**Teaching Philosophy**

Effective teaching includes much more than conveying knowledge and skills - it empowers the learner with intellectual and artistic inspiration which lead to life-long learning. As an enthusiastic and passionate teacher, one of my primary goals is to help students become their own best teacher, so they may always keep music in their lives and contribute as participant, appreciator, and-or supporter. In addition to instilling the concepts and necessary musical skills, I am motivated by Suchomlinsky’s philosophy that "Musical education is not the education of the musician, but above all the education of the human being .” Through the mentoring of students, I hope to model and build students’ habits such as critical thinking, teamwork, poise and confidence to enhance all their activities in life.

Lesson activities and studio events (workshops, recitals, guest artist presentations, etc.) are designed to meet students’ needs and provide them with opportunities to demonstrate and increase their skills, and gain leadership and presentation skills. The creative, collaborative and interactive lesson activities are the building blocks to the ultimate musical goal: to learn great music, played in an artistic, satisfying and compelling manner; while also helping them to become their best confident selves .

I enjoy challenging myself -- and my students. Young people are able to accomplish so much when motivated and inspired! When expectations of students are high -- their achievement is also high. Students who feel successful develop positive self-esteem and are easily motivated to continue to achieve. I also believe in using a variety of teaching strategies – traditional and non-traditional in order to approach learning and problem-solving from a variety of modalities. I am a strong proponent of the Socratic Method. Lessons are student-centered, flexible to allow for spontaneous discovery and teachable moments, yet with activities individually tailored to achieve specific goals. I strive to provide a transformative experience for all students!