Dear Educator:

You and your students are invited to be part of a once-in-a-lifetime television experience.

On Thursday, December 5, the hills come alive again as NBC will broadcast a spectacular live performance of THE SOUND OF MUSIC with Grammy winner Carrie Underwood starring as Maria, the multi-talented Stephen Moyer as Captain Von Trapp, and show-stopping Tony® Award winners Audra McDonald, Laura Benanti, and Christian Borle.

Here’s a chance to introduce your students to the magic of THE SOUND OF MUSIC Live – the songs, the spectacle, the dancing that make it one of the most beloved musicals of all time. And to help you, YMI has developed this free educational program designed to give elementary school students at all grade levels the same thrill they would feel seeing THE SOUND OF MUSIC in a Broadway theater.

Made possible by NBC, the program includes three activity sheets that students complete before, during, and after the broadcast, both in class and at home with their families. Each activity meets Common Core State Standards for Language Arts as students reflect on what they already know about the show, examine the story and musical structure of THE SOUND OF MUSIC, and create a journal scrapbook to help them remember this landmark television event.

Plan now to make this special performance of THE SOUND OF MUSIC Live a part of your class plans for December 4-6, and please share this educational opportunity with other teachers in your school. Although this program is copyrighted, you have permission to reproduce the teaching materials for all your students.

Please also alert your students and parents to save the evening of December 5 to watch THE SOUND OF MUSIC Live on NBC, starring family-favorite Carrie Underwood, for an unforgettable television experience.

We look forward to your comments on this program. Please return the enclosed reply card, or send us your feedback online at www.ymiclassroom.com/sound-of-music.

How to use this program:

Photocopy this teacher’s guide and the three student activity sheets before putting the wall poster on display in your classroom. Provide other teachers in your school with photocopies of these reproducible classroom materials. Schedule the program for December 4-6 to maximize its effectiveness, and make photocopies of the activity sheets for all students in your class.

Standards alignment:

This program meets Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts in the elementary grades. For detailed standards correlation, visit www.ymiclassroom.com/sound-of-music.

Activity one: My favorite things

Have students complete this activity prior to the NBC broadcast of THE SOUND OF MUSIC LIVE on Thursday, December 5. Use the activity to generate anticipation by having students share what they already know about the musical – prompting them with your own favorite moments from the show. Have students complete Part 1 of the activity individually or in small groups, and review the answers in class. Have students complete Part 2 at home with their families, and schedule time the next day for students to share what they have written about their family’s “favorite things.”

(Answers: a-The Lonely Goatherd; b-My Favorite Things; c-Do-Re-Mi; d-Climb Ev’ry Mountain; e-Sixteen Going on Seventeen.)

Activity Two: The Sound of Music

Distribute this activity sheet on Thursday, December 5, and use it to familiarize students with the story and songs of THE SOUND OF MUSIC. Complete Part 1 of the activity in class, reviewing facts and vocabulary that are important to following the plot — for example, Where is Austria? What is an abbey? Who were the Nazis? Have students complete Part 2 at home by filling in the names of the characters who sing each song. Follow up by using this part of the activity to talk about how certain songs change their significance slightly when they are repeated in the show. For example, Maria first sings “THE SOUND OF MUSIC” to boost her own spirits when she is alone in the hills, but the song becomes part of her bond with the Von Trapp family when the children and the Captain later sing it together. Encourage students to explain how other songs become more meaningful as they are reprised through the show.

Activity Three: Find Your Dream

Distribute this activity sheet after the broadcast of THE SOUND OF MUSIC LIVE and use it to generate in-class discussion about the show. Encourage students to express and explain their opinions about the songs, scenes, characters, and actors. Then, have students complete the activity at home. Schedule time to review Part 2 of the activity in class, allowing students to share their feelings about the song “Climb Ev’ry Mountain” and how its message affected them.

Resources:

• THE SOUND OF MUSIC LIVE www.nbc.com/sound-of-music
• ON FACEBOOK www.facebook.com/TheSoundOfMusic
• ON TWITTER www.twitter.com/SoundofMusic

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Sincerely,

Dr. Dominic Kinsley
Editor in Chief
Young Minds Inspired

GRADE LEVEL
This program can be adapted for use with students in grades 1-6 as a supplement to the English Language Arts curriculum.

Educational objectives:
• Help students and their families experience the excitement of seeing a Broadway musical on television as they watch THE SOUND OF MUSIC Live on December 5 on NBC.
• Channel anticipation for this viewing experience into expository writing on what students and their families already know about THE SOUND OF MUSIC.
• Enrich students’ viewing experience by examining the story and musical structure of THE SOUND OF MUSIC.
• Encourage students to reflect on their viewing experience, express their personal opinions about the performance, and write about its impact on their point of view.

Program components:
• This one-page teacher’s guide
• Three reproducible student activity sheets
• A wall poster for display in your classroom
• A reply card for your valuable comments

How to use this program:

• Enrich students’ viewing experience by examining the story and musical structure of THE SOUND OF MUSIC.
• Help students and their families experience the excitement of seeing a Broadway musical on television as they watch THE SOUND OF MUSIC Live on December 5 on NBC.
• Channel anticipation for this viewing experience into expository writing on what students and their families already know about THE SOUND OF MUSIC.
• Encourage students to reflect on their viewing experience, express their personal opinions about the performance, and write about its impact on their point of view.

Program components:
• This one-page teacher’s guide
• Three reproducible student activity sheets
• A wall poster for display in your classroom
• A reply card for your valuable comments

How to use this program:

Photocopy this teacher’s guide and the three student activity sheets before putting the wall poster on display in your classroom. Provide other teachers in your school with photocopies of these reproducible classroom materials. Schedule the program for December 4-6 to maximize its effectiveness, and make photocopies of the activity sheets for all students in your class.

Standards alignment:

This program meets Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts in the elementary grades. For detailed standards correlation, visit www.ymiclassroom.com/sound-of-music.
On Thursday, December 5, NBC brings **THE SOUND OF MUSIC** to your home – live on television – with Grammy winner Carrie Underwood starring as Maria, the multi-talented Stephen Moyer as Captain Von Trapp, and Tony® Award winners Audra McDonald, Laura Benanti, and Christian Borle. The amazing cast, legendary songs, majestic sets, and breathtaking costumes will make this performance of the original Broadway blockbuster an unforgettable experience for all. The show starts at 8pm (7pm CT), so gather your family, and don’t be late!

**Set The Scene**

You and your family have probably heard many of the songs from **THE SOUND OF MUSIC** already. People have been singing them for more than fifty years! See if you know the famous songs listed below, and try to match them with the scenes where they are sung in the musical. Team up with classmates who have seen the show if you need help. After you check your answers in class, take this sheet home to find out how much your family really knows about **THE SOUND OF MUSIC**.

**Songs**

- Do-Re-Mi
- The Lonely Goatherd
- Climb Ev’ry Mountain
- Sixteen Going on Seventeen
- My Favorite Things

**Scenes**

- Maria and the children sing this song to drown out the scary sounds of a thunderstorm.
- Maria and the Mother Abbess sing this song together before Maria goes to take care of the children.
- Maria uses this song to teach the children how to sing.
- The Mother Abbess sings this song to help Maria decide what she really wants in life.
- One of the older children, Liesl, sings this song with her boyfriend, Rolf.

**Our Family Favorites**

Find out which songs, scenes, and characters from **THE SOUND OF MUSIC** are favorites in your family. Take this sheet home and use the back to make a list of your family’s favorites. Let everyone in your family add to the list. Then write a sentence or paragraph about “My Family’s Favorite Things in **THE SOUND OF MUSIC**.” Bring your sheet back to class to share with your classmates.
The Story

Just like a real theater program, this one provides a summary of the story — called a synopsis — to help you follow the action and recognize all the characters.

The musical is set in Austria, in 1938, just prior to World War II. Maria Rainer wants to become a nun, but she finds it hard to follow all the rules of the abbey. To help her, the Mother Abbess sends Maria off to care for the seven children of Captain Georg Von Trapp, a retired navy officer whose wife died only a few years ago. Captain Von Trapp is very strict with his children, but Maria soon has them singing and playing together. Before long, even the Captain is singing along!

Later, at a party for Elsa Schraeder, the woman he is planning to marry, the Captain lets the children perform for the guests. His friend Max Dettweiller immediately says they should appear in a music festival he is producing. Also during the party, Maria realizes that she is falling in love with the Captain. Confused, she returns to the abbey, but the Mother Abbess sends her back, telling her she can’t hide from her feelings.

So Maria returns to the Von Trapp home, just as the Captain discovers that Elsa does not object to Austria becoming part of Nazi Germany. He realizes that he cannot marry Elsa, and that he really loves Maria instead. They are soon married at the abbey and leave on a honeymoon. By the time they return, however, the Nazis have invaded Austria, and they insist that Captain Von Trapp become an officer in their Navy. To prevent this, Maria tells the Nazis that the whole family is scheduled to sing in Max Dettweiller’s music festival. With the Nazis waiting offstage to grab the Captain, the Von Trapps perform, then slip away to hide at the abbey until they can escape by climbing over the mountains to freedom.

Are there unfamiliar words and facts in this synopsis? Underline anything that puzzles you. Then share information in class to find out what all the words mean and to learn about the geography and history behind the show. If you still have questions, do some research on your own so you are ready to explain everything to your family when you take your seats for THE SOUND OF MUSIC LIVE!

The Songs

For musicals, like THE SOUND OF MUSIC, the theater program usually lists all the songs and the characters who sing them. To add some fun, the characters aren’t listed on your program. You and your family can fill in the names as you watch the show!

Act 1

Preludium ____________________________
THE SOUND OF MUSIC ____________________________
How Do You Solve a Problem Like Maria? ____________________________
My Favorite Things ____________________________
Do-Re-Mi ____________________________
Sixteen Going on Seventeen ____________________________
The Lonely Goatherd ____________________________
How Can Love Survive? ____________________________
THE SOUND OF MUSIC (reprise) ____________________________
So Long, Farewell ____________________________
Morning Hymn ____________________________
Climb Ev’ry Mountain ____________________________

Act 2

My Favorite Things (reprise) ____________________________
No Way to Stop It ____________________________
Something Good ____________________________
Marriage Hymns ____________________________
Sixteen Going on Seventeen (reprise) ____________________________
Do-Re-Mi (reprise) ____________________________
Edelweiss ____________________________
So Long, Farewell (reprise) ____________________________
Climb Ev’ry Mountain (reprise) ____________________________

Did you notice the word “reprise” (ri-preez) in the song list? That means the song, or part of the song, is repeated in a different situation. After you have seen THE SOUND OF MUSIC LIVE, think about these reprised songs. Talk with your family and your classmates about how these songs change their meaning a little when they help the characters through a different situation.
Find Your Dream

Part of the magic of seeing a live performance is knowing that you’ve seen something no one will ever see again. The acting, the singing, the dancing all happen right before your eyes. It will never be exactly the same in any other performance. That’s what makes live theater a special experience, and to help you remember it, here’s a scrapbook page where you and your family can collect those special memories of the night you saw THE SOUND OF MUSIC LIVE together.

What I’ll Always Remember

Use these spaces to describe your memories of your favorite songs, scenes, characters, and actors.

My Favorite Songs

My Favorite Scenes

My Favorite Characters

My Favorite Actors

What’s Your Dream?

Use this space to write a journal entry about “Climb Ev’ry Mountain,” the song reprised at the end of THE SOUND OF MUSIC LIVE. Think about how this song made you feel and how that feeling will help you find your dream as you grow up.

PERFORM THE SOUND OF MUSIC

With Getting To Know…THE SOUND OF MUSIC, students can realize the benefits of musical theater firsthand. This school-friendly adaptation has a one-hour running time and comes with a Production Pack of resources that make producing the show on any budget and at any skill level as easy as Do-Re-Mi! Visit the Rodgers and Hammerstein website at www.rnh.com/collection/10/Getting-To-Know for licensing information.

CARRIE UNDERWOOD

The Sound of Music LIVE!

THURS DEC 5 • 8/7c

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Created by Young Minds Inspired
The Sound of Music

LIVE!

The beloved family classic comes alive again!

A SPECIAL HOLIDAY EVENT

THURSDAY DEC 5 • 8/7c

Cast recording from the NBC Television Event available DEC 3

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