

Nicholas R. Denham
Philosophy of Music Education

I believe that every person is a student, and therefore has the ability to develop and learn, not excluding myself as a music educator. Although not everyone learns in the same manner or at a comparative rate, as individuals, everyone has both strengths and weaknesses. I believe that as a music educator, I am challenged to communicate to each student, regardless of a student's personal upbringing, attributes both mental and physical, or ability, and must allow each student to present me with a type of response. Every student is both an equal and an individual, so I must cater to that by having a universal design to the way I teach music and build a curriculum or lesson. "There are no problem children, just problem curriculums."

The reason I have chosen to teach music is one, for my love of music, and two, because I believe that music allows for an experience that can affect a life in numerous immeasurable ways. The music curriculum provides an opportunity for students to develop in so many other aspects of life aside from music; students involved in music benefit by the opportunities to develop better math skills, be aided in social development, develop individuality and a sense of responsibility, learn about different cultures, and experience great deals of diversity. Along with all of those examples, music can fill places in the human soul which can give gratification by allowing students to be expressive.