

*RESIDENCY ACTIVITIES*

*~ In Your Schools ~*

*"Human Jazz" Assembly program: 45 - minute show for grades K - 12  
(Includes a 9 - page Study Guide | maximum 700 students)*

*Virtual Reality on the human instrument. A master of artful entertainment, Christian takes young audiences on an interactive adventure of transformation with our original instruments; body and voice. From Asian throat-singing to jazz cartoons, enacting the water cycle to lumbering dinosaurs, straight-talk about brain chemistry to "word" improvisations, it all comes pouring forth from this single human being. Honest play of this sort speaks directly to the bodies and imaginations of young people.*

*Student Workshops: Christian teaches fundamental principles and values of the performing arts including; body/voice awareness, focus, rhythm, imagination, spontaneity, humor, imitation, character, trust, risk, and more. He will work with teachers to include curriculum-related ideas in the workshop activities. The "human instrument" (body/voice and imagination) is an ever-willing metaphor to help us acquire a different way of knowing about our world. By "acting" (shaping our physical/vocal energy) like something or someone we learn about them. (Maximum - 50 students)*

*Teacher Workshops: Christian works with teachers to practice basic understanding and confidence to use creative movement and voice as teaching tools.*

*~ In Your Community ~*

*"Singing the Now" ~ Vocal Improvisation Playshop & Jam (Sitting in a Circle of Chairs)*

*Take time to have some serious fun with yourself and others; singing together without a song. We will begin with simple imitation to tune our voices, ears and imaginations; and then practice a variety of support structures that will allow us to be "the wind under each others' wings". Furthering into: vocal blending, layered rhythmic rugs, soloing, call & response, spontaneous musical behavior, imagined languages, delicious grooves, and world scat. So, take a break from "building bridges" and let's all "swim in the river"! (90 - minutes)*

*Participant Comments: "I left with a beautiful sense of inner peace, alignment & bubbling up joy."  
"It's the first time I felt like I could sing."*

*"Human Jazz" Playshop ~ (Bodies and Voices Playing together)*

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*Christian Swenson*

*HUMAN JAZZ*

*What is "Human Jazz"? It's dancing, singing and acting simultaneously. It's deeply playful jamming on our original instruments: body and voice. It's acting like music. It's dreaming out loud, nomadic world scat, rhythmic behavior, a communal wilderness experience, mystical recreation. It's a bit too much fun.*

*What we will do: In this playshop we will give ourselves permission to use our natural imitative abilities to create spontaneous musical play. Activities are focused on creating improvisational flow by imitating pulse, shape and tonal quality. We will practice methods of "dancing" alone and with others and the delight of splitting our attention between listening, acting and reacting. We will explore the body-voice as a tool for communication, entertainment, transcendence, and healing. For performers and non-performers alike this is an opportunity to play with an aliveness that touches both the heart and the funny bone. (90 - minutes)*

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