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Philosophy of Music Education Assignment  
Music 145

### The Philosophy of Music Education

Music is all around us, behind us, ahead of us, and within us. Music is for many, a way of life, even if it is simply a hobby, profession, or a study. Throughout my life music has been within me from the beginning up until now and until forever. Music holds a place within that is beyond a significant importance, but purely a way of life.

Music is a form of expression, portraying the person you are through your talents and abilities. I would not be the individual that I am today had music not been a part of my life. In essence, the opportunities and experiences from music aided in the development of my character and overall persona. Music allows a person an open end of opportunities. In school, if you interact within the music programs it allows you to meet new people, teaches you very significant personal characteristics, and gives you experience with working in a group.

When I started junior high I was a shy young girl who loved to sing. I took the opportunity to audition for our Swing Choir and made the group as a freshman. Through the audition process I gained confidence because I had to perform in front of the most critical crowd, my own peers, and in front of the vocal judges. Throughout the year my family noticed the many changes occurring within my personality. I was changing from a shy little girl into a young lady with a load of confidence. This experience gave me the opportunity to find my true passion, and express myself, and in doing so, I found the importance that music has in my life.

Music plays many significant roles within the lives of almost all individuals, and because of that fact I feel teaching music at the beginning stages up until the end of school is essential for the learning process for all children. Through the stages of learning music, you gain so much as an individual, such as, character, discipline, hard work ethic, working with others, and all at the same time having fun. Music has a special way of making you think. It's almost as if you're using a significant part of your brain that influences and affects your mind and body. The proven fact that the average high school student, who is involved in music, does better on their SAT's or simply better in school is an importance fact. The advantages that music can give each person are exceptionally essential for each individual, and I cannot understand why some do not take the advantage of the opportunities that music can give us.

I feel music is an essential aspect of the learning process. In the process of learning music it gives you an ongoing list of opportunities to better your own self and gives you advantages that other courses do not apply to. Music brings people together. Working with others is a vital aspect for the lives of everyone. Each individual at some point interacts with someone every day, and in the work force, having more experience with working in a group setting and achieving goals will only benefit you for your future success.

Large varieties of music should be taught within schools. One very important aspect to take into consideration is the type of music that the children are interested in. Choosing music that your students have interest in such as, country or even pop music will only help the learning process. Music written by famous composers, such as Bach, or Handel also establishes many essential characteristics that children should be aware of.

Children should be taught to appreciate the basis of the origination of music, and the differences of how it has changed into what it is today. Teaching a wide variety of music will help the children develop an understanding for different styles of music, and different ways that music has been written. Jazz, oldies, country, classical, are all common types of music and each equally applies an importance of why children should become familiar with different types of music.

I feel that studying music courses hold an equal importance to the study of math, science, or history. Music is a way of life and every child should establish a basic understanding of the history of music, and a broad overview of different composers and types of music. At the beginning stages of schooling each child should be required a type of music course. I do not think that each individual necessarily should be required to join a band or choir each year of their elementary, middle school, and high school career, but I think that it should be at some point, a requirement for each individual to study some aspect of music.

Children should be exposed to music just as early as they are exposed to reading, spelling, and writing. In a process of developing a child's mind why neglect them of the superior learning ability and process that they could ascertain? Studying music will be that extra step that gives you the opportunity to fully broaden your learning horizon, and should be a part of the learning process as soon as the learning process begins.

Teaching music is not an easy task to take upon oneself. Teachers obtain characteristics that hold significant meaning apposed too many other professions. Teachers possess characteristics such as, being passionate individuals; caring, helpful, patient, hardworking, individuals that interact well with others, and have positive

attitudes. It has to be difficult to find all those characteristics inside one individual; however a successful teacher will have them. Teachers are the building blocks for all professions. We wouldn't have doctors to save lives if we didn't have teachers to provide the knowledge. The individuals who teach music must want to share the passion and love, and understanding for music with others. Music teachers should have the experience of studying a wide variety of music from the origin of music and to today's music. I also feel that individuals that want to teach music should not only have a well established understanding for music but also the understanding for the theory of music, music composition, and experience on different instruments, or within a variety of choral groups. Music teachers have a place in my heart for the individuals that help to institute character within students, eagerness to share their passions, and the goal to provide a student with the overall superior knowledge to move forward and to succeed in life.