

Greetings from WQED Multimedia in Pittsburgh!

WQED is pleased to bring you the October installment of our monthly e-newsletter that highlights some of our wonderful PBS educational programs. In honor of PBS's Arts Fall Festival, we're featuring some shows and online resources that will inspire your child's artistic expression!

Spotlight on... Chuck Vanderchuck's "Something Something" Explosion!

**Chuck Vanderchuck's "Something Something" Explosion!** helps kids understand music and music composition by teaching basic musical concepts and performance skills through the study of popular song styles from around the world. Each episode introduces a new musical style and the culture from which that style was born. Kids can learn to perform basic rhythmic and melodic patterns in that style through the use of fun, interactive games. By recognizing and performing these fundamental patterns (melodic and rhythmic) of each style, they gain a basic comprehension of song composition/structure. Chuck helps kids learn about instruments and their sounds, song structure, lyric writing, musical styles, and ear training.

video

games

band

activities

The **Chuck Vanderchuck's Something Something Explosion website** also encourages music appreciation and an understanding of how music is created. This resource offers some fun activities that parents and teachers can do with kids to make listening to music more interactive and exciting. There are even lesson plans for educators, with accompanying audio files!

featured resource



Join WQED for the first-ever **PBS Arts Fall Festival**, offering full-length performances, artist and performer profiles, behind-the-scenes documentaries and mini-films about regional art scenes across the country.

The festival kicks off Friday, October 14, 2011, at 9 pm and airs on Fridays through December with all-new broadcasts of classic and contemporary performances, including **WOMEN WHO ROCK**, inspired by the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum's exhibit of the same name; **GIVE ME THE BANJO**, narrated by Steve Martin, a banjoist himself, exploring the roots of American music; and **GREAT PERFORMANCES "The Little Mermaid From San Francisco Ballet."** PBS will also feature immersive online exhibits that extend the broadcast specials and innovative educational tools that connect to the programs and help fill gaps in arts education.

**Check out the lineup of star-studded performances on America's largest stage (Friday nights from Oct. 14 at 9 pm)**

Want to learn more? Browse these arts genres for hundreds of articles, videos, and images:

- Dance
- Visual Art
- Music
- Theater
- Film
- Writing

You can contribute your own work to PBS Arts. Explore the exhibitions and respond with your videos or photos. Visit the festival's **YouTube** or **Flickr** pages to upload your art or responses. Exceptional contributions may appear on the PBS Arts site!

Source: PBS Arts.

# watch!

Don't miss these engaging shows for every age!

Find out when these shows air on WQED-TV!



**Angelina Ballerina** is inspired by the award-winning children's book series by author Katharine Holabird and illustrator Helen Craig. The series follows the now 8-year-old Angelina as she embarks on the next stage in her life at a new school, where she experiences new forms of music and dance, including ballet, modern, tap, jazz, classical and ethnic.

ages 3-5



**Martha Speaks** is based on the children's book series by Susan Meddaugh and published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, and stars Martha, a beloved family dog. She is accidentally fed alphabet soup — this gives her the power of speech and the chance to speak her mind to anyone that will listen. Martha Speaks focuses on building children's vocabulary skills through activities that inspire creativity and artistic expression!

ages 6-8



**Art Beat at School**, a program from Oregon Public Broadcasting, profiles hundreds of artists, musicians and artisans to inspire your students' creativity and learning. You'll also find more than 100 arts-focused lesson plans with related activities, resources, and projects!

ages 8-12



**Great Performances** brings the best in the performing arts from across America and around the world to a US television audience. GREAT PERFORMANCES presents a diverse programming portfolio of classical music, opera, popular song, musical theater, dance, drama, and performance documentaries. You'll have "the best seats in the house" with a roster of artists and performing arts companies that represent a "Who's Who" of excellence and virtuosity in the international performing arts

ages 12-18

## Check out these great online resources for each grade!

### K - Grade 2 **Matisse Cut-Outs**

Kids can create their own digital masterpiece and explore the intersection between shapes, color, and space.

### Grades 3 - 5 **Buster's Movie Makers**

Learn how visual and sound effects help movie makers set a mood. Edit the sights, sounds, and background music in Buster's movie to help make it funnier!

### Grades 6 - 8 **Artopia**

Study and analyze important works of art, and learn about the styles, principles, and processes of each art form.

### Grades 9 - 12 **Simon Schama's Power of Art: Exhibition Mission**

Place famous pieces of art in chronological order, match comments from an art critic and historian to the correct work, and curate an art exhibit. Check out the lesson plans and Masterpiece Match, too!

# click!



iQ: smartmedia is an educational initiative of WQED Multimedia.  
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