

Finding and Sharing Joy In Your Everyday Teaching
Mary Lubaroff
Thursday, 8:00 AM MMEA Presentation

From day to day, hour to hour, minute to minute, we influence lives. We may do this through orchestra, band, choir, or general music classes, but do we all address the goal of instilling a sense of joy about music in our students?

We have the opportunity to inspire our students with enthusiasm in our everyday routines, excitement over the acquisition of new skills, and guidance in what they can go out and experience in the world of music.

This session will present ideas about how we can demonstrate and model our joy for music with students and strategies to engage them to be joyful collaborators.

1. Inspiration for this presentation:

- A. Jung-Ho Pak, MO All State Orchestra Conductor from 2014 - Meet The Conductor
- B. Personal Experience - people watching...who has JOY in what they do?
 - a. Teachers, plumbers, house painters, wine and beer makers...
 - b. My own teaching, making the day to day routine joyful

2. JOY - This valuable aspect of our art can be overlooked in favor of more conventional and safe subjects. We have to make sure we don't lose sight of the process in lieu of the results.

3. In The Classroom

- A. The Day to Day Routine - do we give meaning to the skills we teach?
 - a. Tuning
 - b. Warm Ups
 - c. Scales
 - d. Rhythm Practice
 - e. New skills
 - f. Listening - links to recordings
- B. Curriculum
 - . Be Creative, make it work for you
- a. Excitement for the small things = Joy for the big things

4. Preparing Future Musicians and Teachers

- a. Do we address this (Joy) in music education courses for future teachers?
 - c. Is expressing joy in teaching a learned behavior or innate?
- d. Do we assume that our students understand the joy of what we do?
- e. Do we consider their background, life experiences?
- f. Is there JOY at home, let alone in music?

5. Can JOY be taught? Or, can JOY be instilled?

- a. Joy must emanate from the teacher.
- b. If the teacher is not able to understand the nature of joy in the art, then it can not be passed onto the student, and this is why joy is not part of the curriculum.

6. Real Life Examples

- a. Yo Yo Ma
- b. Itzhak Perlman
- c. _____
- d. _____

7. Quotes on JOY and Fulfillment in Teaching

It is the supreme art of the teacher to awaken joy in creative expression and knowledge.

Albert Einstein

Teachers affect eternity; no one can tell where their influence stops.

Henry Brooks Adams

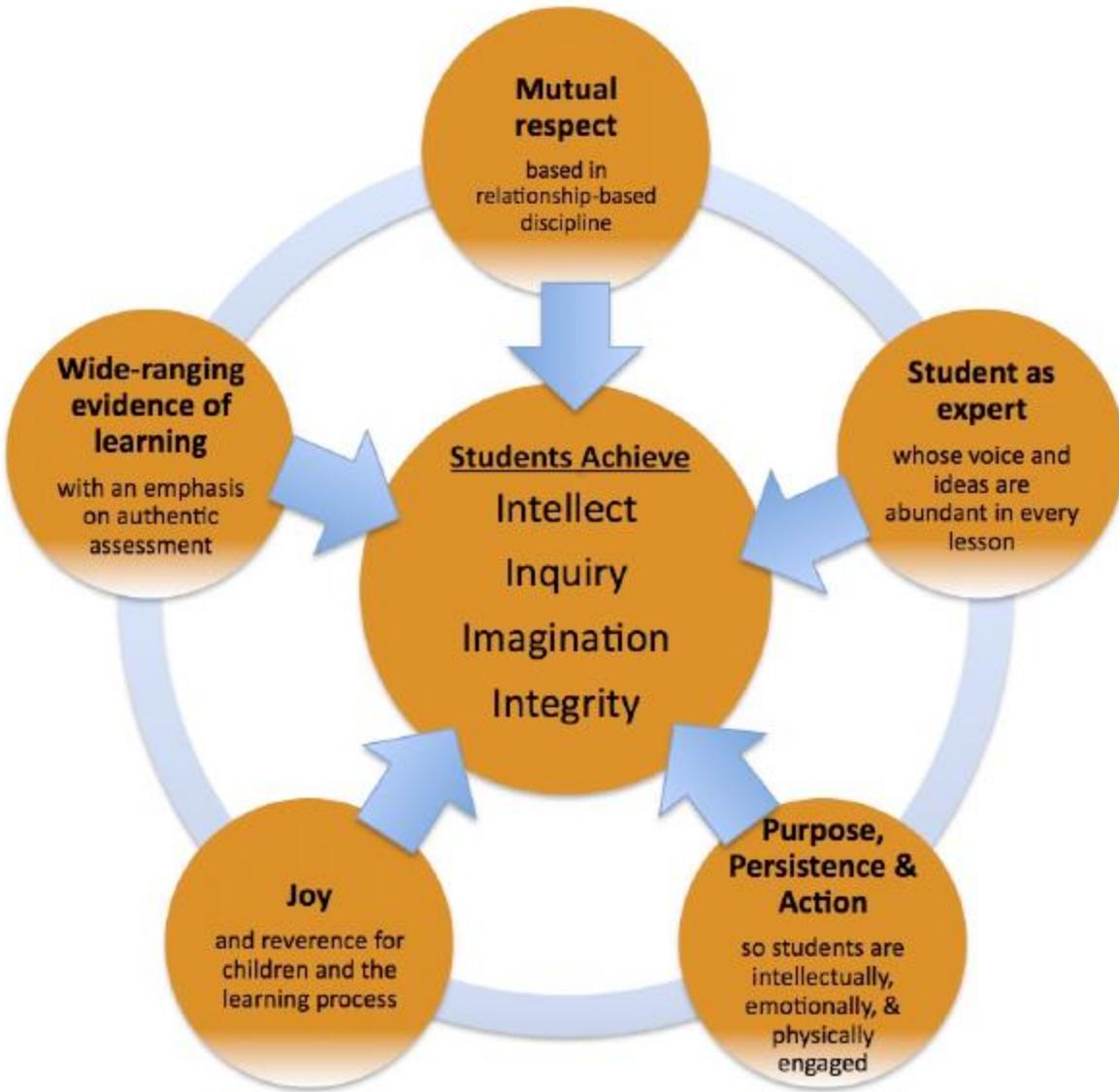
8. Thoughts for finding JOY in your teaching

edited from the website: <http://tunstalltimes.blogspot.com/2014/04/keeping-joy-in-teaching.html>

- Close your door, look at your students, breathe deeply, and teach from your heart like no one is watching.
- Slow down and listen - Focus on the minds in front of you. Does anything else really matter right this second?
- Be honest without being negative
- Focus on small things to make big changes over time.
- Let go of what is out of your hands.
- Be the point of positive impact for that student or that team teacher
- Find something that brings you joy with your students and be sure it happens often.
- Find one area you feel lacking in {we all have those areas} and google it. Research and read all you can until you feel like you have a plan to change one part of what you are doing to make it better. You may even find that what you are doing is actually right on track!
- Prioritize and let the rest go
- Be yourself because you are amazing...you are a TEACHER!

9. Center for Inspired Teaching believes all students deserve Inspired Teachers who teach them *how* to think, not just what to think.

We define an excellent education as students excelling in the 4 I's: **Intellect, Inquiry, Imagination**, and **Integrity**. To ensure students successfully build the 4 I's, school must include **5 Core Elements**:



<http://www.inspiredteaching.org/about/our-model/5-core-elements>