

Philosophy of Music Education

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I believe that the public education system should aim to prepare students to become citizens of their community, local and global, by developing their skills to perceive the world and people around them. For that reason, I feel that the arts and especially music are essential in a complete curriculum because they are deeply embedded into our daily lives, rites of passages, and are connected to our growth and culture as human beings. The arts are a reflection of the state of society or the soul, and to understand music and the arts is to comprehend the ways people express or have expressed themselves. Music is a serious pursuit in its own right, however, I am conscious of and embrace the ways it is an inter-disciplinary study. Nothing exists unaccompanied by other seemingly foreign concepts.

Regardless of ethnicity, age, gender, socio-economic status, or ability, I feel wholeheartedly that everyone has the right and capacity to learn. As a music educator, I fervently accept the responsibility of nurturing the development of personal and social skills within my students, while instilling an appreciation and awareness of the arts and diversity of human expression. By learning music, a student is able to develop time management skills (practicing and rehearsing), teamwork (ensemble), self-discipline, self-expression, ownership and self-responsibility, and tolerance of others while partaking in a rewarding and stimulating activity that fosters a positive self-esteem while linking them more intimately to culture.

It is my personal belief that a human being is incomplete, and therefore infinitely a work in progress, and the elements of exploring and discovering are crucial to motivating students and teachers to learn from each other in a circular manner. As a teacher, I am always striving to exhibit these skills and attitudes towards life by acting as a positive example and sharing my passion for learning with those whom I mentor.