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Teaching Philosophy

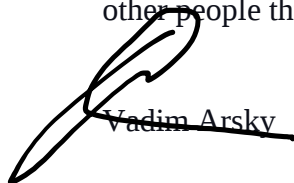
A student's deep understanding is my objective as an educator. My philosophy consists of giving students the best support to understand what, how, why, where, and when. As a music educator, my task is to help individuals understand music and participate in the musical world. As a high educator, I should strive to help future musicians and music educators to broaden their music knowledge and develop their abilities.

Music has been a part of my life since childhood. I grew up listening to my father singing, playing the guitar, and the piano. Furthermore, my brothers and I used to play a game to guess the name of the songs and the singers when listening to music on the radio during long car trips. These activities were when I had the most fun during my early years and influenced me to become a musician and a music educator. It was amazing the amount of learning I got just from listening to music.

My philosophy starts by pointing the crucial importance of people's exposition to music. Everyone should be exposed to music and be able to understand, appreciate and make it. While teaching saxophone and jazz band students, I point out the importance of listening to other players. They should connect those performances to their music theory and history knowledge, make a conclusion and construct an interpretation individually or collectively. On the other hand, I strive to have my music theory students connecting their acquired knowledge to compositions or performances. These connections would make those learned pieces of knowledge make more sense.

One of my biggest challenges as a music educator at Universidade de Brasília was to deal with a great diversity of students. As we don't have an official music education program in Brazil, students come to the university with a lack of musical knowledge and performance skills. Essentially, in Brazil, there are two ways to learn music before entering a university: through private music schools or by joining a social affirmative action program of music education developed in poor neighborhoods, which indicates two very different groups of students socially and economically. Dealing with these two realities in the same classroom made me develop strategies and curriculums to accommodate students' diversity and integrate them to learn and work together. Furthermore, I attempt to use the latest music technology programs and apps for my classes, which becomes a real challenge with low-income students. Therefore, I try to use open-source ones to make it affordable for everyone.

Finally, my teaching philosophy is to help every student achieve a deep understanding in music and a solid performance on their instruments, no matter the age, level, or background. Additionally, my goal is to assist my students connect to other people through music.



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