

National Music Week Essay Contest 2024

Theme: Music is Yours, Mine and Ours

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Music is something that we've all taken part in—whether it's by composing epic orchestral pieces, singing at church, or humming a tune in the car. Each person is born with some tendency to make a tune. But where has that tendency come from? Where did music come from, and why do we have it? God is the source of all beauty, and He created it. He ingrained it in all of us. He made it as a gift to *us*, the whole earth, and to the individual, *you* and *me*.

One of the best ways in which God gave music to *us* is by making the birds, and the squeaks and rustles of nature. Everyone has heard His little musicians, the birds, and listened to the wind's moan and the dog's bark. The songs of nature are simple and beautiful. The prettiest of nature's melodies is that of the birds, which God placed in the trees of every country on earth. No one can charge others to hear nature's music, and anyone can take ideas from its songs. This music is *ours*.

God gave us music to hear, but also to create. The music that most of us listen to was written by other people, endowed with a talent from God. They use their gift to translate things on earth into melodies and harmonies. A kitten, a delicious aroma, a friendly chat—they can all ignite a spark which leads to a composition. Music is influenced by the smallest of daily life experiences that belong to all of *us*. Music also comes from *us*, even if we don't write music! We leave our influence on music by our actions, art, and incidents in public. Examples of this are *Rage Over a Lost Penny* by Mozart, and *Two Ladies Gossiping* by Khachaturian. This shows that music comes from *you* and *me*.

The music that comes from God and is given out through gifted people speaks to each person in a special way. We all like different kinds of music, so each song we hear registers in our mind a different way.

We might hear baroque music and enjoy it, or listen to rock music and hate it. The sound of abstract music might not be appealing to someone who loves classical music. No one experiences music just like us. We each possess God's music in a different way. It is *yours*, and *mine*.

Music is something that God made for everyone to *contribute*, *enjoy*, and *perform*. We all use music to listen to in the background, or as a job or hobby. God created sound, but by His very nature He couldn't just leave it at that. He had to make something beautiful out of it, that would employ and entertain all of us and let us craft our emotions into something tangible. So He made music—for *me*, *you*, and *us*.