ACTIVITY: CREATE A SOUNDTRACK FOR A TV SHOW OR BOOK!

RECOMMENDED AGE: 10 and up

TIME: 10 – 30 minutes

SET-UP: None

SUPPLIES:

- **Something to write with (paper and pencil, or computer/tablet)**
- **Internet access**

What does a Sound Designer do? The Sound Designer has a very important role in theatre. They are responsible for creating the sound effects and music heard throughout the show. Sometimes that is the sound of a phone ringing or a bird chirping and other times it is a giant thunderstorm, airplanes, or something other-worldly. The sound designer also supports the action of the play with music.

Try being a sound designer by creating a soundtrack!

INSTRUCTIONS

Imagine your favorite book is being turned into a play and you are the Sound Designer. Your job is to create the soundtrack. A soundtrack is all of the music that would be included in a play or movie. Sometimes the music will highlight powerful emotional moments, create drama or surprise, or used for comedic effect.

1. Select the book you are going to soundtrack, and identify the main character.

2. Write down in order the most important moments of the book. Think about different plot elements such as Rising Action, Climax, and Resolution. For more information, check out this website:
https://www.nps.gov/mora/learn/education/upload/background-elements-of-literature_sr.pdf
Or this YouTube video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SvFB6XVbSAY

3. After you have the important moments identified, select 3-5 of these that you will highlight with music. Think about the mood or the feeling you want to express. Is it exciting? Is it mysterious? Is the character feeling worried, lonely, or hopeful? Write down a few words to describe the mood or feeling that you want your music to support.

4. Start looking for music. Try searching for music based on the mood you identified in the last step, and find a song or piece of music that captures that feeling.

5. Build a playlist of the songs you have selected.
   a) Instructions on how to create a playlist on YouTube:
      https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/57792?co=GENIE.Platform%3DDesktop&hl=en

   b) Instructions on how to create a playlist on Spotify:
      https://support.spotify.com/us/using_spotify/playlists/create-a-playlist/

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