Shania Twain
ROCK THIS COUNTRY
LIMITED ENGAGEMENT EXHIBITION • JUNE 2017 – JULY 2018

Teacher’s Tool Kit
GRADES 3-12
English Language Arts • Visual Art • Music • Social Studies
CountryMusicHallofFame.org/Portal
Born in Ontario, Canada and raised in a remote northern Canadian town called Timmins, Shania Twain overcame a difficult childhood through talent, determination, and hard work. She began singing in bars for tips at age eight and writing songs at ten. She reached a commercial peak with *Come on Over* (1997), which remains the best-selling album by a female in any genre. A new generation of artists, including Taylor Swift and Kelsea Ballerini, acknowledge Twain as a trailblazer.

Begin by asking your students what they know about Shania Twain. Then select activities that best correspond with your curriculum. Log in to the Digital Resource Portal to find support materials for this tool kit. The portal also provides lesson guides, videos, powerpoints, and other materials that bring the museum into your classroom. Register for free access at CountryMusicHallofFame.org/Portal.

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**Honor your Heritage**

*Visual Art – Music – Social Studies*

Shania Twain's biological father abandoned the family when she was two. Two years later, her mother, Sharon, married Jerry Twain, a full-blooded Ojibwa Indian, who adopted Shania and her older sister. The family moved to Timmins, a gold-mining town in the remote wilderness of northern Ontario. Her father logged timber and mined, but work was seasonal. Twain and her four siblings grew up in poverty, often going hungry. Despite hardships, the family remained close-knit. At times the family lived with Jerry Twain's parents near the Ojibwa reserve. Twain's step-grandmother supported her musical ambitions and made stage costumes for her performances as a young child.

- Look at the image of Shania Twain and her sister Carrie performing on *Opry North*, a syndicated radio program out of Toronto. What style is the costume? What part of her family heritage is represented?

- Compare the image of Shania Twain and her sister on *Opry North* with the image on the cover of *Shania Twain*, her debut album. How are these similar and different? How do they represent her family heritage?

- Think about your family heritage. What customs or traditional dress does your family identify with?

- Draw a stage costume that represents your family heritage.

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Above: Twelve-year-old Shania Twain and her younger sister Carrie performing at the Opry North, Toronto, Canada, June 28, 1978.

Below: Twain wore this Alfred Leather hooded rawhide coat with fur trim and fringe on the cover of her 1993 debut album.
Costume Cut-out

Draw your own costume
Someone to Look Up To

Music

“I learned to think outside genre boxes and the status quo by watching her reinvent herself,” said Swift about Shania Twain. “I'll always be grateful for the chances and risks she took.” Artists are influenced by those who came before them, pushed boundaries, and set examples. Shania Twain was a successful country artist with many crossover hits in pop radio. Taylor Swift and Kelsea Ballerini, two of today's country-pop crossover artists, look to Shania Twain as a trailblazer.

- Look at how Shania Twain’s image changed over the course of her career.
- Watch the music videos for “Forever and for Always” by Shania Twain and “Love Story” by Taylor Swift.
- Watch the music videos for “Love Me Like You Mean It” by Kelsea Ballerini and “Any Man of Mine” by Shania Twain.
- Compare and contrast the styles, music videos, and the songs.

Top: Shania Twain and Kelsea Ballerini at the opening of Twain's exhibit at the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum, June 27, 2017.

Left: Taylor Swift wore this Sandi Spika-designed dress in the 2008 music video for “Love Story.”

Above: Twain at Caesar’s Palace in Las Vegas, c. 2013.

Photo by Denise Truscello / WireImage
"What Made You Say That," the first single from Twain’s debut album, was a minor hit, but the music video propelled Twain’s career in a new direction. Academy Award-winning actor Sean Penn saw the video and wanted to direct Twain’s next music video. The first video also attracted the attention of rock music producer Robert John “Mutt” Lange who began working with Twain. From 1995-1998 Twain rebelled against music industry conventions by using music videos as her primary marketing tool instead of hitting the road for a concert tour. She wanted to accumulate enough original material to headline a full concert before touring. The music videos kept her in the public eye until she had amassed a catalog of songs and her strategy helped fuel sales of four million albums in 10 months.

- Watch the music videos for “You Win My Love” or “Man! I Feel Like a Woman!”
- Discuss how the words are represented in the video. Talk about interpretation such as car metaphors and themes such as female empowerment.
- Listen to Twain’s June 2017 single “Life’s About to Get Good.”
- Create a storyboard for a music video for “Life’s About to Get Good.”
Music Video Storyboard

Draw a story for “Life’s About to Get Good”
Man! I Feel Like a Woman!

* Mutt Lange / Shania Twain

Let’s go girls, c’mon
I’m goin’ out tonight, I’m feelin’ alright
I’m gonna let it all hang out
Wanna make some noise, really raise my voice
Yeah, I wanna scream and shout

No inhibitions, make no conditions
Get a little outta line
I ain’t gonna act politically correct
I only wanna have a good time
The best thing about bein’ a woman
Is the prerogative to have a little fun and

Oh, oh, oh, go totally crazy, forget I’m a lady
Men’s shirts, short skirts
Oh, oh, oh, really go wild-yeah, doin’ it in style
Oh, oh, oh, get in the action, feel the attraction
Color my hair, do what I dare
Oh, oh, oh, I wanna be free-yeah,

to feel the way I feel
Man, I feel like a woman

The girls need a break, tonight we’re gonna take
The chance to get out on the town
We don’t need romance, we only wanna dance
We’re gonna let our hair hang down

I get totally crazy
Can you feel it?
Come, come, come on baby
I feel like a woman
Come on!

I’m lookin’ for a lover
Who can rev his little engine up
He can have a ’55 Chevy
Or a fancy little pick-up truck
If he’s got a cool Cadillac
With a jacuzzi in the back I’m in, oh yeah
’Cause I’m a classy little chassis
Who’s a huntin’ for a heart to win

Oh, but if you wanna win it
There’s no speed limit
Just go faster, faster, don’t be slow
Rev it up, rev it up ’til your engine blows

You win my love
You win my soul
You win my heart
Yeah, you get it all
You win my love
You make my motor run
You win my love
Yeah, you’re number one

I want a heartbreak Harley
A full of steam dream machine
Or just a little late night
Sexy long stretch limousine

Oh but if you wanna win it
Babe, there’s no speed limit
Just go faster, faster, don’t be slow
Rev it up, rev it up ‘til your engines blow

You win my love
You win my soul
You win my heart
Yeah, you get it all
You win my love
You make my motor run
You win my love
Yeah you’re number one

Oh, I’m a crazy little lady
Yeah, the kind you just can’t slow down, oh no
I need a ’65 cylinder, racy little run around town
Oh, but if you wanna win it
Babe, there’s no speed limit
Just go faster, faster, don’t be slow
Rev it up, rev it up ’til your engine blows

You win my love
You win my soul
You win my heart
Yeah you’re number one
You win my love
You win my love
Oh, you win my love
You win my love
I said you win my love
You win my love
You win my love
I said you win my love
This is what a woman wants
Any man of mine better be proud of me
Even when I’m ugly he still better love me
And I can be late for a date that’s fine
But he better be on time

Any man of mine’ll say it fits just right
When last year’s dress is just a little too tight
And anything I do or say better be okay
When I have a bad hair day

Any man of mine’ll say it fits just right
When last year’s dress is just a little too tight
And anything I do or say better be okay
When I have a bad hair day
And if I change my mind
A million times
I want to hear him say
Yeah (yeah), yeah (yeah), yeah I like it that way

Any man of mine better walk the line
Better show me a teasin’, squeezin’, pleasin’
kinda time
I need a man who knows, how the story goes
He’s gotta be a heartbeatin’, fine-treatin’,
breathakin’, earthquakin’, kind
Any man of mine

Let me here you say yeah (yeah) yeah (yeah) yeah
I like it that way

Any man of mine better walk the line
Better show me a teasin’, squeezin’, pleasin’
kinda time
I need a man who knows, how the story goes
He’s gotta be a heartbeatin’, fine-treatin’,
breathakin’, earthquakin’, kind
Any man of mine

You gotta shimmy, shake
Make the earth quake
Kick, turn, stomp, stomp, then you jump
Heel to toe, Do si do
‘Til your boots want to break
‘Til your feet and your back ache
Keep it movin’ ‘til you just can’t take anymore
Come on everybody on the floor
A-one, two, a-three, four
Hup two, hup
If you wanna be a man of mine, that’s right
This is what a woman wants
Lyric Sheet

**Forever and For Always**

*Mutt Lange / Shania Twain*

In your arms, I can still feel the way you
Want me when you hold me
I can still hear the words you whispered
When you told me
I can stay right here forever in your arms
And there ain’t no way,
I’m lettin’ you go now
And there ain’t no way,
And there ain’t no how
I’ll never see that day

(I want to wake up every morning)

In your eyes
(I can still see the look of the one)
I can still see the look of the one who really loves me
(I can still feel the way that you want me)
The one who wouldn’t put anything else in the world
above me
(I can still see the love for me)
I can still see the love for me in your eyes
(I still see the love)
And there ain’t no way
I’m lettin’ you go now
And there ain’t no way,
And there ain’t no how
I’ll never see that day

‘Cause I’m keeping you
Forever and for always
We will be together all of our days
Wanna wake up every
Morning to your sweet face, always

Mmmm, baby
In your heart, I can still hear
A beat for every time you kiss me
And when we’re apart,
I know how much you miss me
I can feel your love for me in your heart
And there ain’t no way
I’m lettin’ you go now
And there ain’t no way,
And there ain’t no how
I’ll never see that day

‘Cause I’m keeping you
Forever and for always
We will be together all of our days
Wanna wake up every
Morning to your sweet face

‘Cause I’m keeping you
Forever and for always
We will be together all of our days
Wanna wake up every
Morning to your sweet face
‘Cause I’m keeping you
Forever and for always
I’m in your arms
Love me, love me, love me

Oh hey, boy with your hat back, mmml kinda like that
If you wanna walk my way
Ima shoot ya straight up
Show me what you’re made of
I don’t have time to waste on the boys that are playing the games
Or leaving the girls crying out in the rain
So tell me baby, do you got what it takes

If you’re gonna hold me, hold me like I’m leaving
If you’re gonna kiss me, kiss me like you need it
Baby if you’re not you best get to leavin’
If you’re gonna love me, love me like you mean it
If you’re gonna talk the talk, you better walk it
If you’re gonna keep me, keep me like you lost it
If you’re gonna say it, make me believe it
If you’re gonna love me boy, love me like you mean it

Oh hey, I’ve had my share of losers, liars, and users
Looking for a heart to break
So if you’re like that, well take a step back
’Cause I don’t have time to waste on the boys that are playing the games
Or leaving the girls crying out in the rain
So tell me baby are you just crazy or crazy over me

If you’re gonna hold me, hold me like I’m leaving
If you’re gonna kiss me, kiss me like you need it
Baby if you’re not you best get to leavin’
If you’re gonna love me, love me like you mean it
If you’re gonna talk the talk, you better walk it
If you’re gonna keep me, keep me like you lost it
If you’re gonna say it, make me believe it
If you’re gonna love me boy, love me like you mean it

Love me like you mean it
We were both young when I first saw you
I close my eyes and the flashback starts
I’m standing there, on a balcony in summer air

See the lights, see the party, the ball gowns
See you make your way through the crowd
You say hello, little did I know

That you were Romeo, you were throwing pebbles
And my daddy said, “Stay away from Juliet”
And I was crying on the staircase
Begging you, please, don’t go

And I said,
"Romeo, take me somewhere we can be alone
I’ll be waiting, all that’s left to do is run
You’ll be the prince and I’ll be the princess
It’s a love story, baby just say yes"

So I sneak out to the garden to see you
We keep quiet ’cause we’re dead if they knew
So close your eyes, escape this town for a little while

‘Cause you were Romeo, I was a scarlet letter
And my daddy said “stay away from Juliet”
But you were everything to me
I was begging you, please don’t go

And I said,
"Romeo save me, they’re trying to tell me how to feel
This love is difficult, but it’s real
Don’t be afraid, we’ll make it out of this mess
It’s a love story, baby just say yes"

I got tired of waiting
Wondering if you were ever coming around
My faith in you was fading
When I met you on the outskirts of town

And I said
“Romeo save me, I’ve been feeling so alone
I keep waiting for you, but you never come”
Is this in my head, I don’t know what to think
He knelt to the ground and pulled out a ring

And said
“Marry me Juliet you never have to be alone
I love you, and that’s all I really know
I talked to your dad, go pick out a white dress
It’s a love story, baby just say yes”

‘Cause we were both young when I first saw you