

Alastair Moock

*“Possibly the best program I’ve seen
in 35 years of teaching”*

– Bill Rogers, History Teacher, Buckingham Browne & Nichols School

Alastair Moock is a 2014 GRAMMY Nominee, two-time Parents’ Choice Gold Medal Winner, and recipient of the ASCAP Joe Raposo Children’s Music Award. A songwriter and performer for more than 20 years, Moock is committed to celebrating the roots of American music while knocking down the walls between different audiences, genres and musical traditions. He has toured throughout the U.S. and Europe, playing everything from nightclubs to theaters to schoolrooms. Like his boyhood hero Woody Guthrie, Moock believes in the power of music to reach all people — young and old, far and wide, for all occasions.



SOCIAL JUSTICE & MUSIC HISTORY PROGRAMS

Playing with Tradition Assembly (Grades PreK-3)

American folk music, like all folk music, is rooted in tradition. But the form is constantly evolving, with songwriters reworking older songs to tell new stories. In this lively, upbeat performance full of participatory singing and dancing, Alastair introduces young students to a diverse group of American musicians who have used folk music to teach lessons, chronicle history, champion causes, celebrate victories and simply make people happy. Students will meet Woody Guthrie, Mississippi John Hurt, Pete Seeger, and other heroes of American folk, and learn how Dr. King and others used the American song tradition to help inspire change during the Civil Rights movement. Alastair also sings some of his own playful compositions to show how a contemporary folk singer incorporates the folk tradition into his life and work.

Singing Their Way Through Assembly (Grades 3-5)

Using a combination of original and historical material, Alastair demonstrates the ways in which American music has been used to inspire courage and fuel broader social movements. Students will learn how Woody Guthrie grew into a champion for workers’ rights, how Dr. King used music in his fight to end segregation, how Bob Dylan used song craft to protest an unpopular war, and how Alastair and his daughter turned a personal journey through cancer into an uplifting album for “the world’s bravest kids.” Students will sing, laugh, and learn important lessons about their nation’s past.

Music and Social Change Assembly (Grades 5-12)

In this, the most detailed of Alastair’s programs on social justice, students are introduced to the music that shaped and connected three of America’s most important movements for social change: the Labor Rights Movement, the Civil Rights Movement, and the Anti-War Movement of the ‘60s and ‘70s. Through Moock’s narrative storytelling and musical talents, and an engaging visual presentation, students journey from the Great Depression through the unrest of the Civil Rights and Vietnam eras, learning about the impact of music and arts on society during these critical time periods, and making connections between American history and the world we live in today. Students will walk away with a greater understanding of our country and its culture.

LANGUAGE ARTS PROGRAMS

The Language of Song Assembly (Grades 3-5)

Alastair brings his guitar and his passion for American folk music to teach students language arts skills in this lively, interactive program. Using well known folk songs, contemporary tunes, and gems from his own catalog, Alastair helps students identify key concepts such as subject, mood, setting, and point of view, and to recognize how writers use rhythm and sonic patterns like rhyme and alliteration to pull in readers (or, in this case, listeners). After singing and discussion, kids put what they've learned to work, helping to craft a new verse for one of Alastair's original songs.



Moock's presentation gives students a fresh perspective on the power and fun of language and leaves them feeling inspired and empowered to express themselves through writing.

"This was one of those experiences I know our students will take with them for the rest of their lives."

– Brian Gellerstein, Music Teacher, Tobin Elementary School

Songwriting 101 Workshop (Grades 3-12)

Alastair teaches students effective writing techniques and literacy skills through fun, one-off group songwriting games that challenge students to build on lyrics of classic American songs and original works.

Build a School Song Residency (Grades 3-5)



Every school needs its own song, or so Alastair believes. Writing an original song from scratch is a wonderful opportunity for students to learn important language arts skills while also engaging in a powerful community-building exercise. Over the course of several sessions, Alastair works with students to brainstorm ideas and then write and perform a song that reflects unique qualities of the school and student body. At the end of the residency, students will have a finished and recorded song, a new appreciation for writing, and an experience they will never forget.

"Unbelievable job! Our kids learned so much and now have their very own school song to take away from the experience."

– Randi Goodwin, PTO President, Glover Elementary School

BOOKING

Please contact Stephanie Rothschild at stephanie@crrproductions.com / 212-421-0592 for scheduling & pricing info. Alastair Moock and Friends are also available for school concerts and fundraiser events.

Complete and current school information at <http://www.moockmusic.com/schools>