wig

**VIDEO:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x7mzszUllkA&feature=youtu.be>

**Lesson#: 2**

**Title:** Acrostic Name Poem

**Date:** 7/22

**Time of day:** 11:30-12:00

**Artists:** Darshini

**Materials/Prep:** Construction paper, anything you want for decorations (color pencils, markers, paint, stickers, etc), pens

**Introduction/Goals:** Our names stay with us our whole life. We use them to introduce ourselves to others and create those first moments of connection. If people could hear your name and know exactly what awesome qualities you possess, what would they be? In this activity, you get to share what makes you unique and awesome by assigning each letter of your name an adjective or phrase that best describes YOU.

**Activity:** Write your first name vertically on your piece of paper. Using each letter, write a phrase or an adjective that describes you. You can make the phrases rhyme, list multiple words or turn your name into a story. Have fun experimenting with meter, rhyme schemes, or alliteration. It's up to you! Once you've completed your poem, take some time to decorate your paper. Then hang it up somewhere you can see it often to remind you of all your awesome qualities!

**Examples:**

[John Keats - Acrostic : Georgiana Augusta Keats](#)

[Edgar Allan Poe - Elizabeth](#)

[Lewis Carroll - Acrostic](#)

**Vocabulary:** Acrostic, poetry, horizontal, vertical, rhyme, rhyme scheme, meter, alliteration

**Closing:** Students come together to share their artwork and poetry

**Successes:** Students use positive and empowering adjectives to describe themselves

**Challenges:** Students struggle with word placement/spacing

**CA State Standard(s):** PK.VA:Cr1.1, VA:Cr1.1, 2.VA:Cr2.1, 3.VA:Cr2.1 PK.VA:Cn10

**Relevant Artist(s) and Distinguished People:** Edgar Allen Poe, Lewis Carroll, John Keats

**VIDEO:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aHyOyxk-XSo>