

## POINTS TO CONSIDER IN TEACHING MUSIC TO DIVERSE LEARNERS

*by:*

**IAN A. CLEMENTE**

*ALS SHS Teacher Mabatang National HighSchool, SDO Abucay Annex*

Teaching music to diverse learners can be a challenge, but with proper planning and preparation, it can also be a rewarding experience. Campbell's (2004) studies of high school students exposed to diverse music found that their awareness of different structures was then reflected in their compositions and improvisations.

This advantage is beyond explained by Anderson and Campbell (2010) as they refer to learners building "better musical springiness and poly musicality", which can underwrite a wider range of polishes reflected in their musical ingenuity, specifying that flexibility and originality are imperative elements in developing creativity. They emphasize the value of early publicity to an enormous array of music.

When teaching music to diverse learners, there are several key points to consider creating an inclusive and effective learning environment.

**Different learning styles:** Not all students learn in the same way, and it is important to recognize and accommodate the different learning styles of our learners. As a teacher, it is important to use a variety of teaching methods to reach all students.

**Cultural background:** Understanding each student's cultural background can help create a more inclusive learning environment. Knowing what music is important to a student can help you to make connections between their culture and the music they are learning. For example, if a student is from a Latin American background, incorporating salsa or mariachi music into the curriculum can help to make the learning experience more meaningful and relevant to them.

**Adapting to different skill levels:** Some students may have prior experience with music, while others may be new to the subject. It is important to create a curriculum that includes all skill levels and provides extra support for students who need it. Consider using alternative instruments, such as percussion instruments or simple chordal instruments like the ukulele, for students who may struggle with more complex instruments like the piano or guitar.

**Use of technology:** Technology can be a valuable tool for teaching music to diverse learners. Online resources, such as YouTube tutorials or interactive music games, can be used to supplement traditional teaching methods. Additionally, technology can be used to create customized learning experiences for each student, considering their individual needs and learning styles.

**Encouragement and positive reinforcement:** Encouragement and positive reinforcement are key to creating a positive learning environment. Whether it's a smile, a high five, or a well-timed compliment, it's important to recognize and reward the achievements of your students. This can help to build confidence and motivate students to continue learning and improving.

**Flexibility:** When teaching music to diverse learners, it is important to be flexible and open to change. Different students may have different needs, and what works for one student may not work for another. Be willing to adjust your teaching methods and lesson plans as needed to meet the needs of your students.

**Collaboration:** Collaborative learning is an effective way to help diverse learners learn music. Encouraging students to work together in small groups can help to build teamwork and communication skills, while also providing opportunities for students to learn from one another.

Accessibility: Making sure that all students have equal access to resources and materials is important for creating an inclusive learning environment. This may involve providing alternative materials for students with visual or auditory impairments, such as braille sheet music or audio recordings.

In conclusion, teaching music to diverse learners can be a challenge, but with careful consideration and preparation, it can also be a rewarding and fulfilling experience. By understanding and accommodating different learning styles, cultural backgrounds, skill levels, and individual needs, you can create a positive and inclusive learning environment for all of your students.

#### *References:*

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