

Naomi R Wright

Teaching Philosophy

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### **Teaching Philosophy**

Music education is meaningful and uniquely valuable for several reasons. Students learn the following: how to play and sing an instrument, how to read music, expression and empathy, and that music serves multiple purposes. Students learn to express themselves using a system of notation and structure. Once students learn how to read music they apply this to an instrument and express themselves on their instruments. The context behind the music shows students how other artists use music to express themselves and teaches empathy. Historical and cultural information show that music can be used in many different settings such as recreational purposes, to tell stories, or to show devotion. Music is especially unique, because students learn to synthesize multiple sources of information including their own personal experiences and transmit their feelings to an audience.

The national 2014 music education standards suggest students should be able to create, perform, respond and connect. Based on these standards students will learn theory & form so that they can read music, write music. It is important that students use historical and cultural contexts, their own ideas as a foundation to make artistic and creative decisions. Students will listen to a variety of music to help them understand the many reasons other artists and people from different backgrounds use music. Last, students will have a number of performance opportunities in which they will learn how to convey their own interpretations.

A teacher should give comprehensive and rounded music education. They should build and maintain healthy and positive relationships with students, and create a positive but structured learning environment so that students feel productive, comfortable, and enjoy their learning environment. Music teachers should be a resource and provide resources so that students can have a strong foundation in theory and form as well as history and culture. It is important that music teachers understand pedagogy and curriculum so that they understand where students are in their development, how to meet their learning needs, and how far to push students. In music, it is important to build students confidence by challenging students and providing positive feedback regarding their accomplishments in order to empower them as creative artists. Music teachers should let students share their artistic ideas and let students express themselves. Students should be provided with as many listening and performing opportunities as possible. Finally, a music teacher should work to continue learning from other teachers, student feedback, conferences, and other resources so that they can be excellent in their field.