



# Russian Duo

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Oleg Kruglyakov & Terry Boyarsky

## Residency/Outreach

We are available for educational concerts, workshops, residencies, and lecture-demonstrations.

### “Russia & Beyond” Performance

Discover teamwork in action. Experience how performers, composers and audiences work together. Students will be captivated by exuberant music, energized by dynamic rhythms, moved by beautiful melodies. Learn how the balalaika came onto the modern concert stage from humble peasant origins in Old Russia. The audience becomes an essential part of the concert, singing with Oleg and Terry and joining them on stage using Russian percussion instruments.

### Workshops

Workshops are designed for grades K-6. Study guides available upon request for:

**Workshop 1: *Kalinka (the Viburnum Tree)*** This integrated workshop uses a beloved Russian folk song to teach music and mathematics. In the process of learning “Kalinka” students understand measure, form, structure, pattern, and timing. Musical concepts of steady beat, meter, accelerando, fermata, ostinato and melodic line are learned by singing and body percussion. We use the Russian percussion instruments *treschyotki*, *lozhki*, *buben*, wood block and whistle.

**Workshop 2: *Troika!*** There is nothing more quintessentially Russian than the three-horse-drawn carriage known as the troika. This workshop centers around the era in Russia when troikas were used. Students will understand the context and significance of the troika, count beats, study form/structure, and accompany each other with Russian percussion instruments and bells. We learn the famous dance “Troika” and perform it with live music.

**Workshop 3: *Haul Away!*** Comparison of the River System in Russia and Canal System in Upstate New York. Students learn the famous song “Volga Boatmen” (a new translation by the Russian Duo), understand the symbolism of the words, the historical context, and study a famous painting of the *burlaki* (Volga boatmen). We compare this phenomenon to how boats were hauled on the Erie Canal, look at paintings of, and sing the “Erie Canal.”

**Workshop 4: *Korobushka - the Peddler.*** With stories about the door-to-door salesman pulling fabric and haberdashery out of his little basket to sell to the villagers, this charming folk song and dance teaches children about the lifestyles of Old Russia and early America.

### Residency Options

Oleg and Terry create a residency in tandem with your class curriculum, aligning to Language Arts, Social Studies, Math and Music standards. We teach Russian folk dances such as *Korobushka*, *Katya*, *Troika*, *Russian Two-Step*. We include beloved folk songs - *Kalinka*, *Kalina*, *Volga Boatmen* - discussing the historical, cultural, and musical significance as well as comparing and contrasting to life in America. We demonstrate how to play Russian percussion instruments - the *treschyotka*, *lozhky*, *buben*, wood block - Oleg plays *jaleika* and birch bark whistle - and include all in a culminating performance with the Duo.