Imagine your students all joining together in an explosion of hands-on, musical teamwork. Based on Brazilian Carnival street music, Steve Schulz takes a roomful of students, buckets of percussion instruments and a whole heap of energy to create The Big Samba.

Divided into five or six large groups, students are each given an instrument and each group is taught three simple rhythms using the rhythm patterns of common vernacular phrases as templates. Now here's where the magic starts…

Using hand signals, aural cues and some remarkable discipline, Steve then leads the students in layering up these different rhythms – sometimes in unison, sometimes in complex combination, always in control!

Steve can also be an ‘Artist in Residence’, working with students for multiple days, concluding with a concert!

A truly unique experience for students as they learn the discipline of working as a part of a group within a large whole. No other school show brings a student body together quite like The Big Samba.

Instruments used may include:
Drum Kit  Sudo drums  Timbales  Bells
Maracas  Tambourines  Cowbells  Claves

Steve Schulz has been teaching and playing drums for over 20 years, & performing The Big Samba in schools since 1995. One of the finest musician/teachers in Victoria, Steve has studied & worked with some of the country's most respected musicians including Jack Jones, Frank Corniola & David Jones.

“We had another wonderful experience with our Artist-in-Residence this year. Steve was fantastic and the concert a big hit!” Bolwarra PS

“… the best arts performance we have ever had” Students at Balmoral PS

“Excellent, an outstanding percussionist with great skills in relating to students” Dunolly Cluster

"An energetic and powerful experience enjoyed by all" St Vincent de Paul School, Morwell

Suitability: Prep - Year 12
Cost: $5.00 per student + GST
Minimum Audience: 120 students
Duration: approximately 75 minutes

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Bookings & Enquiries: www.nexusarts.com.au
Phone: (03) 9528 3416
Freecall: 1800 675 897
Fax: (03) 9523 6866
Email: nexusarts@netspace.net.au

"It was the BEST and most exciting performance I have ever experienced since I began teaching (nearly 30 yrs ago!!)" Pinjarra PS

"A fabulous experience for everyone" Commercial Road PS

“not long enough- could have had workshops all week” PS404 Maryborough

“He had enough instruments for everyone, WOW!” Woodroffe PS

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The Big Samba

★ ★ Feedback from Primary Schools

WOW!!! What a fantastic show! Absolutely loved the high level of engagement by all students! Steve’s energy was infectious. Enjoyed it thoroughly – we all loved every moment of the show.

Mullumbimby Public School, NSW

Fantastic. All students totally involved & loving it, having a fabulous time. All teachers thought Steve was brilliant. Warners Bay Public School, NSW

This is the best show that I have seen in 28 years of teaching. The level of involvement was exceptional. Mundubbera State School, QLD

The children loved it. Days later and they’re still talking about it – and drumming on desks!

Cooloongup PS, WA

I could have listened to Steve play all day. Great to have the opportunity to be a part of it. It was an experience the students will have forever.

Mowbray College, VIC

On a scale of zero to ten, the student support was TWENTY! LeFevre Peninsula PS, SA

The best show ever! The world’s best! We all got to experience the special feeling of being part of a team and working in unison.

St Brendan’s, VIC


St Paul’s PS, NT

The students were 110% into it! A great “buddy” activity with Prep – Yr 6 working in co-operation.

Toorak College, VIC

Steve was outstanding!!! The students response was enthusiastic to the power of 10! …their faces were alight with excitement. Looking forward to his next visit.

Clayton West & Clarinda PS, VIC

This is the first time I have booked a show for the school. This is EXACTLY what I wanted – lots of laughter. Lots of student involvement. Lots of noise!

St Francis Xavier, ACT

Brilliant. The Principal said it was an absolutely brilliant incursion. The first time the whole school had been involved in one singular combined activity. FANTASTIC!!

Duncraig PS, WA

Absolutely amazed by the fact that EVERY student had an instrument and were all totally engaged in the joyful experience of making music together.

Sandringham PS, VIC

Sensational!! There was a smile on every child’s face.

Braeside PS, WA

Excellent. Student participation was outstanding. Inspiring.

Moil PS, NT

Students were thrilled! Everyone experienced the joy of participation and achievement. The wonder on their faces was a delight. Everyone was a winner!

Ashburton Drive PS, WA

UNBELIEVABLE. All of those kids playing together! BRILLIANT!

Carnegie PS, VIC

As a teacher with 40 + years experience, I cannot recall such a captivating performance. Steve is not only an extremely talented musician but an outstanding teacher as well!

Hastings PS, VIC

It was brilliant. One of the best incursions we have had and great value for money.

Pinjarra PS, WA

The students were enthralled and their own performance was fantastic! Quite frankly beyond all of the staff’s expectations.

Belmore Specialist School, VIC
Fantastic. Steve created a really cool vibe that floated through the school for the rest of the day. Korumburra PS, VIC

Great fun! Noisy! Students loved playing in the band. Great interaction with students/audience participation. Great demonstration. Well done Steve! Also explanation re: use of ear plugs was well done! Kalkie SS, QLD

Really loud and fun, everything about the production was awesome. Really funny, made everyone laugh. Students loved that he let them share rather than just performing. Very interactive and musical! The BEST performance we’ve seen! I have never heard so many positive comments. Moore Park SS, QLD

Fabulous. All children involved & rapt. Seen a lot of performances over the years, this was definitely one of the very best. Loved how the show was layered and scaffolded! Brilliant. Thanks so much! St Joseph’s O’Connor, ACT

This is the best day I have ever had at school, said a student! St Joseph’s O’Connor, ACT

They absolutely loved it! One of the best incursions we have ever had at Knox Gardens. Steve is an amazing talent! Knox Gardens PS, VIC

Students of ALL age levels loved it. Steve’s facial expressions, motivation and overall manner with the kids kept them engaged throughout the whole performance. Teachers all thought the show was highly entertaining! Having an instrument for every teacher and student and getting them all to play together was cleverly structured and enjoyed by all. One of the best shows we have had at Yidarra! Other schools are missing out if they haven’t experienced Steve’s energetic show! Yidarra Catholic PS, WA

They loved every minute of this show! Feedback from the kids has been fantastic. This is the best show I have seen in years. Steve is a natural with the kids. I enjoyed myself as much as the kids did! LOVED IT! Runcorn State PS, QLD

Excellent, awesome, interesting, great how we all got to get involved! Great to see students having genuine fun. St Joseph’s College, Katherine NT

Excellent! Children still moving to the beat of “Bob’s Your Uncle”. Excellent performance. We are in awe of your ability to “seed” small groups and eventually involve the whole school in a performance. Never had anything like this at school – it sounded so good. Gray Primary, Palmerston NT
Total engagement of students...they were enthralled and fully entertained for the whole session. Amazing to have something for all 160 students to do at once.

*Catholic College Bendigo, VIC*

It was a fantastic one person show that involved everybody. Top stuff and well done – Keep up the good work.

*Streaky Bay area School, SA*

I was very impressed. He kept a group of 200, from pre-school to Yr 10, engaged and involved for an hour and a half... What a man!

*Cornerstone Christian College, WA*

It was an invaluable experience of the self-discipline required for working successfully in a large group as part of a team.

*Tennant Creek HS, NT*

Excellent. Best incursion so far this year. It fitted the objectives of the session really well. Steve was flexible and energetic. I enjoyed the session and felt the students walked away with some music in their hearts.

*Fintona Girls School, VIC*

Fantastic. Steve had all of the students eating out of the palm of his hand. Steve related well to students, was well organised and had excellent control over large groups of students. A fabulous sound and good teaching ideas for staff.

*Brindabella Christian College, ACT*

Students were very enthusiastic – particularly the boys. Energy level was great. It was nice to see some discussion about the more technical elements that were involved.

*The Knox School, VIC*

What a music lesson!

*Timboon P-12 College, VIC*