

Philosophy: My philosophy in short is “helping students build strength”

What is meaningful and uniquely valuable about music and why should it be part of a well-rounded education?

Music is part of a well-rounded education because it gives students a place to experience life safely and authentically. It is a place full of mental growth, community, and individuality helping students create a strong community. In all my time in music education I have yet to come away without positive memories and long-lasting relationships. Music is such a niche that whether you hate someone or not you have common communicative ground. Music is also a place of personal growth. It gives something outside of academics to be proud of, helping you in gaining confidence and a sense of self through music. It gives students a nonacademic win.

What will students learn according to your philosophical stance, as outlined in your first paragraph?

Students will learn about themselves. I am less focused on music theory and more focused on giving students an experience in music to understand themselves and see personal growth in favor of the competitive nature upper divisional music often becomes. They will understand themselves, how their minds work, and how they fit in the world. Students will learn music, not specifically speaking about notes and rhythms but about the passion and joy found in it. Music is such an important part of life and finding an outlet with it in a collaborative way is the most important. Students will also learn teamwork. Music is a community whether you want it to be or not. Even in a solo performance it will take team work to get to that point. You rely on many people to complete your performance and song

What is the role of the teacher as implied by your philosophical stance and what you believe students will learn?

Being a present and supportive role model is the job of a teacher in my philosophy. A teacher needs to be there to help students grow personally and professionally; showing them support where they may not have any. Many children may not have support from other teachers, parents, or friends. The role of a teacher is also to support growth in the program. Supporting growth in music and size by fostering a supportive environment. Students should learn about themselves. The outside point is to learn music, notes, and theory. But music is a place where students should learn about themselves and the value in themselves and the academic value of themselves. Music is a vehicle for understanding the world around you and in you.