



# Music Ed Insights



## Five Insights to take with you from... **Groove and Expression with Sammy Miller**

If music is a language, remember it's okay to use mimicking and learning by rote at all points in the learning process.

Consider call and response techniques that combine language, groove and expression right away. Notes can come later.

Make improvisation safe by referring to it as "having a conversation with your friends with your instrument."

Remember how intimidating music theory language is, and substitute familiar words at first. For example: "home" and "away" instead of "tonic/do" and "dominant/sol."

Try this order of learning a tune, with all students: Groove, melody, bass line (form), harmonies (color)

To keep students in your elective ensemble, pay attention to the culture and make sure that students own the program.

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