

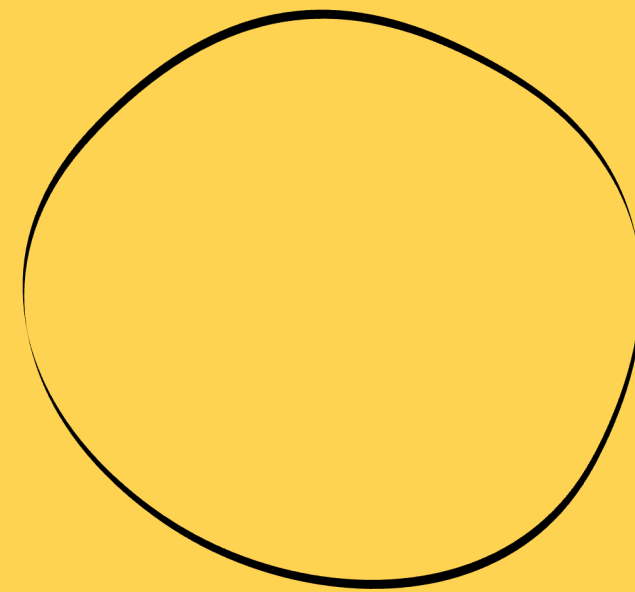


The ABCs of Artistic Ensemble Rehearsing

**Dr. Lauren Reynolds
University of Delaware**

The Midwest Clinic
December 19, 2022, 2:00 p.m., W179

Session Overview



Background

Two types of
rehearsals

Connecting with
your WHY

WHY as guiding
principles

ABCs

Questions

A bit of background

my 30 second bio



your
background

30 second share

with a new

colleague

TWO Rehearsal Types



Artistically
inspiring



...

share an example or two
w/ your new colleague



WHY did you place
these rehearsals in
that category?

speaking of



Think back to a
transformative artistic
experience



WHY was that moment
so meaningful?

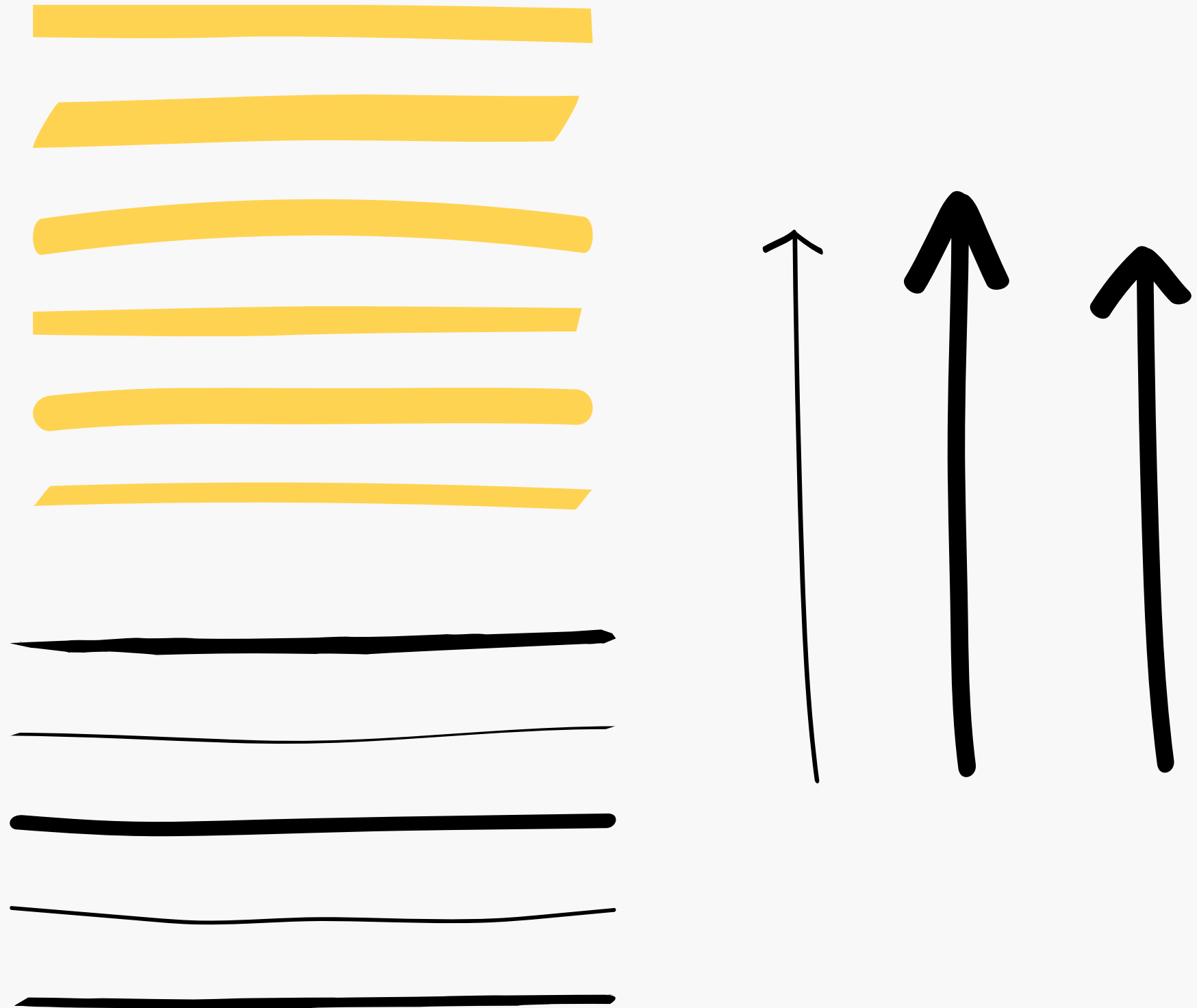


Let's transform our
WHY into guiding
principles

Guiding Principles

At the core of artistic rehearsing ought to be a set of guiding principles or beliefs.

When these rise to the top, everything else falls into place.



Guiding
Principles
should be...

succint

meaningful

memorable

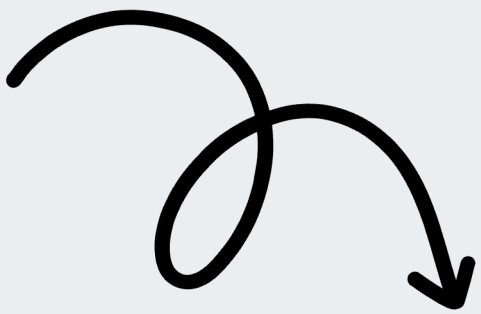
few in number

rooted in our
WHY

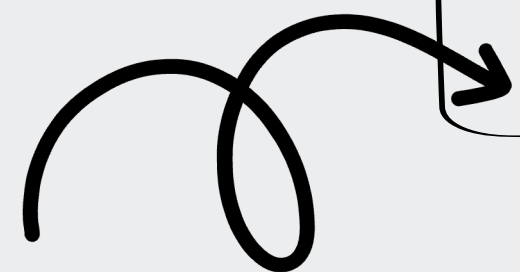


My guiding principles





ABCs



a smattering of ideas

A firm.

use PERSON FIRST
POSITIVE language



B elieve

that all players,
regardless of age or
experience level, have
genuine artistry inside of
them.



C hallenge

them to reach their artistic
potential...ALWAYS!



Direct

players' listening
as a means of addressing
balance and alignment issues.
Avoid tinkering with the
proverbial stereo knobs.



Evaluate

every rehearsal after it happens,
preferably as soon after
it happens as possible!



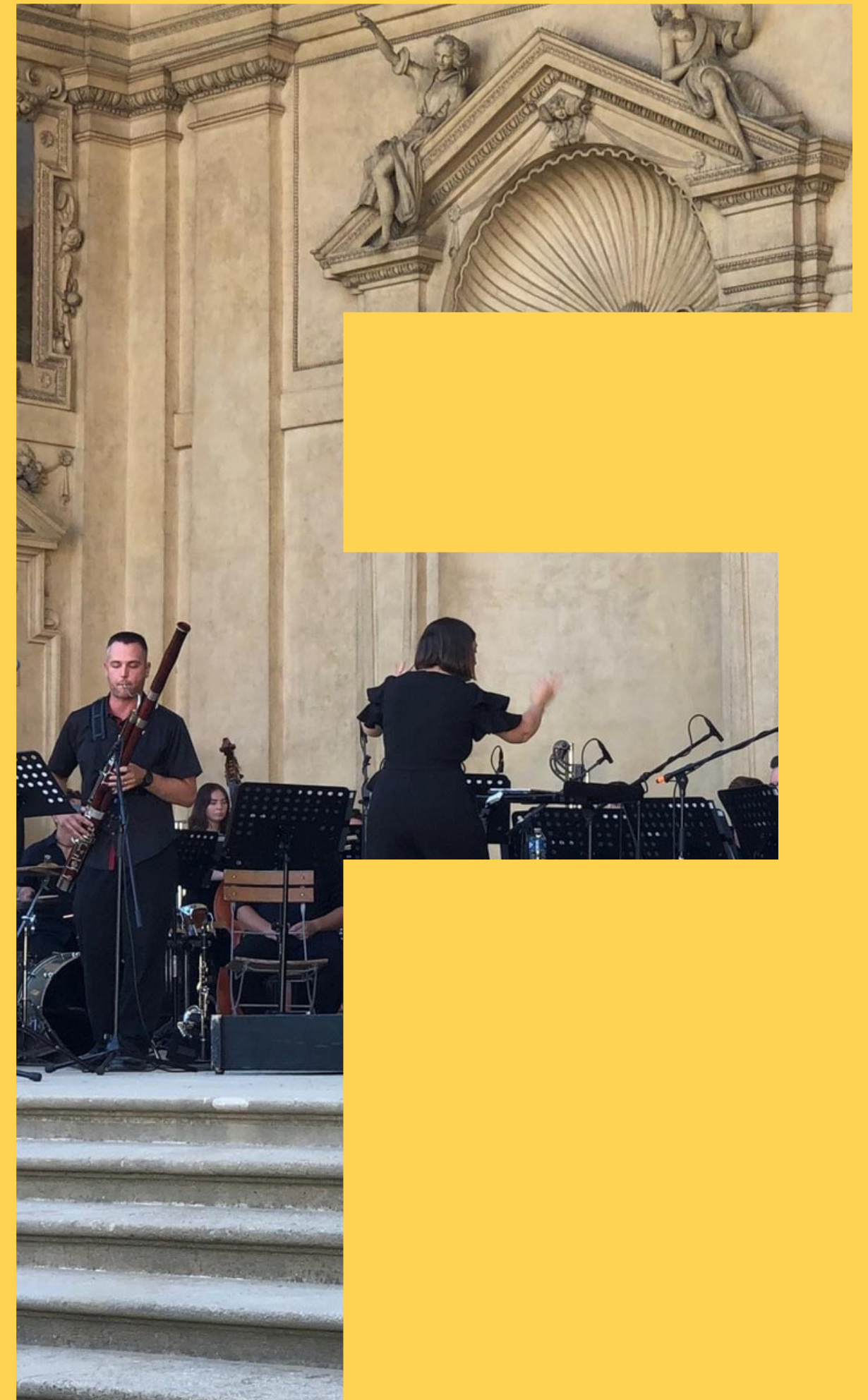
Flexibility

is key.

Be flexible in every
way:

in your set up...
rehearsal style...

etc



G esture

MORE.
Talk less.



H ighlight

what is going
well, not just
what is going
wrong.

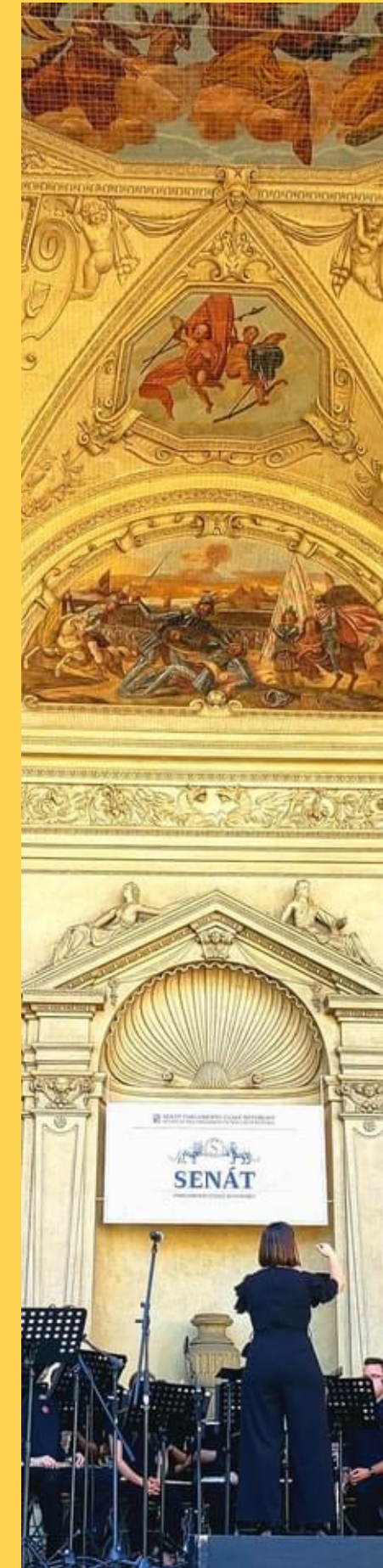


I nsist

that they play with their
best sound.

ALWAYS.

No matter what your
primary objective of the
moment happens to be.



Join

your ideas and opinions
with those of your
players.



Kindle

a fire of curiosity within
your players.

Explore possibilities!

Engage in discovery!

Probe with thoughtful
questions!



L ove

the people with whom
you are making music.
Do so genuinely.



M odel

great musicianship and a
commitment to artistry
through
...score study
...purposeful gesture
...thoughtful commentary



Navigate

the rehearsal room!

Nailing our feet to the podium
can exacerbate the perceived
separation between conductor
and ensemble. Fear not
proximity to players!



Offer

specific, thoughtful, and
ARTISTIC feedback
frequently.



Predict

challenges, but don't
assume they will make
mistakes!



Quash

fear and anxiety about
failure/embarrassment
with praise of bravery,
vulnerability, and
expressivity



Releases

embraced as a means of
entering silence
invite more artistic effort
than as a means of
cutting off sound.



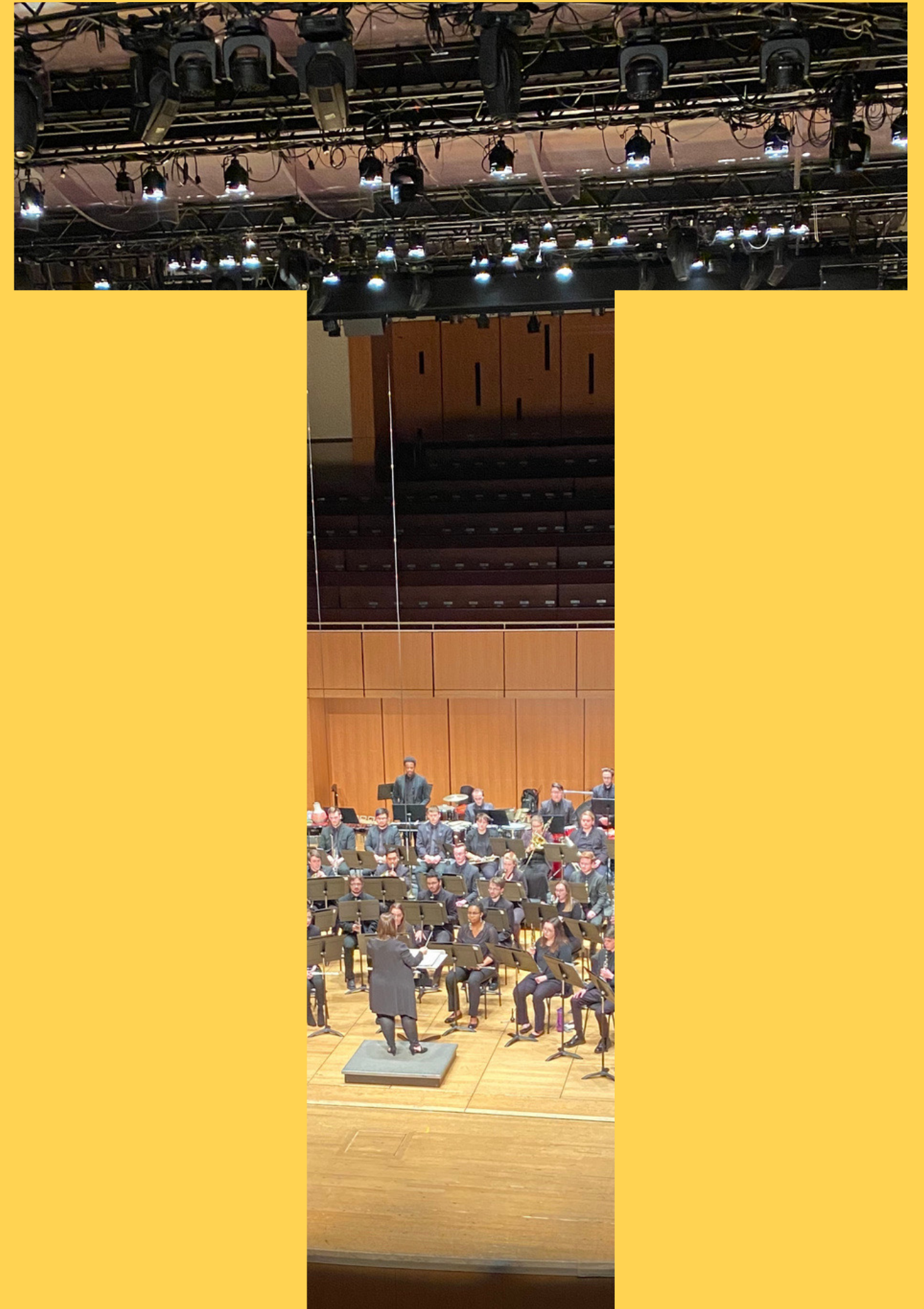
Sans

conductor playing,
though scary at first,
always increases artistic
independence.



T one

is the foundation of
excellent intonation.
Playing in **TONE** *always*
comes before playing in
TUNE.



Utilize

players as role models,
not just of accuracy...

...leading breath

...of style/articulation

...of phrase shape

...of bravery



Vocalize

with them regularly.
Encourage them to use
their voices in EVERY.
SINGLE. REHEARSAL!



We/Us.

I/Me



e**X**pect

of your players what you
would expect of yourself
as a musician -
nothing less!



Yield

responsibility to the
players. Conducting at
them more/harder only
compounds issues.



Zoom

out frequently. Never
sacrifice architecture for
detail.





Special thanks

video clips conducted by UD graduate students

Katie Rice



Brittany Barry



Eric Martinez



Tim Mason

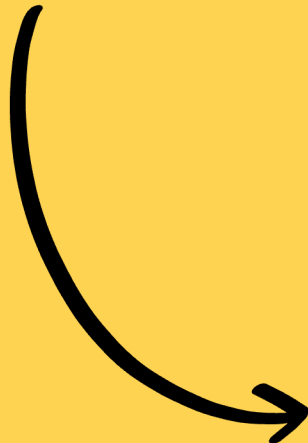




* artistic rehearsing =
happy students

x x

x x



Thank you!

lhr@udel.edu

