

# Wynton Marsalis aims to tune kids in to jazz and classical music

**P**op goes the American culture, and so does its music.

But even in a world perpetually drenched with the vibrations of rock, rap and country, where both

the radio and MTV pump out a ceaseless formula beat, Wynton Marsalis still believes in accentuating the positive musical alternative.

And for him, that means marching to the philosophical beat of a more culturally rich, classically adventurous sound.

"On a grass-roots level, there are people all over this country who are really interested in music education, who are doing great work," Marsalis said. "It's just they don't always get the publicity."

With "Marsalis on Music," airing four consecutive Mondays beginning tonight on PBS (8 p.m., WTVS-TV, Channel 56), the acclaimed trumpet virtuoso and composer takes on the considerable challenge of teaching the fundamentals of classical music and

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## 'Marsalis on Music'



out of 4 stars

8 p.m. tonight and three following Mondays  
PBS, WTVS-TV, Channel 56

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jazz to a young audience.

Music education for the masses? It can be done, Marsalis believes.

"I don't really get too overwhelmed by the fact that there's so much money pumped into exploitive forms of music," Marsalis told a gathering of TV critics this summer. "I try to just concentrate as much as possible on giving kids styles of music that I think will help them develop their consciousness, and their emotions, and their intellect."

Wynton's world, unlike Wayne's, includes folks like Tchaikovsky, Prokofiev,

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