

A Review of Intergenerational Music Program Research & Descriptive Articles from 1980 to 2016

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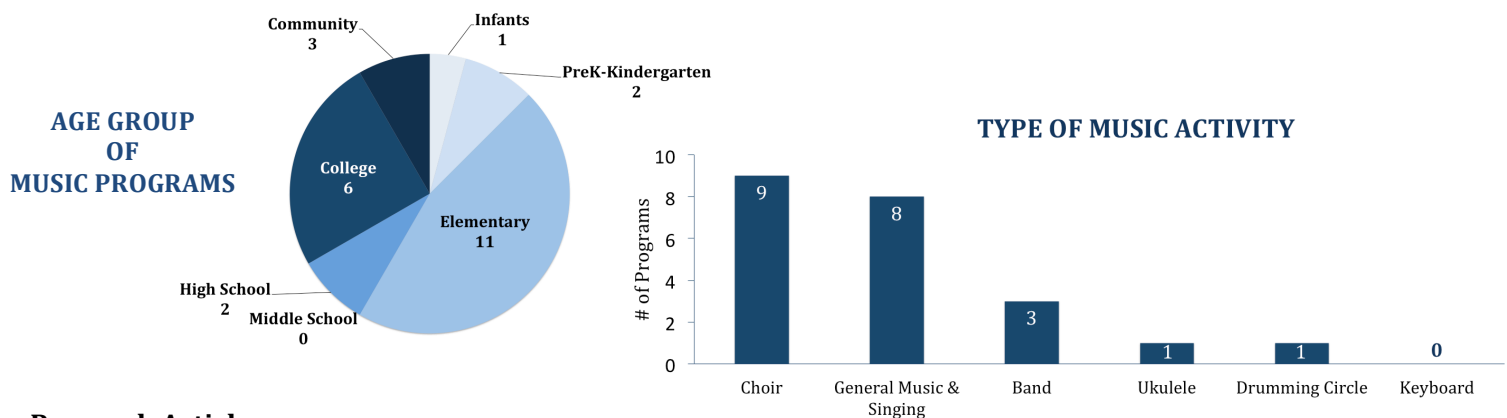
Abstract

In 1981, the National Council on Aging emphasized the need to create strategies toward fostering knowledgeable and empathetic members of society among all generations. Music-based intergenerational programs in the United States gained traction in the 1980s and expanded to Canada, United Kingdom, and Israel in the 1990s. The purpose of this review was to categorize research studies and descriptive publications by age group and music activity to reveal trends related to intergenerational music programs.



Poster

Twenty research and descriptive articles (including two case studies) were identified through the search process. Three dissertations were included. Results by decade: 1980-1989= 3; 1990-1999= 3; 2000-2009= 7; 2010-2016= 10. Results by type: Descriptive= 13; Experimental= 10. Articles were categorized based on the following age group parameters: Elementary= 1st-6th, Middle School= 7th-9th, High School= 10th-12th. In the categorization of type of music activity, *General Music & Singing* is defined as music activities including singing, movement, and use of percussion instruments. The results from selected publications highlighting the various benefits of intergenerational music programs are presented on the poster.



Research Articles

- Bales, S. S., Eklund, S. J., & Siffin, C. F. (2000). Children's perceptions of elders before and after a school-based intergenerational program. *Educational Gerontology*, 26(7), 677-689. <https://doi.org/10.1080/03601270050200662>
- Belgrave, M. (2011). The effect of a music therapy intergenerational program on children and older adults' intergenerational interactions, cross-age attitudes, and older adults' psychosocial well-being. *Journal of Music Therapy*, 48(4), 486-508. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jmt/48.4.486>
- Belgrave, M. (2012). Implementing music therapy-based intergenerational programs in the community. *The International Journal of the Arts in Society: Annual Review*, 6(6), 1-10. <https://doi.org/10.18848/1833-1866/CGP/v06i06/36109>
- Bowers, J. (1998). Effects of an intergenerational choir for community-based seniors and college students on age-related attitudes. *Journal of Music Therapy*, 35(1), 2-18. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jmt/35.1.2>
- Darrow, A.-A., Johnson, C. M., & Ollenberger, T. (1994). The effect of participation in an intergenerational choir on teens' and older persons' cross-age attitudes. *Journal of Music Therapy*, 31(3), 119-134. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jmt/31.2.119>
- St. John, P. A. (2009). Growing up and growing old: Communities in counterpoint. *Early Child Development and Care*, 179(6), 733-746. <https://doi.org/10.1080/03004430902944882>

Varvarigou, M., Creech, A., Hallam, S., & McQueen, H. (2011). Bringing different generations together in music-making: An intergenerational music project in East London. *International Journal of Community Music*, 4(3), 207–220. https://doi.org/10.1386/ijcm.4.3.207_1

VanWeelden, K., & Whipple, J. (2004). Effect of field experiences on music therapy students' perceptions of choral music for geriatric wellness programs. *Journal of Music Therapy*, 41(4), 340–352. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jmt/41.4.340>

Descriptive Articles

Carpenter, S. (2015). Intergenerational music outreach: Institute for music and health, Verbank, New York. *Journal of Intergenerational Relationships*, 13(2), 182–187. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15350770.2015.1026021>

Conway, C., & Hodgman, T. M. (2008). College and community choir member experiences in a collaborative intergenerational performance project. *Journal of Research in Music Education*, 56(3), 220–237. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/40204928>

DeVore, S., & Aeschlimann, E. (2016). Song partners for kindergartens: an intergenerational program in switzerland. *Journal of Intergenerational Relationships*, 14(1), 60–64. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15350770.2016.1138275>

Frego, R. J. D. (1995). Uniting the generations with music programs. *Music Educators Journal*, 81(6), 17–55. <https://doi.org/10.2307/3398776>

Friedman, B. (1988). Intergenerational celebrations. *Educational Leadership*, 45(8), 52–55.

de Vries, P. (2012). Intergenerational music making: A phenomenological study of three older Australians making music with children. *Journal of Research in Music Education*, 59(4), 339–356. <http://www.jstor.org/stable/41348842>

Cusicanqui, M., & Salmon, R. (2005). Seniors, small fry, and song. *Journal of Gerontological Social Work*, 44(1–2), 189–210. https://doi.org/10.1300/J083v44n01_11

Kruse, N. (2013). “Without U, it’s just kulele’: Expressions of leisure and ‘ohana in an intergenerational ukulele club. *International Journal of Community Music*, 6(2), 153–167. https://doi.org/10.1386/ijcm.6.2.153_1

Lane, J. S. (2012). Engaging preservice music teachers with adult amateur musicians. *International Journal of Community Music*, 5(3), 317–322. https://doi.org/10.1386/ijcm.5.3.317_1

Onishi, P. C. (2014). Drumming for community building: the development of the Community Drumming Network (CDN) and its impact in Singapore society. *International Journal of Community Music*, 7(3), 299–317. https://doi.org/10.1386/ijcm.7.3.299_1

Sattler, G. (2013). Playing outside the generational square: The intergenerational impact of adult group music learning activities on the broader community. *International Journal of Community Music*, 6(3), 311–320. https://doi.org/10.1386/ijcm.6.3.311_1

Wilder, B. G. (1985). Singing bridges the age gap. *Music Educators Journal*, 71(7), 34–36. <https://doi.org/10.2307/3396449>

Dissertations

Alfano, C. J. (2008). *Seniors’ participation in an intergenerational music learning program* (Doctoral dissertation). Retrieved from ProQuest Digital Dissertations. (Order No. NR66282)

Leitner, M. J. (1981). *The effects of intergenerational music activities on senior day care participants and elementary school children* (Doctoral dissertation). University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland.

Winston, S. D. (2007). *A descriptive study of an intergenerational beginning instrumental music instruction program for elementary school girls and well elderly adults* (Doctoral dissertation). Retrieved from Proquest Digital Dissertations. (3292929)



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