



## FEATURE

# MUSIC OF THE STATES: TENNESSEE

*Meets National Core Arts Anchor Standards 7-9, 11*

### OBJECTIVES

- Perceive and analyze artistic work. (*Re7*)
- Interpret intent and meaning in artistic work. (*Re8*)
- Apply criteria to evaluate artistic work. (*Re9*)
- Relate artistic ideas and works with societal, cultural and historical context to deepen understanding. (*Cn11*)

### MATERIALS

- *Music Alive!* magazines (April 2019)
- Computer or mobile device with Internet access

### START

Ask your students to read “Music of the States: Tennessee” on pages 6-9. Then, go over the following highlighted words. **[This reinforces comprehension and vocabulary.]**

**BALLAD**—a slow, sentimental or romantic song

**RURAL**—in, relating to, or characteristic of the countryside rather than the town

**COLLOQUIAL**—used in ordinary or familiar conversation; not formal

**HILLBILLY**—unsophisticated country person; old-fashioned country music

**PROFOUND**—great or intense

**TRIBUTE**—an act, statement, or gift intended to show gratitude, respect or admiration

**HERITAGE**—valued cultural traditions and historic buildings

**PROGRESSIVE**—favoring or promoting change or innovation

**OUTLAW**—a person who has broke the law, especially one who remains a fugitive

**METALCORE**—a fusion genre of music combining extreme metal and punk

**RAG**—music characterized by a syncopated melodic line and regularly accented accompaniment

**INTERCHANGEABLE**—apparently identical; very similar

**SULTRY**—passionate

**MOTOWN**—music released or reminiscent of the US record label Tamla Motown

### SUMMARIZE

**What are the three main cities in Tennessee with a rich musical history?** (Bristol, Nashville, Memphis)

**What genres of music thrive in Tennessee today?** (All genres)

**What genre of music, however, is Tennessee primarily associated with?** (Country)

**Who sang on the first million-selling country music song, “Wreck of the Old 97” in 1922?** (Vernon Dalhart)

**Who was the engineer and producer behind the Bristol Sessions?** (Ralph Peer)

**Which city bears the nickname, “Music City, U.S.A.”?** (Nashville)

**Which city is referred to as “the birthplace of country music”?** (Bristol)

### DEVELOP

#### 1. Play “Wreck of the Old 97” by Vernon Dalhart

- How would you characterize the overall sound of this song?
- What instruments do you hear?
- Is it similar to songs you listen to? Why or why not?
- Do you like this song? Why or why not?

#### 2. Play “The Wandering Boy” by The Carter Family

- What qualities does the vocal track have?
- How does this song make you feel? Why?
- Do you like this song? Why or why not?

#### 3. Play “St. Louis Blues” by Louis Armstrong

- What instruments do you hear throughout the song?
- Close your eyes while you listen. What imagery comes to mind?
- Do you like this song? Why or why not?

### ASSESS

**Did the students read the article?**

**Did they answer the discussion questions?**