

Holidays in Perfect Harmony

"Winter Wonderland"

"Jingle Bells"

"Little Jack Frost (Get Lost)"

"Miniature Overture" from *The Nutcracker*

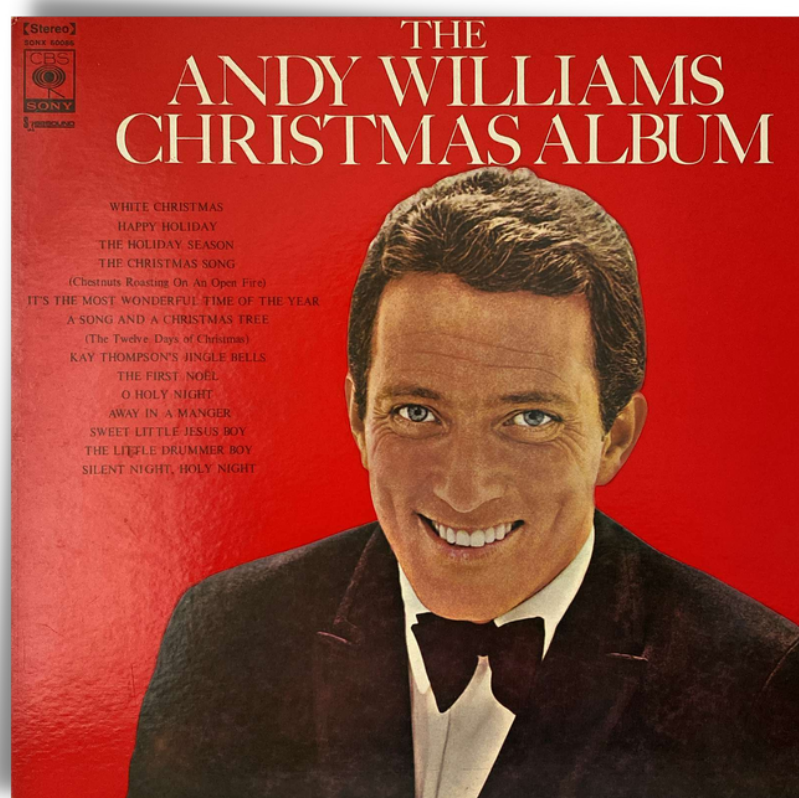
"White Christmas"

"When You Believe"

Happy Holidays from the Songbook Library & Archives!

Andy Williams is one of the first names people think of when they hear Christmas music. Between his records, his variety show, and his time in Branson, Williams recorded 43 albums and was active in the music industry for more than 70 years! Eight of his records were strictly holiday-related and he was often called "Mr. Christmas" due to his Christmas specials and the success of "It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year." Williams both hosted and starred in a variety of Christmas shows along with guests like The Osmond Brothers, Bob Hope, and Johnny Cash. The entire library of Williams' arrangements is housed at the Songbook Library and Archives including all his holiday performances.

Learn more about the Andy Williams collection at [TheSongbook.org/andy-christmas](https://thesongbook.org/andy-christmas)



Song: "Winter Wonderland" (1934)

Made popular by: Bing Crosby

Brief Context: Whether you're hoping for a snowy holiday season or not, it's more than likely that you'll hear "Winter Wonderland" by Felix Bernard and Richard Bernhard Smith at some point during December. Since its original recording in 1934 by Richard Himber, it has been covered by more than 200 artists including Johnny Mathis, Perry Como, Ella Fitzgerald and Tony Bennet. Guy Lombardo's recording was the highest on the charts at its introduction, but the most commonly played version today is the 1987 recording performed by Eurythmics.

Activity: Listening & Engaged Discussion

Suggested discussion prompts

Do you enjoy the Winter season? Why or why not?

- **Yes!**
 - **Enjoy cold weather**
 - **Snow**
 - **Holidays**

- **No!**
 - **Do not like cold weather**
 - **Bare trees/landscape**
 - **Fewer hours of sunlight**





Featured artifacts from the Songbook Library & Archives: "Winter Wonderland" sheet music from the Bob Grimes collection and a snow globe Irving Berlin gave to Rosemary Clooney during the filming of White Christmas.



Song: "Jingle Bells" (1857)
Made popular by: Frank Sinatra

Brief Context: "Jingle Bells" is one of the most well-known and most often sung American songs in the world. Originally called "The One Horse Open Sleigh" by James Pierpont, the 1857 song became connected to Christmas in the 1860s and 1870s and was first recorded in 1889. In 1943 Bing Crosby and the Andrews Sisters recorded the song. It reached #19 on the charts and sold over a million copies. Glenn Miller, Les Paul, and Benny Goodman would then go on to record their versions of "Jingle Bells."

***Activity:* Singing**

What do you need?

- **Perfect Harmony "Jingle Bells" video**
- **Perfect Harmony "Jingle Bells" lyrics**

Fun Fact

"Jingle Bells" became the first song played in space when, on 16 December 1965, it was broadcast during NASA's Gemini 6A space flight. Thomas Stafford, an airforce pilot, and Wally Schirra, a Navy pilot, played the Christmas anthem "Jingle Bells" on a harmonica and miniature sleigh bells just before re-entering Earth's atmosphere.



Jingle Bells

**Dashing through the snow
In a one-horse open sleigh
O'er the fields we go
Laughing all the way
Bells on bobtails ring
Making sprits bright
What fun it is to ride and
Sing this sleighing song tonight!**

**Oh! Jingle bells, jingle bells,
Jingle all the way
Oh, what fun it is to ride
In a one-horse open sleigh!
Hey! Jingle bells, jingle bells,
Jingle all the way
Oh, what fun it is to ride
In a one-horse open sleigh!**

Song: "Little Jack Frost (Get Lost)"
As performed by: Peggy Lee & Bing Crosby

Brief Context: Songwriter Seger Ellis wrote "Little Jack Frost (Get Lost)" and first recorded it himself with his band and backup singers in 1947. Since then, it has been recorded occasionally, notably by Bing Crosby and Peggy Lee. The upbeat song laments the return of "Jack Frost" and cold weather and pleads for him to "get lost."

Activity: Movement (full body)

What do you need?

- "Little Jack Frost" Perfect Harmony video

Suggested Seated Movement

1. Start with hands on hips
2. Alternate wrist flick with arm extended all the way up and flex wrist down (twice R/L)
3. Flick both wrists up/cross wrists in front of chest/flex wrists down/cross wrists in front of chest (repeat twice)
4. Hug shoulders & roll shoulder, other shoulder, original shoulder twice (repeat other side)
5. Hands on knees
 - a. Tap toes to one side, center, other side, center
 - b. Click heels to one side, center, other side, center
 - c. To one side: Tap toes out, heels out, tap toes in, heels in
 - d. To other side: Tap toes out, heels out, tap toes in, heels in
 - e. Tap both toes out, both toes in
 - f. Tap both heels out, both heels in
6. Flick hands up to one side, flip heel of hand up (alternate sides 4 times)
7. Push heel of hands out to side 4 times, quickly paint arms up & over to other side (repeat other side)
8. Hug shoulders & roll shoulder, other shoulder, original shoulder twice (repeat other side)
9. With hands on hips alternate toe touch on each side and toe to knee on each side
10. Alternate 6 kicks
11. Cross wrists at chest, flick wrists up, cross wrists at chest, flex wrist down
12. Raise arms up with alternating knees, lower arms, and end with wrist up/hand on hip



Song: "Miniature Overture" from *The Nutcracker* (1892)
Composer: Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky

Brief Context: "Miniature Overture" is a selection from the popular holiday ballet *The Nutcracker* with music by Russian composer Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky. After the Nutcracker Prince defeats the wicked Mouse King, he and Clara travel to the magical Land of Sweets and are treated with special dance performances.

***Activity:* Listening**

What do you need?

- **Perfect Harmony "The Nutcracker" video**

Fun Fact

The New York Ballet's production of *The Nutcracker* uses about 500 pounds of paper confetti to create the snowstorm, 150 different costumes, 7 layers of tulle for the Sugar Plum Fairy's tutu, 500 bobby pins, and 144 jingle bells for each Candy Cane costume!

This resource made possible by

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Song: "White Christmas" (1942)

Songwriter: Irving Berlin

Brief Context: "White Christmas" is not only one of the most beloved Christmas songs, but it's also one of the most popular songs ever written. In fact, Bing Crosby's soulful and longing version is the best-selling song of all time with over 50 million copies sold. It was featured in two movie musicals, *Holiday Inn* (1942) and *White Christmas* (1954), and became a wartime tune for those fighting abroad and for those on the home front.

Activity: Singing & Engaged Discussion

What do you need?

- **Perfect Harmony "White Christmas" video**
- **Perfect Harmony "White Christmas" lyrics sheet**

Suggested Discussion

What is your favorite song from the movie White Christmas?

- **White Christmas**
- **Sisters**
- **Snow**
- **Gee, I Wish I Was Back in the Army**
- **Count Your Blessings (Instead of Sheep)**



White Christmas

**I'm dreaming of a white Christmas
Just like the ones I used to know
Where the treetops glisten and children listen
To hear sleighbells in the snow**

**I'm dreaming of a white Christmas
With every Christmas card I write
May your days be merry and bright
And may all your Christmasses be white**

**I'm dreaming of a white Christmas
Just like the ones I used to know
Where the treetops glisten and children listen
To hear sleighbells in the snow**

**I'm dreaming of a white Christmas
With every Christmas card I write
May your days be merry and bright
And may all your Christmasses be white**

Song: "When You Believe" (1998)
From *The Prince of Egypt*

Brief Context: "When You Believe" is a signature song from the 1998 DreamWorks musical animated feature *The Prince of Egypt*. It was written and composed by Hans Zimmer and Stephen Schwartz. It is featured during the scene in which Moses leads his people out of Egypt towards the Red Sea, and eventually freedom, while they sing this song. One of the most popular recordings of this song is by R&B vocalists Whitney Houston and Mariah Carey.

***Activity:* Listening**

What do you need?

- **Perfect Harmony "When You Believe" video**

In this season of hope that is often characterized by miracles in many faiths and traditions, we hope you enjoy "When You Believe" from *The Prince of Egypt*.

Listen closely to the words and the story they tell.

