

Classics with a Twist

by Scot Cannon

* Poetry * Story * Pantomime * Song *

A program for elementary age children and family audiences.

Teacher Information

Classics with a Twist is a tribute and celebration of poetry, story and song. It is also a chance, in a slightly irreverent way, to familiarize the children with some classic authors. The program emphasizes the enjoyment and importance of reading, writing and listening to literature and music.

Classics with a Twist is a collaboration between Scot and the presenter. They decide what the final content of the show will be. In the program, Scot will use at least one selection of children's literature that the presenter has chosen. The selection can be classic or current. The entire program can focus on the works of a single author.

Classics with a Twist uses adults and children as readers and actors. No rehearsal is needed. It is possible to see 20-30 children on stage through the course of the program.

Classics with a Twist is personalized and encourages the presenter to work with Scot to select which reading, dramatizations and songs best fit your audience.

What's the Twist?

Scot uses his natural sense of comedic timing, quick wit and flexibility to respond to unrehearsed situations to bring you the following:

- **Improvisations with the children** using literature chosen by the librarian or by the children.
- **Comedic dramatizations of classic poetry and prose** performed to music, sound effects and narrations.
- **Teaching and singing some classic songs.**
- **A pantomime lesson** teaching how some **classic mime illusions** are performed.

REPertoire

A sample of some of the works that may be presented are:

DR. SEUSS: The Foot Book, Green Eggs and Ham, Fox in Sox

HENRY WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW: The Village Blacksmith, Paul Revere's Ride.

ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON: A Child's Garden of Verses, The Wind.

WALT WHITMAN: Song of the Open Road, I Hear America Singing.

ROBERT FROST: The Road Not Taken

CARL SANDBURG: The Things I Want To Know Are In Books.

SHEL SILVERSTEIN and others: Well-known classic (traditional) songs.

NOTE: Most of the dramatizations are lighthearted in spite of the possible serious tone of the piece.

Scot would love to hear from your students. If you have any questions or comments about the performance, or if you would like to mail student packets to Scot, you can address mail to:

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