

Lap Steel Guitar

Sacred steel is an African American gospel music tradition that features lap and pedal steel guitars. A lap steel guitar is a played horizontally with a bar or slide called a “steel.” Sacred steel music originated during church services of the House of God Pentecostal church. Worship services are driven by music played by an ensemble, which is led by a steel guitarist. The steel guitarist works closely with the minister to play a very important role in worship services by providing dramatic emphasis for sermons and testimonies, accompanying singers, and playing for offertory processions. The Lee Boys is a local ensemble specializing in sacred steel. The family group consists of two generations of musicians, all of whom learned the tradition growing up in the House of God Church.



Chris Johnson of The Lee Boys plays the pedal steel guitar

CultureFest 305 is presented with the support of the National Endowment for the Arts, The Pérez CreARTE Grants Program, Miami Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs, and the Cultural Affairs Council.



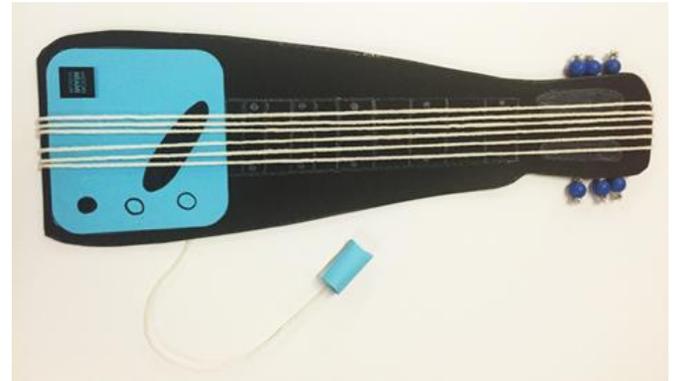
THE JORGE M. PÉREZ
FAMILY FOUNDATION



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What you'll need:

- Cardstock or thick pieces of paper
- Construction paper
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Markers or crayons
- Glue or tape
- Yarn
- Pipe Cleaners
- Beads



Instructions:

- Select a large piece of thick paper and fold in half, lengthwise.
- Trace the outline of your guitar on both halves of your paper (see the shape in the photo).
- Cut out your two guitar outlines.
- Select another sheet of paper, cut out a square, and glue the square at the bottom of your guitar.
- Using crayons and markers, draw in the details of your guitar.
- Cut out 6 pieces of yarn slightly longer than the length of your guitar.
- Place the yarn in the middle of your guitar lengthwise and tape the ends on the back.
- Select 3 pipe cleaners and cut them slightly longer than the length of the top of your guitar.
- Add 1 bead to both ends of each pipe cleaner and tape each pipe cleaner to the back of the top of your guitar.
- Select another piece of paper and cut a small rectangle. Roll the paper to fit around your index finger. Tape to secure.
- Select a piece of yarn and tape one end to your paper roll and the other to the back of your guitar.
- Glue the remaining guitar outline to the back of your decorated guitar.
- Enjoy your new instrument!

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