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Music 145

Introduction to Music Education

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Philosophy of Music Education

Music is very important in life. Qualified licensed music educators should teach every form and aspect of music in schools to students of all ages.

Music is an important part of life. It is widely considered to be the universal language. People of every ethnic background and culture can relate to music in similar ways. Music also plays a crucial role in preserving cultural traditions. Every culture can be associated with an instrument or genre of music in which they use throughout celebrations. All cultural forms of music are very different, but their purposes are very much the same. Music is important in life because it makes life more enjoyable. Many people use music to get themselves into a better mood. The public spends millions of dollars a year to attend music concerts for entertainment.

Music should be taught in schools. When a student studies music, he or she develops responsibility, discipline, teamwork, confidence, and better study habits in other academic areas. When I first started to play an instrument, I was undertaking a huge new responsibility. I had to make time to practice, take care of my instrument, and learn the different aspects of music I had not learned in general music. At some point, a student will play in an ensemble. It is here where a student learns teamwork. Instead of just

having personal goals, the student has goals that will help the group go further. Playing in an ensemble builds self-confidence. The ensemble relies on you to know your part. When a student knows he or she is in a position of importance, this motivates a student to do well. All aspects listed above contribute to better study habits in other academic areas. Students now have confidence, responsibility, discipline, and goals. Now they can and do apply these new traits to other subjects. Before I played an instrument, I was not very good at math. After a couple months, I started getting better grades. Just like I had to make time to practice my instrument, I knew now that to get better at math I had to 'practice' math too. I not only got better at math, but I also got better in all of my classes.

It is important that every aspect of music be taught in school. Students should learn about genres of music like classical, rock, and pop, but they should also learn theory, composition, music literature, and music history. Each subject area is equally important in well-rounded music education. There is much more to music than a bunch of notes on a page. Students need to know that notes are placed on a certain part of the staff for a specific reason. And, rules were established long ago, that are generally accepted and followed today. Music history is one sub-area of music that is not as stressed as important in many small schools today. Many schools have to face budget cuts, and music history and literature are usually one of the first sub-areas of music education to go.

Students of all ages should have music education as part of their curriculum. Children are able to recognize music at infancy. Infants find things like bouncing, singing, and music-making toys to be soothing and comforting. As children get older, they are able to comprehend music. They can imitate rhythmic patterns and some

melodies. Music needs to be taught at early ages so these interests can be better developed. Music is also important to have at early ages for benefits in performance. Music concerts are the first of many performing experience a child will have throughout their education. As a student gets into the high school level of their education, music becomes more in-depth. Once a student gets older, there are new concepts of music the student will be able to grasp. This is why music is important at every age.

Qualified music education instructors should teach music in schools. License professionals are trained in specific areas for specific age groups. Not just anyone can teach concepts of music. Licensed music educators are aware of methods for teaching different forms of music to a wide range of students. Another reason for licensed music educators to teach music is to give the students and the teachers a 'break' from each other. Students are more likely to take an interest in a new subject if they are able to break away from their everyday activities. Middle and high school level music must be taught by a licensed music educator. Concepts at this level are too in-depth for an instructor of another subject to teach.

Music is very important in life. It should be taught in schools because of all the musical and non-musical benefits that come out of it. Every aspect of music should be taught in school. There is more to music than just notes on a page. Every student should get an education in music no matter what age he or she is. The concepts may start out as very simplistic, but they will get more challenging as time goes on. Music should and must be taught by licensed instructors. There are difficult aspects of music that licensed music educators are trained to teach.