

Playing Our Orff Instruments For All They're Worth!

2023 ZEF Imagine Grant

1. Educator Name(s)

William C Doublestein

2. School(s) and Current Grade or Subjects Taught

Boone Meadow Elementary Music

3. Teaching Experience

11 years

4. Project Director

William C Doublestein

5. Project Director email- If there is more than one applicant, which applicant will be the Project Director (primary contact, responsible for grant budget, registrations, ordering of materials, etc.)?

[REDACTED]

6. Project Director school phone number (building number with your extension)

[REDACTED]

7. Alternate phone number

[REDACTED]

8. Project duration or conference date(s)

November 1-4, 2023

9. School and/or classroom social media account(s)

twitter.com/bowtiemusic1; facebook.com/bowtiemusic1; instagram.com/bow_tie_music;
youtube.com/bowtiemusic

10. All Imagine Grant application projects must be reviewed in full and approved by your building principal before submission

11. Project Title

Playing Our Orff Instruments For All They're Worth!

12. Project Summary- Please summarize your project in one or two sentences.

The American Orff Schulwerk Association's 2023 Professional Development Conference will inspire new ideas for using our classroom set of Orff instruments purchased by ZEF in 2017.

13. Project Description- Please provide a description of your professional development opportunity. What is the purpose of the opportunity and why do you want to pursue this experience?

This year's American Orff Schulwerk Association's (AOSA) Professional Development Conference will be held in Albuquerque, NM from November 1-4, 2023. "Orff Schulwerk" is a philosophy of music education first developed by the German composer Carl Orff in the 1950s and 1960s, and it emphasizes the importance of student empowerment and creativity through song, dance, speech, and instruments.

As part of his approach, Carl Orff invented developmentally appropriate and child friendly "Orff instruments" consisting of xylophones, metallophones and glockenspiels that could be easily played by musicians of any age. These instruments opened a range of musical possibilities not previously accessible to children at the elementary level, and their ease of use allowed a greater emphasis on composition, improvisation, and performance. Over the years this student-centered Orff philosophy continued to grow and spread across the United States, and today the AOSA that continues his legacy includes thousands of members from across the country divided into 96 local chapters.

When I first arrived at Boone Meadow in 2017, I was excited to introduce Orff Schulwerk to our students, but I was disappointed by the number and quality of our instruments. Thankfully the Zionsville Education Foundation funded a \$9,000.00 classroom grant to purchase seventeen brand new and high-quality Orff instruments for our classroom. Those instruments became a highlight for my students and a cornerstone to our curriculum. They have been used in countless lessons and performances ever since, and we continue to play them regularly.

After receiving the ZEF grant in 2017 I have continued my education to better learn how to use these wonderful Orff instruments. In 2018 I went to Anderson University to earn my Level 1 Orff certification and in 2019 I attended the AOSA Professional Development Conference in Cincinnati. I have also become involved with the Indiana chapter of the Orff Schulwerk Association, and I've collaborated with other Orff teachers both in and out of the district.

Today I am requesting funds to attend this year's AOSA Professional Development Conference in Albuquerque so that I can once again surround myself with experts in my field, learn from their understanding of the Orff Schulwerk philosophy of music education, gain new ideas on how to make the most of our classroom set of Orff instruments, and ultimately help my students deepen their love of music.

14. Project Impact- How will your project impact your students, classroom, colleagues, and/or school? What do you hope to bring back from the experience and what will it enable in your classroom, school, or district? Are there specific activities that you will implement for your students or colleagues upon your return?

I've been teaching music at the elementary level for eleven years, and this project will encourage me with fresh ideas to stretch me as an educator. Thanks to ZEF's previous investment I have all the tools I need to make the music program at Boone Meadow highly impactful for all my students, but even with the best tools it's important that I keep growing as a teacher and pushing myself to try new things. I look forward to learning everything I can from some of the best music teachers in the country, and I'm sure that upon returning I'll have plenty of new ideas to try with my students right away. I know that an experience like this is a big investment, but I truly believe that it will go a long way in supporting my mission of helping kids have fun learning about, making, and performing quality music.

15. Project links- For grant applications involving a conference or training, please provide a link to the conference/training website (if available.)

<https://member.aosa.org/member/professional-development/annual-conference>

16. State Standards

What State Standards will this professional development opportunity help you teach?

Primary standards addressed by this Imagine Grant:

Indiana Academic General Music Standard #8- "Performing a varied repertoire of music by playing instruments, alone and with others, from rote memory and written notation."

Indiana Academic General Music Standard #9- "Creating a varied repertoire of music by improvising melodies, variations, and accompaniments."

Indiana Academic General Music Standard #10- "Creating a varied repertoire of music by composing and arranging music with both traditional and non-traditional notation."

Secondary standards addressed at the AOSA Professional Development Conference:

Indiana Academic General Music Standard #5- Listening and responding to a varied repertoire of music by describing, interpreting, analyzing, and evaluating music in its elemental components."

Indiana Academic General Music Standard #6- "Listening and responding to a varied repertoire of music by interpreting and expressing music through movement."

Indiana Academic General Music Standard #7- "Performing a varied repertoire of music by singing, alone and with others, from rote memory and written notation."

17. What did we miss?- Is there any additional information about your professional development opportunity that would be helpful for the committee to know?

It's important that the committee knows that today's elementary music classroom is far different than the classrooms of the past. When I was a kid, our music room was full of desks and textbooks, and there was only one instrument- a piano, that only the teacher was allowed to play. Every day we came in and sang songs out of those textbooks, and that was about it...

Today's music classroom on the other hand is an open and inviting space full of possibilities for quality music making. The Orff philosophy of music education centers on a well-rounded experience for students, one that includes not only singing, but dancing, speaking rhythms, playing instruments, and even composing. Thanks to the generosity of ZEF and others, my classroom at Boone Meadow has enough Orff instruments, drums, and unpitched percussion instruments for every student to create music every day. We also have open space for creative movement, and we're always looking for ways to work together to create something beautiful.

If you'd like to learn more about our music program, please check out my YouTube channel at [Youtube.com/BowTieMusic](https://www.youtube.com/BowTieMusic). There you'll find hundreds of examples of creative music making that we believe fully supports the mission of ZEF, to enable the kind of academic excellence that truly sets Zionsville apart.

18. Total cost of project (dollar amount)

\$1,850.00

19. Are there any other funding sources for your project? (please list source and amount)

In the hopes of contributing towards the profession I applied to present at this conference, and I recently found out that my two sessions on folk dancing were accepted. In return I will receive \$100 off my registration by the AOSA, which I've already taken out of my budgeted total. I will also receive compensation from The New England Dancing Masters for promoting their material, though that amount hasn't yet been determined.

20. Total requested from ZEF (dollar amount)

\$1,850.00

21. Budget Detail- Please provide a detailed breakdown of your project budget including any registration fees, materials, food, lodging, transportation, fees, etc. Hyperlinks for further information or a visual representation of materials are encouraged. You may enter the information below or attach a separate file. You may also submit funding level options for the Grants Committee to consider.

Airfare: \$600.00

Registration Fees: \$210.00 (\$310.00-\$100.00 compensation for presenting at the conference)

Lodging: \$840.00 (\$210.00 per night for 4 nights at the DoubleTree hotel)

Food: \$200.00