

HOW DOES MUSIC EDUCATION IMPACT STUDENT LEARNING?

MUSIC EDUCATION :

- Gives students access to unique ways of knowing and displaying their knowledge. Music draws on the multiple intelligences and accommodates a variety of learning styles.
- Promotes cross-cultural understanding and knowledge of civilizations and cultures, past and present, and helps students appreciate the diversity of their cultural heritage.
- Provides a universal language of communication.
- Offers means for creative expression.
- Provides opportunities for students to solve problems that require higher level thinking skills.
- Promotes active rather than passive involvement.
- Makes abstract concepts concrete and understandable for learners.
- Reaches students who are not otherwise being reached (e.g. at-risk students, economically disadvantaged, underachieving gifted and talented students, students talented in performing arts).
- Transforms how students are perceived by others, revealing abilities in learners previously unrecognized by teachers or other students.
- Builds community by providing opportunities for collaboration.
- Sharpens students' learning-to-learn (critical thinking, problem-solving, perservance) and social skills (team work, collaboration).
- Connects learning experiences to the real world of work (time management, discipline, commitment).
- Provides means for gathering concrete evidence of student learning (perfomance-based assessment).
- Teaches three processes of life-long learning: critical thinking, creativity, and reflection.
- Builds students' self-awareness and personal skills required for success, such as planning, persistence, perseverance, and time management.