

Establishing A Value System Within Your Music Program



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WHAT DOES IT
MEAN TO BE
HUMAN?

Hildegard of Bingen: Virtues, Values, and Visions, oh my!

Your First Philosophy of Music Education- What was it?

The Personal Perspective

1. Start with your own experience as a musician, student, and person. (ask your WHY)
 2. What qualities in your own (music) teachers have you appreciated?
 3. What part of teaching brings you joy? Why is this career important to you?
 4. What boundaries do you want to set with your work/home life?
 5. What kind of relationship do you want with your colleagues?
 6. Do you have any personal challenges that you need to constantly be aware of when you teach?
 7. What role does mindfulness have in your value system as a person?
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The Student Perspective

1. The overall environment- Do you feel your students feel cared about? Why?
2. How do you develop trust within your class environment?
3. Skill building and nurturing a love for the artform. How do you balance these two? What does this balance look like?
4. What do you need to model every day for them to follow you on a learning journey?
5. Go hard. Go easy. Sometimes, both of these demonstrate care. Is reading the room and knowing when to pivot important to you? Should it be?
6. When the student goes home and a guardian asks, "How was orchestra today?", what do you hope they say?
7. Would you want your own child talked to the way you are talking to someone else's child?
8. Do you believe in the Golden Rule? What about the Platinum Rule?



The Community Perspective



1. What does a year look like on and off the podium?
2. Competition driven or not?
3. Who are your biggest supporters in your community and why?
Private teachers, alumni group, parent group, administration, etc.
4. Trips/Tours/Events: What is the expectation?
5. Do you have obligations to the schools around you? Sharing with band, orchestra, choir? What does that look like?
6. Are there any core values you have as a teacher that do not fit in your community?
7. What parts of your program need changing?
8. Does anything need to evolve?
9. Does anything need to be protected?

The Musical Craft

1. Repertoire or Skill Building- Where do you stand on this spectrum? How do they feed each other in your classroom?
2. Method Book- yes or no?
3. Repertoire choice-- culturally responsive?
Does it grow the person? Is it just “good enough”, check a box, or are you willing to look to find something better?
4. Is perfection a goal for you? What does perfection look like?
5. Do you start with the student experience first and work BACKWARD to the repertoire, or do you start with the repertoire and try to make it fit within the student experience?



2022-2023 Pioneer Orchestras Vision Statement
collaboratively written by students May/June of 2022

In the Pioneer Orchestras, we strive to be respectful, responsible, motivated, and passionate people. We aim for clear communication, while striving to be open-minded and empathetic when the situation truly calls for it. We agree to show confidence or humility as the need arises. In the Pioneer Orchestras, we believe that our journey **together** will be our destination.

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