

**PROGRAM**

# Songs of the Erie Canal



**ARTIST NAME**

**Doug Yeomans**

**AVAILABLE FORMATS**

- Performance
- Single Workshop
- Multi-Session  
Residency Workshop

**GRADE LEVELS**

- Pre-K
- K – 2nd
- 3rd – 5th
- 6th – 8th
- 9th – 12th

**MAX NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS**

In-Person: 75  
Virtual: yes

**PROGRAM LENGTH**

45 minutes

**PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

The Erie Canal experience comes alive through songs and discussion about the history of the Canal, the people who brought the canal from an idea to a reality, and the legacy of the Canal. We discuss the pros and the cons of building a waterway from Albany to Buffalo in the early part of 19th century America and the men and women who lived life on the canal and who's lives were shaped by the Canal. The importance of the Canal on America's development is discussed.

**CURRICULUM STANDARDS**

This program supports these NYS or Next Generation Learning Standards:

4R7

Identify information presented visually, orally, or quantitatively (e.g., in charts, graphs, diagrams, time lines, animations, illustrations), and explain how the information contributes to an understanding of the text. (RI&RL)

Contact Arts for Learning WNY for more information.  
(716) 881-0917 | [info@artsforlearningwny.org](mailto:info@artsforlearningwny.org)

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## EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES

Understand the importance of the canal on the growth of America.  
Explore the benefits and costs of the building of the Canal.  
Explain why there was opposition to the Canal.  
Gain perspective on the projects of the magnitude of the Canal.  
Predict the challenges of modern day and future projects of importance to society.

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## LOGISTICS/EQUIPMENT

In-person workshop by single performer. 6x6 area for performer and PA system if needed.

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## VOCABULARY

**Installation** - a 3D, visual art work that fills and transforms a space.

**Tow-Pat**- the path the mules used to pull canal boats.

**Lock**- the device used to raise and lower canal boats.

**Battle Ground**- the area before a lock where boats vied for entrance to the lock.

**Barge**-A flat bottom boat

**Aqueduct**- An artificial pathway for channeling water. As a bridge across a valley.

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## POST-PROGRAM ACTIVITIES & RESOURCES

A trip to the library or an internet search for information on the Erie Canal past and present.  
A trip to the Canal to see it in person. Ride the locks in Lockport NY.

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Erie\\_Canal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Erie_Canal)

<https://eriecanalmuseum.org/education/educational-resources/>



### ARTIST BIO

Doug Yeomans is a professional musician, teaching artist, songwriter, and guitar instructor. He has performed thousands of shows across America and performed hundreds of school shows across NYS. His musical roots lie in American music forms like Blues, Bluegrass, Country, Jazz, Swing, Rock & Roll. In 2004 he was inducted into the Buffalo Music Hall of Fame.

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