

Middle School Outreach Ensemble proudly presents....

THE VAULT

MSOE Weekly Newsletter

February 21st, 2018

You don't know? That's GREAT!

Have you ever learned something new that seemed super obvious? I have had that experience many times! How do you feel when that happens? Do you feel embarrassed? "Oh.....I can't believe I didn't know that. I hope no one notices that I just figured this out." How about stupid? "Why didn't I get this before? I should know these things." Maybe a little sad? "If I don't know this stuff, how will I ever be a good music teacher? This is hopeless."

Well.....I know I have felt all of those things, and I am sure you have too! We tend to hold ourselves up to a very high standard, and in many ways, that is great! We should strive to do our best. The thing is, we do not know everything, and truthfully, we never will. However, that is not a bad thing. We should not take that as a reason to give up. Instead, we should just continue learning! Instead of feeling embarrassed, stupid, or sad, why don't we be glad we know that new piece of information now? It is not a bad thing to learn something new, even if you feel like you should have known it. What is bad is when we stop trying to learn. Everyone is learning something new every day, and that is nothing to be ashamed of. Keep on learning, MSOE!!

-Tabitha Lindahl, Violin Teaching Artist



Qualities I admire in a teacher are....

The qualities I admire most in a teacher are their compassion and love for their students! When a student feels respected and cared for by their teacher that makes all the difference! -Isabel Waterbury, Horn Teaching Artist

By far, the most valuable thing in my most influential teachers was their ability to teach me to love learning. If I can do that for my future students, then I'll be one step closer to following in their footsteps! -Anna Varosy, Trombone Teaching Artist

Social Justice-Play it Forward!

Two MSOE rehearsals ago, one of Matt Shiley) and my students, Edward, had misplaced a pair of his marimba mallets. Matt and I searched everywhere; under chairs, music stands, other kids' mallet bags, and they were nowhere to be seen! This had never happened before, so Matt and I were just as confused as Edward! We told him that we would keep a lookout for his mallets this week. The next MSOE rehearsal, a concert band percussionist came up to Matt and I and told us that he had accidentally picked up a pair of mallets that weren't his after rehearsal. Both of our eyes grew wide as we saw Edward's initials on the side of the mallets - we had found them! Later on when our students were sharing acts of kindness they had seen or been a part of, we concluded it by presenting Edward with his mallets (to which everyone then gasped and cheered) and we emphasized the kindness that the concert band percussionist had shown. That person took the initiative to make sure those mallets got back to the owner, and it turned our rehearsal into a very positive environment. Keep playing it forward everyone! -Chase Hildebrandt, Percussion Teaching Artist

Advice from the Heart-

Teaching Tip- All students are capable of many things. Do not underestimate the knowledge they hold.

A concept I now understand in greater depth- Repetition with variations! This is a great way for anyone to learn no matter what their learning style is. If a subject is presented to students many different times in many different ways, they are bound to get it at least one of those times.

Social Justice in My Life- The other day, I helped someone clean snow off of their car because they didn't have a windshield scrapper. All it took was a kind gesture of asking the individual if they need some help. You never know the impact that will be made on the individuals you help.

Reflecting on an inspirational teacher- One of my high school teachers, Mrs. Cleays, was a strong advocate of working smarter and not harder. I believe this is an important ideal to strive for when you are involved with many different activities.

Feedback that helps me grow is- Concise feedback is very helpful. Naming exactly what I did wrong or right helps me grow. The feedback should be constructed like an Oreo cookie. The top and bottom are two things that went well and the middle is the action that I can improve upon.

Just remember- Students come from all walks of life and live different realities. Do not assume that they will all learn at the same pace and with the same mindset.

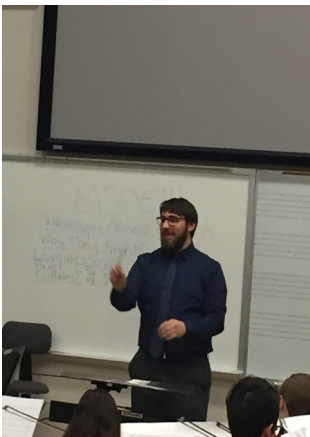
-Spencer Kinnison, Orchestra Conductor and Bass Teaching Artist



If we put light into our students through our teaching, just think of what they might do for others and for all of us.

—Logan Griffin, Cello Teaching Artist

Picture Time!



Orchestra conductor Josh Greiner enjoys his time on the podium!



Bassoon power! High school teaching artist Sebastian Lawton and teaching artist Mira Bartell pose with their student Collins Johnson after a successful sectional. And they even matched!



Logan Griffin demonstrates a shake down as a brain break!

Trivia is my favorite thing!

Welcome to the trivia column of the MSOE 2018 Vault! Each week, there will be at least two questions. Sometimes they will be multiple choice! Submit your answers to heather.ewer@colostate.edu, and correct answers will earn you a raffle slip in the hat for a prize! Drawings will be held during our Wednesday night meetings!

Trivia Week #4:

- 1. What horror movie famously filmed in Colorado incorporated snap pizzicatos to depict a suspenseful moment for the first time?**
- 2. How many characters does any singer who sings Schubert's "Erlkönig" need to portray? (You can and should listen to it!)**
- 3. Name three students in your section and where they go to school!**

My Musical Beliefs-

No person should ever be denied the opportunity to participate in music. It is the inspiration we receive through music that I believe fulfills us in ways that nothing else can. Music connects to everything else we do in life. For all different cultures and people, music has been symbolic, and has even served as a uniting force among nations. I believe that music is the most important means of expression and enjoyment in people's lives, and my goal is to help every student I teach experience this.



In my opinion, ensemble performance is the most gratifying result of music education. Collaborating with other students to create a work of art, while contributing your own expressions and emotion, brings out a passion that cannot be drawn out outside of the music hall. I believe ensemble playing has the highest potential to inspire kids anywhere in the school. Students must be able to read music, listen constantly to the ensemble around them, respond to the director's motions, and contribute their own expression to everyone else in the room. It is the ultimate teamwork activity.

Music ensembles are the sole reason I am doing this today, and I will strive to bring that same inspiration to every student that walks into my classroom. Of course, ensembles would be a dying breed without student participation, and student participation is all about inspiration and recruitment. If you inspire students in the program, they will stay. It is those outside of the program who are harder to reach. I think it is a tragedy that instrumental music programs are such a small percentage of the school population. Students not currently in their school music program can be reached through more methodical recruitment. When I am running an instrumental program I want to reach as many students as possible. I plan to get creative with recruitment efforts. I want to advertise to more students through performances within school. I want as many people involved in and supporting their instrumental ensembles as possible. Student participation should be voluntary, and it is my hope that all students who participate are having the best experience in their ensemble that they will have at school all day.

I believe that teachers should show respect to their students in order to earn it from them in return. A good teacher should be driven, welcoming, and passionate about what they are doing. A good teacher will always put the student's needs above their own, and will always be available to help. A good director will bring out the same passion in their students that they too demonstrate.

As a future teacher, I will never push students to do something I do not believe they can achieve, but I will always push students to realize their full potential as a musician. Public education and music should always be a partnership, no matter what cultural background you come from. Music relates to everything else in life, and I believe there is no class or subject today that can have such a profound effect on students. My goal is to bring out the passion inside every student that walks through the door. Maybe they' will find a new calling in life.

-Tony Swope, Violin Teaching Artist

Letter from the Editor-

Teaching is an art that requires a great deal of self-reflection. After Wednesday's teaching experiences, I enjoyed listening to reflections from both Matt Shiley (Percussion) and Anna Varosy (Trombone) and discussing their lessons— what went well, and what they are excited about improving for next week. Thank you so much to the both of you for taking the time to have this conversation out loud instead of just inside of your heads! It is so important for every teacher to discuss pedagogy and practices with their colleagues. Take time out of your week to meet with or email Dr. Johnson, Ms. Obluda, Katrina, Sebastian, or myself— and truly, everyone in the program— about what is working in your teaching and what is not. We all are here to listen and help each other grow!

Stay excellent, everyone!

-Heather Ewer, Associate Program Director



Contact Us-

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via the Google Form found
in the MSOE Ecosystem!

Questions?

Email-
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Go MSOE!!!!!!