

# OKANOGAN REGION ARTS EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP

## ARTIST PROFILE



**Lauralee Northcott**  
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**Western music vocals**  
All Districts

**Preferred Age/Grade level:** grades 2-8

**Possible Curricular Ties:** social studies, history, geography

### **Residency suggestions:**

#### **SING-ALONG with Horse Crazy**

*GRADES* : 2-5 or 6-8 *TIME*: 45 minutes to 1 hour (adaptable to school schedule)

*SUBJECT AREA FOCUS*: General Music and Social Studies

*BRIEF SUMMARY*: This session is pure kid magic. Students are given songbooks containing 16 wonderful cowboy and folk songs. Everyone is included as they sing along with these timeless songs. A little history and geography are shared along the way. Students are introduced to the guitar, bass guitar, banjo and harmonica, including a brief history of the instruments. For the older grades, maps are used to enhance discussions and some of the history associated with these traditional American and cowboy songs is discussed. In addition, students are made aware of the use of familiar melodies adapted by pioneers to create well-known folk melodies.

#### **LEARNING TO SING HARMONY with Horse Crazy**

*GRADES* : 2-5 or 6-8 *TIME*: 45 minutes to 1 hour (adaptable to school schedule)

*SUBJECT AREA FOCUS*: General Music and Social Studies

*BRIEF SUMMARY*: Sing Along with Horse Crazy Cowgirl Band as they pass along a magnificent American vocal music tradition. In the lighthearted humorous manner that has endeared them to students and fans, Lauralee and Jennifer show the students how to sing favorite cowboy, folk and country songs in beautiful two-part harmony. Students will be introduced to the guitar, bass guitar, banjo and harmonica, including a brief history of the instruments.

*GOALS and OBJECTIVES*: Students will learn that music and culture are fundamentally linked. Folk stories and songs are universal and have been around for all time. The cowboys and pioneers integrated familiar melodies and adapted the words to their current lives.

### **Supplies, Equipment, Space and Time Considerations:**

Music room or room big enough for students to stand and move around.

### **Teaching Experience:**

Lauralee is a professional musician with a BA in music, emphasizing in folk music. She is an accomplished writer, educator, songwriter, and long-time lover of western music. Her accomplishments have been recorded in the academic work: *Wranglin' Women (Humor and Gender in the American West)* by Kristin M. McAndrews. (Nevada University Press). For 10 years, she hosted the *Dollar Watch Cowboy Show*, a live program featuring cowboy music, cowboy poetry, true stories and tall tales. As part of her ongoing commitment to share the art of western folk music, Lauralee dedicates a portion of her time to exposing students and interested groups to the history of the American West.

### **Artist's Statement:**

I am aware of a compelling need for young people to discover the wide range of musical styles that make up western music. Using songs, stories and a variety of instruments, I engage students by including them in the musical story of the west.