TEACHING THE CREATIVE PROCESS IN THE CLASSROOM

UNDERSTANDING THE CREATIVE PROCESS CAN LEAD TO EXTRAORDINARY OUTCOMES

Music education and active music making provides a powerful platform to develop transferrable skills that can benefit any professional workplace. These skills can include networking, collaboration, entrepreneurship, and creative problem solving. All these skills are rooted in the creative process which can be practiced in musical and non-musical activities in your classroom.

Spark Curiosity!
Explore the process of ideation and divergent/convergent thinking with your class to arrive at a creative solution for a problem.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES
1. Demonstrate understanding and application of the creative process
2. Actively engage in ideation and divergent/convergent thinking
3. Exercise decision making and judgement in choosing among various options/solutions

LESSON PLANS
Consider developing lesson plans to meet these learning objectives through the study of the creative process. Here are some ideas to get you started:

- Present your class with a non-musical challenge that would benefit your music class. Examples can include: innovative ideas to promote an upcoming concert to attract an audience; new ways to recruit future ensemble members; novel approaches to fundraising to support the ensemble, etc. Make the challenge as hands-on and directly relevant to your class or ensemble as possible.
- Explain the creative process and ideation techniques with your class. You can find an excellent explanation of the creative process and ideation here.
- Organize the class into small teams. Have them address the challenge through divergent thinking encouraging them to come up with as many ideas as possible regardless of how crazy, unconventional, or “out of the box” they may seem. Next, have the class exercise convergent thinking in which they sort through the various ideas presented to determine the best solution.
- Discuss among the class some of the best solutions and determine potential pathways for executing the idea

RESOURCES
