



MUSIC COFFEEHOUSE

After School Program

“Every artist was first an amateur.”

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Dear Teachers:

Thank you for using the **WoodSongs After School Coffeehouse Project**.

This is to help the school organize an effective arts program that will excite students, get them to participate and encourage a sense of community. This project is FREE to schools.

a) Your **WoodSongs Coffeehouse** can be organized three ways:

- a) during a designated class period, like a study hall.
- b) during the lunch hour by setting up a cafeteria open mic
- c) as an after school event

b) Please use the provided WS After School Coffeehouse Manual for more suggestions.

c) Please call the event a **WoodSongs Coffeehouse**

d) Please be as inclusive as possible, make special note of shy students. Invite parents to be present. It is amazing how art and a little encouragement can change a youngsters life.

e) Invite regional, experienced artists in your community to visit, perform with (not take over the stage) students. Local musicians and songwriters are hungry to share what they have learned.

f) Encourage music to be part of their lives, not making music their livelihood. There's a difference.

g) **FIELD TRIP:** book active members of your coffeehouse to perform a 3 or 4 song set at an old folks home, children's ward of a hospital, elementary school, etc. The experience of performing for the community good is incredibly rewarding.

Finally, we encourage self expression. For this you might have to be patient as students overcome shyness or struggle to recognize their boundries. It will come with your good guidance.

“Every artist dips his brush into his own soul and paints his own nature into his pictures”

Henry Ward Beecher

Please let us know how you are doing!
Email us at **Teachers@WoodSongs.com**