



KARRNNEL & FRIENDS

OLD TIME MUSIC & DANCE - SCHOOL WORKSHOPS



Passionate. Creative. Captivating.

Karrnnel is without a doubt one of Canada's most accomplished and innovative fiddlers and musicians as a recording artist, teacher, performer and composer. This Juno award winner and 2 time nominee is changing the face of fiddle music.

**STUDY
GUIDE**



BIOGRAPHY

Karrnnel has been honing his skills on the fiddle for over thirty years and he has garnered numerous awards, nominations and high acclaim to his name. A wildly dynamic live performer, he is consistently invited to showcase and perform on the provincial, national and international stage. Known for his distinct style and exceptional technique, Karrnnel is highly regarded for his unique approach in breaking new ground in the traditional fiddle world.

In 2019, Karrnnel will be busy performing around the world with tours booked across Canada, the US and Europe. In addition to this busy touring schedule, he will continue his process of writing music that is distinctly his voice and that which transforms the ideals of what the fiddle can do. With 3 albums in the works for 2019, this is the year that Karrnnel is set to truly ink his mark in the music world.

Karrnnel has established himself as one of the most original and decorated musicians in the country. He is the most successful competition fiddle player in Saskatchewan's history, is multi-nominated and a winner at the Western Canadian Music awards and the Canadian Folk Music Awards - including a nomination for Solo Instrumentalist of the Year - and was nominated for Instrumental Song of the Year at the 2012 International Independent Music Awards.

Since the age of 4, he grew up playing in a family band with his two sisters (Kimberly and Kanndece on fiddle) and his father (Orest on accordion) traveling all across North America as The Sawitsky Family Fiddlers. From there, Karrnnel has gone on to develop a successful and critically acclaimed performance and recording career which includes performances all across North America and Europe and the release of 9 award nominated/winning albums since 2009.

In late 2011, Karrnnel and three musical friends formed a new band called The Fretless and in 2017 they won the JUNO Award for Instrumental Album of the Year for their 3rd album Bird's Nest. 2019 saw them get a Juno nomination for their 4th album, Live from the Artfarm, while their debut album 'Waterbound' and followup self-titled albums were met with critical acclaim across Canada, the US, and Europe.

Whether he is teaching, performing, writing, collaborating, arranging, or recording, Karrnnel consistently amazes audiences with his passion and expertise of the music he plays.

ABOUT THE PERFORMANCE

The school show consists of a combination of performance, dance and education with a focus on audience participation through movement and rhythm. They keep the pace very upbeat for the students and use humor to keep the students engaged. The result is a joyful participatory workshop - the students always have a lot of fun. The goal of the workshop is to share the joy and fun of old-time music and dance with the younger generations. It is a great example of the shared experience of dancing to live music, where the audience literally becomes part of the performance.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

We are always seeking opportunities to make community connections and typically plan evening concerts/dances the same evening in local community halls. We are very interested in working with schools and students to explore their involvement with evening programming. It would be great to get the kids out, sharing the new dances they've learned with members of the community.



SCHOOL CURRICULUM

What: Students will be able to perform traditional dances with live music.

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Rationale: Please see the connections to the Arts Ed. and P. Ed. Curriculums below:

- ☐ Students will understand the elements of dance and develop concepts that lead to an understanding of structure in dance. (Arts Ed.)
- ☐ Students will develop movement skills to use the body as an instrument for expression. (Arts Ed.)
- ☐ Students will improvise, compose, and perform (e.g., with voice, instruments, and technologies) a selection of pieces in contrasting styles. ([CP8.7](#))
- ☐ Students will shape dance compositions using various choreographic forms (e.g., ABA). ([CP6.3](#))
- ☐ Students will create and refine transitions within choreographic forms (e.g., ABBA, narrative). ([CP7.3](#))
- ☐ Students will apply movement concepts and principles to the learning and development of movement patterns and skills. (P. Ed.)
- ☐ Students will utilize selected movement skills and combinations of skills (i.e., locomotor, non-locomotor, and manipulative) to participate in a variety of body management activities including dance. [PE7.9](#)
- ☐ Students will apply controlled use of selected movement skills and variations (i.e., locomotor, non-locomotor, and manipulative skills) as well as safe and environmentally friendly behaviours while participating in a variety of body management activities including dance and educational gymnastics, as well as others (e.g., pilates, wrestling, skipping, track and field, yoga, aerobics). [PE6.10](#)
- ☐ Students will perform, both as a leader and a follower, self-created, collaboratively created, and established sequences of movements with smooth transitions, incorporating skills and combinations of skills from a variety of games (i.e., target games, net/wall games, striking/fielding games, invasion/territorial games, low-organizational and inventive games) and body management activities (e.g., dance, aquatics, educational gymnastics, track and field, pilates, yoga, wrestling, martial arts, aerobics), alone and with others. [PE8.9](#)

“Rhythmics and dance provide excellent opportunities for bridging between physical education, arts education and social studies.” (Elementary P.Ed. Curriculum 1999)



SCHOOL CURRICULUM

Dances: Students will learn and practice select dances per grouping (time and age appropriate):

- ☐ Bird/Chicken Dance
- ☐ Sasha
- ☐ Virginia Reel
- ☐ Sasha
- ☐ Butterfly
- ☐ Square Dance
- ☐ Other _____

* NOTE: teachers to help kids out to learn and practice these dances. More dances can be taught if time permits.

Assessment: Students will review and perform their dances with live music. During this time, teachers will assess their students based on the criteria below.:

- ☐ Create and perform a sequence of movement skills.
- ☐ Perform in time to a count while incorporating given movement skill.
- ☐ Perform a combination of skills that are performed to a rhythm

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

- Set-up time: 30 minutes
- Performance length: 40-50 minutes
- Space requirements: on the floor of your gym (approx. 6 metres by 3 metres)
- Students will sit on the floor of the gym (no chairs or benches please)
- Technical requirements:
 - a power outlet (equipment provided by performer)
 - 4 armless chairs

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CLASSROOM DANCE

DANCE - THE BUTTERFLY

Step 1: Dancers combine in groups of 3 and form a line connected at the elbows. All groups move forward in a circular pattern. Everyone from each group raises the left leg first in time with the music (hold left leg for 3 counts).

Step 2: Then everyone from each group raises their right legs in time with the music (hold right leg for 3 counts).

Repeat: Repeat steps 1 and 2 until the slow section of the song stops.

Step 3: Fast music starts and all dancers let go of one another at the elbows. Middle dancer connects left elbow to left elbow with the dancer on their left and they spin around one rotation. Dancer on the right of the middle dancer claps in time to the music.

Step 4: Middle dancer lets go of dancer on the left and then connects right elbow to right elbow with the dancer on their right.

Step 5: The middle dancer and dancer on the right spin around one rotation. Dancer on the left of the middle dancer claps in time to the music.

Repeat: Repeat steps 4 and 5 until the fast section of the music stops. Then start back at step 1.

