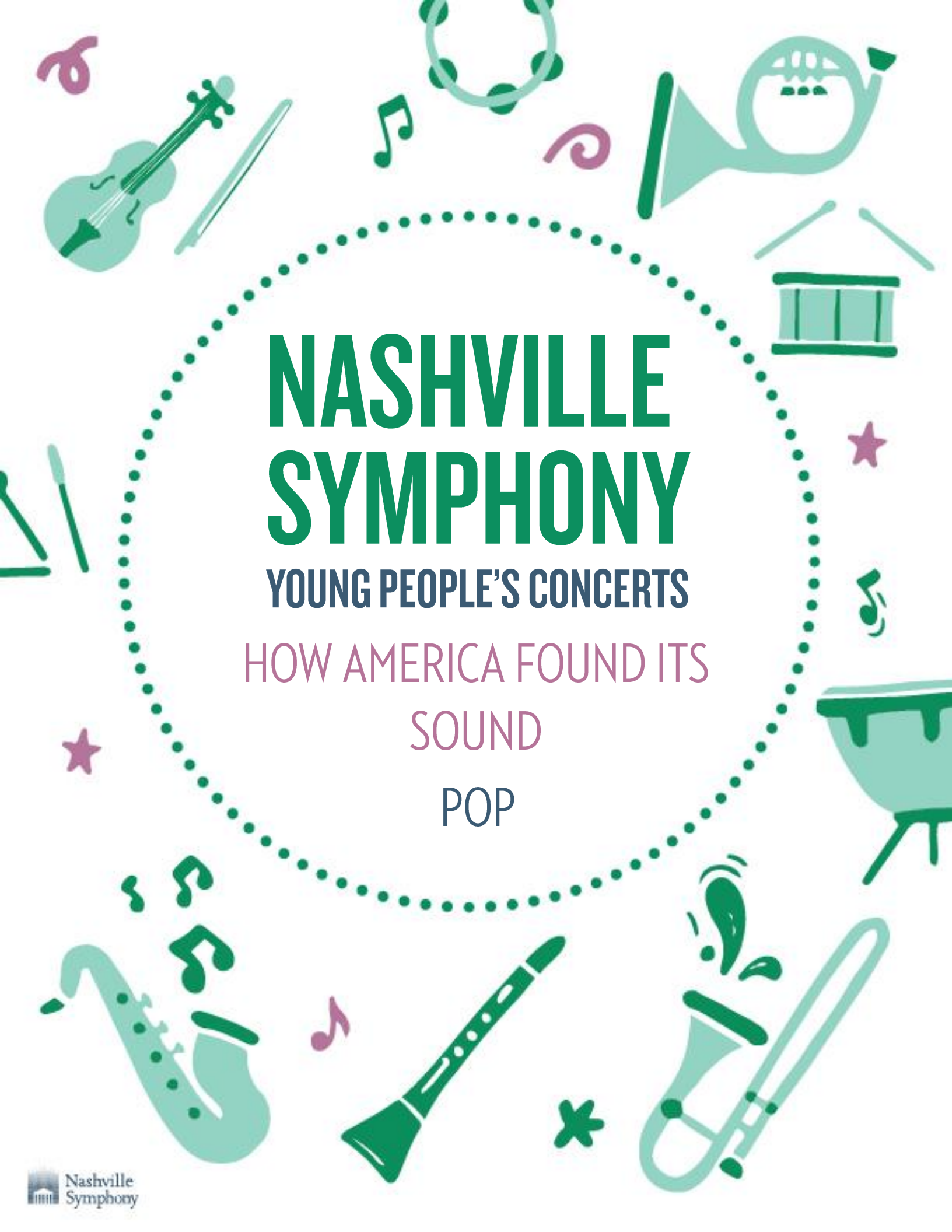


The background features a large, circular dotted line that frames the central text. Scattered around this frame are various musical instruments and notes in shades of teal and purple. These include a violin, a flute, a trumpet, a drum, a saxophone, a clarinet, and several musical notes and stars.

NASHVILLE SYMPHONY

YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONCERTS

HOW AMERICA FOUND ITS
SOUND
POP

HOW AMERICA FOUND ITS SOUND

POP

Grades 5 - 8

STANDARDS

5.5.GM.P1.B, 5.5.GM.P3.D, 5.5.GM.R2.A, 6.6.GM.Cr3.B, 6.6.GM.R1.B, 6.6.GM.R3.A, 7.7.GM.R1.A, 7.7.GM.R1.B, 7.7.GM.R3.A, 8.8.GM.R1.A, 8.8.GM.R1.B, 8.8.GM.R2.A

OBJECTIVES

Students will connect how an orchestra can remain relevant despite music's constant evolution.

Students will identify recurring motifs between classical music and pop music.

TIME NEEDED

15 - 20 minutes

MATERIALS

- Video: [Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring - J.S. Bach](#)
- Video: [Lady Lynda - Beach Boys](#)
- Video: [Cannon in D - Johann Pachelbel](#)
- Video: [Memories - Maroon 5](#)
- Video: [Piano Concerto No. 2 - Sergei Rachmaninoff](#)
- Video: [All of Me - Eric Carmen](#)
- Video: [Symphony No. 5 - Anton Bruckner](#)
- Video: [Seven Nation Army - The White Stripes](#)

GENRE OVERVIEW

Pop music is one of America's most popular and ever-changing musical genres. It draws inspiration from many styles, including country, gospel, blues, jazz, rock, R&B, hip-hop, and electronic music. Like country music, pop often tells stories and connects with listeners through memorable melodies, but it reaches wide audiences by blending musical traditions in new and creative ways. Today, pop continues to evolve as artists mix influences from many cultures and genres. Pop music has also found its way into the orchestra, with orchestral arrangements of popular songs and new works that combine classical instruments with modern rhythms, harmonies, and production styles, showing that America's musical traditions continue to grow together.

AllMusic, *Pop*.

<https://www.allmusic.com/genre/pop-ma0000012254>

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PROCEDURES:

Students will participate in a listening activity with the teacher.

Activity: *Listen to examples of pop songs based on classical music. Raise your hand when you hear the motif.*

1. Say: We are going to go through some pop songs you may recognize that include a short musical melody, called a **motif**, from famous classical works.

2. Say: We are first going to listen to the classical work of which these pop songs take musical motifs from, then we are going to listen to the pop song and raise your hand when you hear a similar melody show up.

3. Listen and Compare:

- [Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring - J.S. Bach \(0:38 - 1:00\)](#)
- [Lady Lynda - Beach Boys \(0:00 - 0:34\)](#)

4. Listen and Compare:

- [Cannon in D - Pachabell \(1:51 - 2:15\)](#)
- [Memories - Maroon 5 \(0:00 - 0:33\)](#)

5. Listen and Compare:

- [Piano Concerto No. 2 - Sergei Rachmaninoff \(10:15-11:00\)](#)
- [All of Me - Eric Carmen \(0:30-0:55\) and \(3:57 - 5:25\)](#)

6. Listen and Compare:

- [Symphony No. 5 - Anton Bruckner \(0:00 - 0:30\)](#)
- [Seven Nation Army - The White Stripes \(0:53 - 1:09\)](#)

(More classical music inspired pop songs can be found [here](#))

7. Say: Now that we have listened to these examples, next time you listen to your favorite pop songs, try and figure out if these songs may take inspiration or ideas from different artists or genres from the past!

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