

## Music Education Philosophy

I believe music education should be based on teaching students to become more aware and sensitive to the elements of music. These elements of music provide insight to human feelings that no language of emotions can explain. The playing of music is a form of expression of the feelings that are found deeper than emotions. Music allows students to express these feelings through a disciplined practice and relate their experiences of music to their experiences in life. My goal as a teacher is to provide these experiences to my students and to teach them how to be intelligent consumers of music later in their life.

My students will develop the technical skills needed to perform as well as learning how to be musically expressive and literate. They will be taught how to play by listening to music, identifying the specific elements they want to imitate, and then practicing by imitating the sound they want to produce. Therefore, my students will be active learners by having a specific goal in mind. They will reach this goal by listening and evaluating their sound during rehearsals and performances. The students will be encouraged to take control of their progress and problem-solve with the support of their fellow peers and the teacher.

My goal as a teacher is to help my students grow as musicians by providing opportunities to explore different types of music. They will have opportunities to play good, quality music that is at their level and will provide a specific musical experience that allows them to understand the emotions of life through music. My classroom will have intellectual conversations on different types of music from every age in history. This will be an opportunity for my students to grow in their literary knowledge of music. The songs we play will also allow my students to grow in their technical abilities. My students will be expected to always be expanding on the technical skills and knowledge of their instrument through practicing.

My classroom will be a positive atmosphere that promotes growth in musical understanding and in relationships. We will work as a team where everyone is equal. Many of the decisions will be made by the input of the students to create a sense of belonging in the classroom. Ultimately, my students will find a new appreciation in music. They will find joy in the expression of emotions that cannot be articulated any other way. My hope is that both my students and I will be learning something new every day.