

Ways of Knowing: Production, Perception, and Reflection

Convincing Learning occurs when students are involved in generating music, (in performing, improvising, composing or mapping what they hear), listening discerningly, (to their own or someone else's music) and thinking critically about what they are producing or hearing, (thinking on the spot, reflecting over time, in speech, in writing, or nonverbally.) Learning can then be described as Production, Perception, and Reflection.

As this approach is implemented we hope to find that there are mutual influences such as the influence of reflection on performance or the influence of a composing exercise on the ability to listen or appreciate music.

As the year progresses we will have an opportunity for entry/ mid level questions, lessons, projects, peer interviews and coaching, individual performance assessments, ensemble directing, error detection, arranging and composing, journal entries, self assessment, comments, along with my comments. There will be an opportunity for revising a second or in some cases a third time. This approach will give the students a time line that shows evidence of learning along with a personal profile. I feel this will assist them in setting their next goal. (Individual and group)

The portfolio will be the vehicle for monitoring the development of production, perception and reflection skills. Over the course of instruction, the students and myself will engage in continuing dialogue. Through our discussions, students will learn to reflect on their experiences, and take stock of their varied accomplishments while gaining insight into the challenges ahead. One of the goals will be to heighten students' awareness of their own learning by sharpening their abilities to reflect on, critique and shape their work.