

Teach Like Your Hair Is on Fire: Rehearsal techniques that engage all learners, establish ownership, and create meaningful learning

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Why Does Band/Orchestra Matter?

Understanding Your Students

- Learning Styles:
 - Visual - prefer to see info and to visualize the relationships between ideas
 - Auditory - auditory learners like to recite information out loud to remember it; give them a chance to repeat your points back to you by asking questions and calling for student responses
 - Reading/Writing - learn best when interacting with text; is more powerful than hearing or seeing images
 - Kinesthetic - hands-on, experiential learners; they learn best by doing

4 Guiding Principles for Effective Rehearsals

1. Do only what you can do
2. Process is everything
3. Students must witness your passion for them and their success
4. Students must witness your passion for music making and your musicianship

Student Goals for Class Each Day:

1. Expression
2. Critical Thought
3. Engagement in learning throughout the entirety of class

Goals of Warm Up

1. Physical/Pedagogical (air, bowing, posture, etc.)
2. Mental (critical thinking)
3. Expression-Beauty!

“The Funnel”

1. Sensitizing the ensemble

Keeping Students Engaged

1. “Rapid Fire” questions
2. Empower your students to lead and be expressive!
3. Let them teach each other
4. Context = Connections (making it real)
5. Humor and Analogies

