

Beliefs and Values

WHY

My primary aim as a music educator is to add to the beauty of the world through showing children their own inherent worth and teaching them to engage in life through music. I believe that all people can be musical, participating as a performer, creator, or listener.

I strive to create a music class in which students:

- Actively participate, collaborating with each other and with me
- Feel safe to take risks, try new things, and make “mistakes”
- Know that each class community member’s identity and contributions are valued
- Develop their musicianship, technical skills, artistry, and facility with the creative process
- Take ownership of their musical experiences and develop their musical identity
- Are motivated to engage physically, cognitively, and emotionally with music
- Connect music to their inner selves and the world around them
- Have fun!

HOW

To bring this about, I am committed to:

- Modeling a growth mindset
- Modeling unconditional positive regard towards others
- Intentionally creating regular opportunities for student choice and creative freedom
- Thoughtfully implementing a curriculum to scaffold students’ technical, conceptual, and artistic growth
- Choosing repertoire that provides “mirrors and windows” to affirm students and expand their experiences
- Working to build positive relationships with students and learn about their backgrounds
- Working to decenter whiteness and practice perspective-taking