

Early American Music Education

Pilgrims arrive in America	1620
Puritans arrive in America	1630
First school law passed requiring towns to compel parents to give their children an elementary education	1642
2nd law passed requiring every township of at least 50 families to appoint a teacher for their children. Taxation for the purpose of paying a teacher was made permissible.	1647
Legislation is passed governing what should be taught in schools. Music education is not yet part of education. Music was transmitted orally.	1648
Development of the first singing schools	1720's
Lowell Mason persuades the Boston School Committee to include music in the curriculum.	1838
Child-centered movement in education promotes arts in education. Music education is a tool of the "melting pot." Music educators attempt to "teach up" to a cultured level, teaching only Western	Early 1900's
American schools begin to acknowledge the diversity of all students. Music from different ethnic backgrounds is included in curriculum.	1960's