

The Importance of Creating A Culture of Excellence in Your Classroom

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There is a “culture” in your classroom, whether you’ve intended it or not, and it impacts every aspect of your program. This session offers meaningful and practical methods to create a culture of excellence in your program where students feel loved and accepted while inviting students to contribute to that culture.

Growing your culture like a Garden

“Growing a culture in your classroom is similar to growing a garden”



Purpose and Meaning (soil)

Finding your Why and Defining your excellence

“Success is peace of mind which is a direct result of self-satisfaction in knowing you made the effort to do the best of which you are capable” -John Wooden

- Values and Priorities
- Finding Your Why
 - A culture of excellence begins first with your personal internal expectations, preparation, standards and approach to communication and rehearsing
 - What are your personal values and priorities? How do they show up in your classroom and teaching?
- Defining Your Excellence- What does excellence in musicianship and performance look like to you?



Mindset and Attitude (sun)

Making your garden grow

- The components needed to grow your culture
- Energy and vibe in your ensemble



Relationships and Connections (water)

A word about culture

"Culture is a set of living relationships working toward a shared goal. It's not something you are. It's something you do." -Daniel Coyle

- What is your culture? What do you want your culture to be?
- A positive culture creates a sense of belonging
- Strive for a we/us community, not an I/me



Music- seeds, flowers, fruits

Making your garden grow

"As music educators we are in the music business and the people business (music/musicianship and relationships) and our mindset, relationships, and purpose will positively influence the quality of music performance, musicianship, energy, and culture in our programs."

Resources to Explore

Servant Leadership Association for Music (SLAM)

Upbeat! Mindset, Mindfulness, and Leadership in Music Education and Beyond - Matthew Arau

Pathway to Success - Scott Rush

