



Dr. Monte Selby

from MDM Records, Nashville

Education's Songwriter

Dr. MONTE SELBY is a **songwriter** with over 100 published songs for adults and kids. As a **recording artist** with MDM Records, Nashville, his CDs include legendary and Grammy-winning musicians, songwriters and producers. He loves helping all ages of learners, has a Doctorate Degree in education, and is the **co-author** of eight books. His **comical** and **inspiring** performances leave audiences laughing, singing, and applauding across North America and Europe. Music Row Magazine describes his songs as “*a delightful variety*” - “*astonishing*” - “*Wow!*”

This document includes:

| | |
|--------------|--|
| page 2 | Biographical Information |
| page 3 | Kudos and Comments |
| page 4 | Featured Speaker Experience |
| page 5 | Keynote Descriptions |
| page 6, 7, 8 | Workshop Descriptions |
| page 9, 10 | Parent, Community, Student Presentations |
| page 11, 12 | Recommendations and reviews |

Dr. Monte Selby's distinctive work spans over two decades, affecting educators from North America, South America, Europe, and Asia. He is widely popular for his practical, humorous, and engaging presentations—the keynote speaker for dozens of state, national, and international conferences—but is perhaps best known for his music. As a critically acclaimed songwriter and recording artist, he shares comical and insightful music for children, parents, and educators. His musical endeavors (featured on network television, radio, pod casts, websites, original stage productions, and videos) are cultivated from an award-winning career as a teacher, principal, and professor.

Monte's contributions as an author and co-author include numerous articles and a leadership column for Middle Ground magazine. Books from Incentive Publications connect music and practical educational strategies: ***Bricks and Bridges: Bridging the Gap to At-risk Youth*** (book/CD with 300 pages of activities and printable materials for students and staff); ***Because You Teach*** (book/CD of innovative staff development activities); ***Middle School Matters*** (book/CD of engaging classroom learning activities); and ***That's What I Need!*** (book/CD using music to help students practice six trait writing). Exciting new books from Frog Street Press include ***Don't Eat Cactus Cookies: Music, Movement, and More for Early Language Learners*** and ***How Does It Do What It Does: Music, Movement, and Hand-on Science***. A sing-along book/CD for pre-schoolers published by Street Singer Books is titled, ***Sounds Like The Truth***. The 2010 book titled ***Wiped Out!*** is a comical book and CD for every parent or teacher who has ever heard a child scream, "Wipe Me!"

Monte's most recent CD is titled, ***Chit Chat Chase the Cat***. It includes Monte's all-time best original songs - according to kindergarten kids. ***In the Teacher's Lounge***, is Monte's 5th album (MDM Records, Nashville) written specifically for teachers and parents. His music features a long list of Grammy Award winning and #1 hit songwriters, top studio musicians, noteworthy producers, and talented young student writers!

Monte lives in Colorado with his wife Michelle and their children.

THIS YEAR? Look for Monte's inspiring conference **keynote** presentations and **practical breakout sessions**, addressing thousands of educators internationally. He will **motivate staff** at back-to-school events in August and "jump start" attitudes in February! **Dynamic training sessions** will focus on strategies to maintain **high morale**, skills to create **unforgettable, engaging learning** environments for students, and many other topics.

Artist-in-residence engagements will highlight the brilliance of elementary through high school students as they **write and record** meaningful songs with Monte. Enjoy watching students explore effective writing, music production, and high-energy school assemblies. Don't miss the culminating public concert that draws hundreds of parents and community patrons. Students, parents, and educators will create fun, powerful, and lasting **memories!**

What educators say about Monte Selby:

“I attended the NSMA Concert and was blown away” *Belinda from Australia*

“This session was way beyond excellent. Wow!” *Atlanta Conference session evaluation*

“The most engaging guest presentation I’ve ever seen” *Missouri Elementary principal*

“I have never written a fan letter in my life, but I feel compelled to let you know how much I enjoy listening to your CD *My Dad Is A Supt.* I find the songs, not only delightful, but several of them are enduring pieces that extend beyond education. Your singing is a treat and if that's your brother Mark's lead guitar work, tell him it's super” *Jeff from Michigan*

“Greetings from Moscow, Russia! Hope that you had a restful trip home. The five of us returned with renewed spirit thanks to the many things you said that inspired us. I just finished listening to your *Peer Pressure* CD which was truly wonderful. I couldn't stop crying during the "Look Me In The Eye" song. It was as if you were singing about me, to me and for me and so from the bottom of my heart I THANK you!!!! It was as if you went inside my head and brought out my thoughts about living in a wheelchair, and how all people including adults tend to be intimidated with those of us who are "different". Keep doing the work that you are doing – you are awe inspiring. *Nicole from Moscow*

“Just got to hear Monte for the first time! What a great experience” *Jeb from Alabama*

“I recently ordered all three CD's and they came in yesterday. While listening to all of them, I laughed, cried, howled, deeply soul searched, questioned myself, praised the job educators do, etc. Your music touched every emotion this principal has.... Keep it up. You're a gifted songwriter and storyteller” *Sue from Arkansas*

“He is a "heavy hitter" in addressing middle school issues. From laughter to very serious ... all through his music” *Clarke from Virginia*

“Outstanding ideas on how to motivate staff” *Mark from Wisconsin*

“Thanks for your inspiring performance yesterday! I wish I could have had a chance to visit with you but you were surrounded by your fans! ... Anyway, your message on Sunday was terrific! I firmly believe in everything you talk about. ... Thanks again for a wonderful presentation. You are NUMBER ONE in my book!” *Tom from California*

“Only someone who has worked with kids in a school setting could possibly have put those songs together. I was so impressed by your ability to put words so succinctly and "hit the target", song after song. Your ability to play the guitar and your voice –there's no other word than - WOW!!” *Sheila from Utah*

“Wow, you did indeed pull out the stops! It was terrific. I've heard a lot of positive comments in the past week. Thanks for going above and beyond expectations to pull together such a tremendously talented group of people” *Jim from Indiana*

Featured Presentations by Monte Selby include:

National SDE Kindergarten, Las Vegas, **NEVADA** ▪ National Character Education, Huntsville, **CANADA** ▪ European League of Middle Level Ed Conference, Stockholm, **SWEDEN** ▪ NAESP National Convention, Anaheim, **CALIFORNIA** ▪ NMSA National Conf, Atlanta, **GEORGIA** & Minneapolis, **MINNESOTA** ▪ NASSP National Conv, Orlando, **FLORIDA** and Phoenix, **ARIZONA** ▪ National PTA Conf, Nashville, **TENNESSEE** ▪ European Congress of American Parents, Teachers, and Students Conv, **GERMANY** ▪ Director's Conf, Lindsay, Ontario, **CANADA** ▪ National Business Ed Assoc. Conf, Chicago, **ILLINOIS** ▪ NMSA Leadership Institutes, Williamsburg, **VIRGINIA** and Whistler, BC, **CANADA** ▪ National Student LEAD Conferences Chicago, **ILLINOIS** and Phoenix, **ARIZONA** ▪ Institute for Middle Level Leadership, Rock Hill, **SOUTH CAROLINA** ▪ AASSP Conv, **ALABAMA** ▪ Kansas Assoc. for Youth State Conf, Rock Springs, **KANSAS** ▪ Middle Level Nuts & Bolts Conf, Boulder, **COLORADO** and Destin, **FLORIDA** ▪ Personnel Institute, Pomona, **CALIFORNIA** ▪ Council on Rural Special Ed, National Conf, **SOUTH CAROLINA** ▪ Staff Dev, Waldo County, **MAINE** ▪ Staff Dev, Portsmouth, **OHIO** ▪ I/D/E/A Conf, Atlanta, **GEORGIA**, Claremont, **CALIFORNIA**, Green Bay, **WISCONSIN**, Denver, **COLORADO** ▪ A Kaleidoscope of Learning, Cedar Rapids, **IOWA** ▪ Staff Dev, Hoover City Schools, **ALABAMA** ▪ Staff Dev, Niantic, **CONNECTICUT** ▪ Staff Dev, Newkirk, **OKLAHOMA** ▪ IRA Regional Conf, Topeka, **KANSAS** ▪ Michigan Assoc. of School Admin, Traverse City, **MICHIGAN** ▪ Assoc. of California School Admin. Region VII, Sparks, **NEVADA** ▪ School Age Child Care, Lee Summit, **MISSOURI** ▪ Secretaries Conference, **MINNESOTA** ▪ Artist Residency, Mountain Pine, **ARKANSAS** ▪ Staff Dev, Ventnor, **NEW JERSEY** ▪ Staff Dev, Rossville, **INDIANA** ▪ AIU #8 Staff Dev, Altoona, **PENNSYLVANIA** ▪ DODDS schools, **ENGLAND** ▪ SADD State Conf, **KANSAS** ▪ Assoc. of Ed Service Agencies, National Conf, Phoenix, **ARIZONA** ▪ Content Academy, Harrisonburg, **VIRGINIA** ▪ Florida League of Middle Schools, Gainesville, **FLORIDA** ▪ Artist in Residence, Greenfield, **INDIANA** ▪ Artist in Residence, Walla Walla, **WASHINGTON** ▪ Artist in Residence, Williston, **NORTH DAKOTA** ▪ Teaching the Transescent Conf, **WISCONSIN** ▪ School Attendance Conference, **CONNECTICUT** ▪ Keys School District, Modesto, **CALIFORNIA** ▪ Staff Dev, **KANSAS** School for the Deaf ▪ ACSA Region VII Classified Ed. Leaders, Modesto, **CALIFORNIA** ▪ Intermediate Unit Directors Conf, **NEBRASKA** ▪ Douglas County ESD, Roseburg, **OREGON** ▪ Special Kids, Special Needs Conf., Ames, **IOWA** ▪ Artist in Residence, Mequon, **WISCONSIN** ▪ Staff Dev, Huntington, **TEXAS** ▪ Hamilton County ESC, Cincinnati, **OHIO** ▪ Western Kentucky Ed Coop Institute, Nashville, **TENNESSEE** ▪ Department of Ed, Charleston, **WEST VIRGINIA** ▪ Allegheny Intermediate Unit Conf, Pittsburgh, **PENNSYLVANIA** ▪ Midwest Ed Leadership Conf, **MISSOURI** ▪ Ohio Valley Leaders, **KENTUCKY** ▪ Elem Principals State Conf, **ARKANSAS** ▪ 8th Grade Days, Oakley, **KANSAS** ▪ State PTA Conf: **ILLINOIS**, **KANSAS**, **COLORADO** ▪ DODDS schools, **GERMANY** ▪ **SOUTH CENTRAL** Assoc. of Elem Principals Conf ▪ 8th Grade Leaders Academy, **IOWA** ▪ Future Teachers Academy, Emporia, **KANSAS** ▪ Staff Dev, Marshall, **MINNESOTA** ▪ NMSA – Pre-Con, Portland, **OREGON** ▪ C/A BOCES Curr. Camp, **NEW YORK** ▪ Middle School Conf, Provo, **UTAH** ▪ Assoc of WI School Admin, Wisconsin Dells, **WISCONSIN** ▪ ATPE Austin, **TEXAS** ▪ Middle Level Conferences: **HAWAII**, **FLORIDA**, **ARKANSAS**, **OHIO**, **VIRGINIA**, **INDIANA**, **KANSAS**, **MICHIGAN**, **NORTH CAROLINA**, **PENNSYLVANIA**, **NEW YORK**, **MISSISSIPPI**, **OKLAHOMA**, **MISSOURI**, **TEXAS**, **SOUTH CAROLINA**, **MINNESOTA**, **KENTUCKY**, **NEW ENGLAND**, **ALBERTA**, **BRITISH COLUMBIA**, ▪ State PTA: **ILLINOIS**, **KANSAS**, **COLORADO** ▪ Plus, Staff Development, Conferences, Assemblies, Concerts and Artist Residencies throughout much of **NORTH AMERICA**.

LARGE GROUP KEYNOTE EXAMPLES

Monte's keynote addresses are typically utilized at conferences, back-to-school events, and mid-year motivational sessions. He will help establish a clear focus on children, and the potential educators have for positive impact. The songs, stories and activities share common themes of optimism, courage, and the critical need for fun and laughter. He reaffirms that individuals can make a difference, and relates valuable concepts that help promote professional effectiveness.

KEYNOTE EXAMPLES:

Creating a Best Day Ever

Monte Selby will use humor, interaction, a bit of research, and critically acclaimed original music to explore the importance of creating a vision for a "Best Day Ever." Selby is an experienced teacher, principal, professor, and father of four who believes that educational staff having a great day can change a student's educational experience forever.

The Intellect of Laughter and Optimism

The importance of laughter and optimism are sometimes dismissed by those who believe "some people are just born with it." Monte Selby disagrees. He establishes the importance of laughter and optimism, and then offers strategies that positively impact the learning environment.

A Road Trip with Oz and Ozzy

A trip down the yellow brick road reveals the importance of relationships, the engagement of learning adventures, and unexpected lessons from Oz. The most watched movie of all time also challenges educators to look at students through a different lens. Monte Selby offers a unique perspective on the power educators have to impact students, and in the process, as Ozzy encourages, always trying to better ourselves.

Unlocking Creativity, Collaboration, and Connections

As schools continually search for new approaches to improve student learning and engage reluctant learners, the need to build stronger connections, unlock creativity and build collaborative environments becomes critical to lasting success. Join Monte Selby, a veteran teacher, principal, and professor who is deeply immersed in the creative world of songwriting, performing, and recording with some of the best in the business. He'll shed light on the subject through humor, interaction, a bit of research, and critically acclaimed original music.

The Power of Music: Student Voices for a Better World

Music has conveyed both the beauty and challenge of human existence for countless generations. Now, students all over the globe are raising their voices through music, expressing a desire for kindness and respect in a better world. Monte Selby has the privilege of collaborating with thousands of students, creating hundreds of insightful and entertaining songs. Using their own words, these students affect learning and behavior at school!

MONTE SELBY SESSIONS FOR EDUCATORS

Monte Selby has provided staff development training and conference break-out sessions throughout the United States. He will personalize every session for each particular group. All sessions are engaging, interactive, and focused on practical applications.

Using Music to Differentiate Learning in Any Subject

Inject the amazing power of music into your instruction to engage reluctant, challenged and gifted learners—even if you don't have a musical bone in your body! Learn how to organize, transition, and end lessons with music and to differentiate content, instruction & assessment. Gain practical examples and strategies, from easy to intense, along with a personal action plan.

Developing Responsibility and Respect

We all want students to take more responsibility. When schools simply increase rules and add harsher punishments, the result is often frustrated teachers and angry students. This session is for those who want to combine proactive and reactive strategies that "teach" responsibility and reduce misbehavior. Monte will address the "first time offender", as well as the more "behaviorally challenged".

Maintaining Morale in Tough Times

Hello Morale: Goodbye Blues? Maintaining morale in tough times is not easy! Truly meaningful efforts to improve schools are time consuming, stress inducing, and promote conflict. In this session, participants explore options (and skills) for keeping the learning and teaching environment healthy (and fun) in ways that support school improvement and preserve teacher sanity! Bring a pencil and enthusiasm, leave with a personalized action plan.

Welcome to an Unforgettable Classroom

Teachers love practical, ready-to-use, high-engagement strategies to impact learning, behavior, and character. Come explore powerful academic, social, and leadership activities that require deep thinking, movement, research, respect, interaction, music and laughter! Researchers declare that many students claim "boring" as their favorite adjective for describing school. More researchers shed light on why many capable students drop out of school. Educators of all subject areas and grade levels will leave this session with practical ideas to create healthy, welcoming, non-boring and "unforgettable" classrooms.

Differentiating Parental Involvement

About 63 million American adults volunteered time to an organization last year. We can lure a few more of those volunteers to help us when we differentiate options that help adults connect with the academic lives of students. Research and common sense both support the need for a positive connection between educators and parents. This session describes powerful school-wide and classroom strategies that involve parents in meaningful and empowering ways.

Bricks and Bridges: Engaging Secondary At-risk Students

In this session, participants will create a renewed vision of hope and receive valuable information that will transform the connection between teachers and the at-risk youth in their classrooms. Educators can expect to be challenged, interact, and laugh, while ultimately gaining practical skills to guide a school staff toward engaging their most at-risk youth.

Engaging the Young At-risk Learner

Too noisy, too wiggly, too disruptive, too angry or too disengaged? Hot off the press is a 30 year longitudinal study that supports what we all know - a young student who lacks self-control is much more likely as an adult to face health, legal, family, and job problems. Yelling and punishments seldom work. This session is full of strategies to help your off-task students engage and learn. Help your students gain skills that improve your chances of a good day, and their chances for a good life!

Personalization and High Engagement

Consider the implications of bringing two of your least favorite lessons and leaving with them as your own model for personalization and high engagement instruction. You bring the lessons and a pencil. Monte Selby will bring great handouts, a high energy presentation packed with strategies, and a personalized process for transforming your least favorite lessons. Coffee, music, and fun also provided!

Planning Your Back-to-School Events

Despite the legends of "those adolescent years", we can help students and parents create some of their best school memories together. Monte Selby brings practical ideas from around North America - plus stories, songs, strategies, and a bit of research to help make this year's kick-off events powerful and engaging. Don't miss this chance to laugh, think, and prepare a personalized action plan!

Emotions. This crazy kid is making me crazy!

Mad. Sad. Happy. Some students have a limited emotional vocabulary - a limited understanding of expressions and a limited range of responses. They overreact (act out), thinking someone who is frustrated or serious is mad (because they're not smiling). This causes problems for the student, classmates, and adults. Practical strategies can help all students increase emotional perceptiveness, options for expressions, and healthy, successful behaviors for responding to a wide range of emotion.

Reflection

After writing over 100 "how do we change the world" songs with middle school students, Monte Selby shares ten of the very best from around North America. He'll discuss strategies to promote student reflection, and how educators are reflecting on student insight to change schools. This is not about the ideal student leader. Rather, it is about finding the voice within distracted and disconnected students who can help us clarify a stronger vision for our schools.

Motivated Meetings: The End of Boring!

Wake up! Yes, we've all been to meetings and asked, "Why did we have this meeting?" Frustration levels rise quickly when small or large group meetings become whining sessions, little is accomplished, or the same person makes the same long speech on the same topic! On the contrary, it IS possible to have staff development and meetings that target current educational issues with innovative, collaborative, engaging activities and resources. Yes, a staff meeting CAN energize educators while they learn. Team meetings, curriculum meetings, and other staff gatherings are opportunities to model best practices for classrooms. Join Monte Selby for a musical, fun, involved session and leave with ideas, skills, and a few good laughs!

Redefining Student Voice and Leadership

Some schools involve students and staff in ways that move leadership from a "position" to an "action" for everyone. In those locations, students problem solve and do a better job of improving their school. Come explore strategies that reduce apathy, disrespect, powerlessness, and annoying levels of whining!

The Beat of the Brain

No musical bones in your body? Yet, you know that music holds the power to engage reluctant, challenged, or gifted learners. Powerful research supports the notion that music is more than singing and dancing. For many students, music is the rhythmic soul of learning. Come learn how every educator can unlock the magic of music to increase learning, reduce misbehavior, motivate, and improve writing skills. Explore practical strategies from schools where students write music to promote respect and responsibility in classrooms, hallways, activities, and leadership groups. Learn why that favorite old tune from The Beatles or Hank Williams remains stuck in your head - and how to use the "Beat of the Brain" at school.

How Do You Write A Good Song?

Are you a beginning or wanna-be songwriter? Many educators would like to "record" their personal or professional experiences - or perhaps want to connect classroom content to a memorable "assessment-proof" tune. With user-friendly software available, even those without formal music training are enjoying new ways to create music. Monte Selby helps teachers improve lyrics, melody, and structure. He'll share basic songwriting tips, a few insights regarding how hit songwriters make songs desirable for radio (and our brain), and how to avoid typical mistakes that result in songs only a mother could love.

Upper Elementary Six Trait Songwriters

Most upper elementary students carry an amazing song catalog in their heads and hearts. They know kid songs, 60's hits, pop, hip hop and more. The human brain loves the structure of a song - presenting an avenue to unlock an understanding of powerful writing for many reluctant or gifted writers. Kids "get it" when it comes to music. This session is packed full of strategies and materials, demonstrating how to develop motivated and skilled six trait songwriters!

Don't Eat Cactus Cookies - The Rhythm of Literacy

Come have fun with Dr. Monte Selby as he shares music and activities from his high-energy book and music published by Frog Street Press. Leave with great ideas for all preK - 2nd grade early language learners. Plan to move and groove, explore hands-on learning activities, share ideas, and examine innovative ways to engage young students (including the most reluctant). Explore dynamic ways music can be used to promote word play, phonemic awareness, creative rhyme development, numbers, colors, etc. - while promoting a respectful, polite learning environment. No musical talent required!

How Does It Do What It Does?

This session is loaded with preK - 2nd grade science activities that are ready for a fun, rockin', dynamic classroom! Monte and Michelle Selby joined forces with author Jill Norris to take science standards into the realm of "cool". The songs are embedded with critical concepts, recorded with world-class musicians, and filled with humor and movement that kids love. The activities are hands-on and ready to use. Take a deep breath and get ready for an action-packed session!

Memorable Staff Development

Is it possible to target current educational issues with innovative, collaborative, engaging activities and resources? Can a staff meeting energize educators while they learn? Monte Selby will model use of staff development activities and music using the dynamic book from Incentive Publications titled: *Because You Teach*. Participants can expect a musical, fun, involved session and will leave with ideas, skills, and a few good laughs!

More Monte Selby Music

Need a chance to relax and reflect? Join Monte for some of his most introspective and revealing songs. Monte will share what inspired each song, perform "unplugged", then entertain questions and comments.

SPECIAL EVENT OPTIONS**Creating an Event Theme Song**

Conference and staff development planners often utilize Monte's writing talents to create a dynamic and personalized closure to the day. He talks to participants about current educational issues and ideas, group nuances and themes – and then transforms those thoughts to song. Often accompanied by projected digital photos or video, this approach has turned the dreaded "closing time" into an inspiring and fun end-of-event highlight.

Around the Campfire

When a group needs an evening to relax, reflect, and rejuvenate, plan for an informal social time with Monte and his guitar - "unplugged". He'll perform some of his most humorous, introspective and revealing songs. He can share the story behind the song, and entertain questions and comments.

Songwriters on the Edge!

Need a fun, large group social activity? Round up the staff and join Monte Selby, a top-notch educator and recording artists who has been writing and performing songs about schools for over two decades. It might start with a great story about kids, teachers, parents, or administrators. Perhaps it begins with teachers brainstorming a funny song title that needs a verse and chorus? Be prepared to laugh till it hurts...

Keynote Q & A

Monte Selby's keynote address holds important implications for instruction, relationship building, school morale, and daily student interactions. This Q & A session offers an open forum to participants who want to discuss issues, ask for specific practical applications, or simply request a favorite song!

PARENTS and COMMUNITY**The Best Years: Speaking to Parents**

Despite the legends of "those middle school years", students and parents can create some of their best memories together between elementary and high school. Monte Selby has a few practical ideas, stories, songs, strategies, and a bit of research to support the idea that these can be some of the very best years. Don't miss this chance to laugh, think, and prepare!

The Community Celebration Concert

After writing songs with students at school, this evening concert is a chance to bring together the community to celebrate the world premiere performance of the students' songs. It will feature additional songs that support the importance of education and the power of adult involvement in every student's life.

PRESENTATIONS FOR STUDENTS**Middle and High School Conferences and School Assemblies**

Large group presentations provide an opportunity for Monte to utilize music, humor, activities, and interaction to help students consider healthy choices, peer interactions, bullying, etc.

Early Childhood and Elementary Assemblies

Younger students love the chance to join Monte in singing traditional and original songs. While juggling basketballs, exploring varied instruments, and "role-playing", Monte playfully guides students to consider issues regarding homework, being a good friend, learning from mistakes, healthy attitudes, and more. And yes, he closes his super-high-energy assembly with a quiet and focused sing-along that prepares students for a quiet return to the classroom!

Composer in Residence

*** Please go to www.monteselby.com/ArtWeek2011.pdf for detailed information.

This comprehensive program requires extensive planning, connecting writing skills and character education themes with school assemblies and community concerts. Monte will work “in the classroom” with grade 3-12 students. Using his co-writing experiences with hit songwriters, he will help students see how their writing can be improved by looking at the craft of writing songs. Students collaborate “on the spot” to create a song, and then relate effective songwriting skills to their classroom essays, poetry, and other compositions. A well planned event (sometimes a full week) often draws the support of local television and print media.

Preparing for the Transition

Students preparing to transition from elementary to middle or high school often have particular fears, questions, and false perceptions. Monte’s full-day event helps students sort out fact from fiction, and focus on strategies that tend to make transitions much more successful. This is not a lecture. Instead, the activities, music, and interaction provide opportunities for students to laugh, reflect, and consider personal choices that impact future success.

We Don’t Do That Here! (Addressing Bullying)

Music, interaction, and powerful analogies help students see their role in stopping bullying in this high energy presentation. Much of the music is written with students around the United States - carrying a very clear message about what students do and don’t want at school.

Solving Problems without Whining!

Many students lack skills to move from “whining” to active problem solving. Monte helps students practice brainstorming school strengths/concerns, prioritizing issues, creating strategies, and organizing for implementation and evaluation. Students develop a unique plan and understand a process for initiating positive change - determining who does what by when.

Open Music Forum

Schools can arrange for Monte to spend time with students who have a particular interest in music and/or writing. Students role-play a “music industry” game, as they explore how songwriters make money, get published, improve musicianship skills, etc.

A SAMPLE NOTE HOME

Don't miss our Friday evening concert with Monte Selby! This concert will be the “world premier” of “hits” he has written with our students this week. A Nashville recording artist (MDM Records), he is a critically acclaimed singer/songwriter/guitarist who shares comical and insightful music for children, parents, and educators. His musical endeavors (featured internationally on network television, radio, pod casts, websites, conferences, original stage productions, and videos) are cultivated from an award-winning career as a teacher, principal, and professor. Monte comes from a family of #1 hit songwriters and stand-out musicians, so it's no surprise audiences rave about his concerts, keynote addresses, school assemblies, and classroom writing sessions. Get ready to laugh, sing, and enjoy an unforgettable evening of original live music!

RECOMMENDATION

(This comment comes from the school principal following a week as Composer-in-Residence)

Monte Selby's enthusiasm and passion is contagious.....In Monte's presence, students quickly understood that he cared about them as individuals and challenged them to be successful in school and life. Finally, our community of parents and business leaders who attended our community events were not only entertained but appreciated his mission to connect to each person in a special way and bring about an excitement for life itself.

Our week's theme was "Making the World a Better Place." During this week, his generosity to share his many talents allowed me to utilize his talents literally from sun up until sun down. His energy and commitment allowed our school to accomplish activities and programs that well surpassed my expectations. He worked with teachers, conducted school assemblies, appeared on our school and local news shows, sponsored staff professional development sessions, "jammed" with all vocal and instrumental music students, worked individually and with groups of students to compose, perform and record songs, organized and performed evening concerts for the staff and community spotlighting student talent (both in song writing and performance), and visited elementary schools to share music, energy, and smiles. Throughout the week, our students would come up to him in the hallway or classroom and ask for him to read their writings. He not only accepted but would get back to them with feedback. It was amazing!

Monte Makes Duke TIP Memories

By Marcia Law (Kansas Association for the Gifted, Talented & Creative newsletter)

The first Sunday in June has been Duke TIP recognition for the past few years. ... Why, you ask, would 500 kids and their parents be so willing to go so far so early in the morning? The answer is simple-Monte Selby will be there. Just as always, the laughter and merriment begins as soon as he picks up his guitar, with young teens laughing about school, their parents, and even themselves. He is instantly captivating, weaving stories about himself and youngsters (including his own) with light-hearted yet intensely thought provoking songs. It's almost magical as the entire audience soon becomes of one mind-that of a middle-schooler. Parents happily grin and nod in agreement as he reminisces about awkwardness, hormones and looking for ways to fit in. The kids are delighted to know they are not alone with the same feelings yet seemingly surprised to find mom and dad had those thoughts as well..... The ovations began as soon as he finished. We were now left to remember his discerning messages. All seemed to have loudly clapped; many lingered for an autograph, and several purchased his CD. Educators describe this exceptional Emporia State professor as 'motivating, practical, and thought provoking'. But on Duke TIP Sunday, Monte Selby was simply "awesome" and "way cool."