



Questions for Traditional Musicians

Locate someone in your community who plays traditional music. Interview them using the questions below and ask them to sign or give an oral release so that you can use the information you learn.

Name of Student Interviewer: _____ Date: _____

Name of Musician: _____

Male or Female (circle) Age: ____ Written Release Acquired? ____ Oral Release? ____

1. What is your name? When and where were you born?
2. How did you learn to play (sing) this kind of music?
3. When did you start to learn? (How old were you?)
4. Where did you live at the time?
5. How long have you been actively playing this kind of music?
6. What is it about this kind of music that makes it different from other types?
7. Are there different styles of playing your type of music?
8. When and where do you usually play music?
9. Do you ever earn money by playing music?
10. Do you play alone or with others?
11. Are there others in this locale who play the same kind of music? What are their names and types of musical instruments they play?
12. Have you passed your tradition on to others, who and when? Why is this important to you?
13. What is your favorite song or tune to play?
14. What makes a performance/song good? How do you judge a performance/song?
15. Do you have anything else you would like to add?