Philosophy of Music Education

Danica Mickelson

The philosophies of music education, that I have chosen, are the development of life skills, how it influences the creativity in the human condition, a new/different form of expression, and how music can absolutely be for everyone. I believe, these philosophies, in my classroom will be used greatly. They may not be used everyday, but I will express these philosophies to my students and explain to them why these particular four are very important in the philosophy of my music education.

First, I would like to emphasize on the development of life skills. Music has helped many develop many life skills that I will use in everyday life. It has taught me how to organize my time, how to be a leader, and how to be punctual. Organization, in my book, is key to success. One must be organized to complete a task set before them. I use organization in my everyday life with work, school, practice, housework, and family time. If I was not organized, I could not complete these tasks in a timely manner.

Music has taught me how to be a leader and not be the underdog. I know that I am a very tiny person, but my voice has so much to say. One would not believe the voice that comes out of this tiny person. I say that music has helped me become a leader because it has helped me to stand out and stand up for myself and my classmates. Music has taught me how to be punctual. Time is very important with my music education because there are so many things that have to be fit in at one time. It is extremely important to be on time and organized.

Second, music influences the creativity in the human condition. I believe that music can help children and adults in so many ways with their imaginations. Music brings things to life and creates the chance for people to explore their minds. When I hear a certain song, I automatically think of a place and time that the song is taking place. A sound or the words in a song could also bring back memories from one person's life. Whether they are good or bad feelings, music has a way to transport people back into time. Music has a huge impact on the creativity and imagination in the human condition.

Third, I believe that music can allow a new or different form of expression. When I was in high school, I was bullied all of the time. During this time, my only escape, at the time, was to turn to music. Music allows one to express what he or she is feeling inside. Music can be used as a way to cope with sadness, anger, and frustration. I know I have used music to express all three of these emotions on more than one occasion. However, music can also be used to express happiness and joy, in one's life. I have also used music for this reason as well.

Lastly, music can absolutely be for everyone! Anyone can play an instrument, tap their feet, clap their hands, dance, or maybe sing. Music does not single one out like one is in athletics. In athletics, there is usually one star player and not everyone has an opportunity to do a sport. One can always participate in music and learn something along the way. One must practice to become the best that they can be, just like sports, but one will learn life skills, expression, and creativity, through music.

In conclusion, a few philosophies that stuck out to me were the development of life skills, how it influences the creativity in the human condition, a new/different form of expression, and music can be for everyone. All of these philosophies play an important part in the classroom, in music education.