Samuel Wright Curriculum Vitae

Principles of Teaching

Principle I

Underlying all instruction, in music as well as in other subjects, is the principle that learning is often most effective when *experience precedes theory*, or in Pestalozzian terms, the thing before the sign...

Principle II

Obviously, not all students have had the same experiences, nor have they all been equally successful in understanding their experiences. Therefore, the teacher must organise instruction in such a way as to proceed *from the known to the unknown*...

Principle III

The learning process proceeds most effectively when it is organised in such a way that the specific is related to the general and the general to the specific - in other words, *from the whole to the parts and back again...*

Principle IV

Throughout the educational process, the teacher must realise that the important activity in the classroom is not teaching but learning, and that *learning depends on the desire to learn...*

Principle V

If learning depends of the desire to learn, then *teaching is the art of making students want to learn...*

Cooper, L.C. 2004, *Teaching Band & Orchestration: methods and materials*, GIA Publications, Chicago.

