

Adam Taylor

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Summary

Experienced Music Educator and private instructor seeking employment as an Instrumental Music Teacher.

Professional Experience

Middle School Orchestra Director

August 2014 to present

University Preparatory Academy Middle School – Detroit, MI

- Served as string orchestra director for grades 6 – 8.
- Offered beginning and advanced string orchestra for students.
- Incorporated a variety of expeditionary and project-based learning strategies, coupled with rehearsal strategies.
- Facilitated the opportunity for students to actively participate in the Dearborn Youth Symphony.
- Students performed before a panel of adjudicators in the spring of 2016, 2017, 2019 and 2023 at the Trills & Thrills Music Festival, earning “Excellent” and “Superior” ratings respectively.
- Established several opportunities to perform, both in school functions, and the community abroad.
- Collaborated with the School Operations Manager to establish the first music budget for our school.
- Partnered with DonorsChoose.org to acquire wind and percussion equipment in an ongoing effort to establish a band program.
- Served as Electives Team Content Lead, 2018 - present.

K-8 General and Instrumental Music

August 2012 to June 2014

Detroit Premier Academy – Detroit, MI

- Served as general music instructor for grades K-4 and director of instrumental music for grades 5-8.
- Expanded on national and state benchmarks for music education by implementing cross-curricular focus.
- Offered band and string orchestra programs to students for grades 5-8.
- Offered a drumline program to perform at sporting events, pep assemblies and school presentations.
- Facilitated the opportunity for the instrumental ensembles to compete in the spring of 2014, earning gold (superior) ratings in the process.

Long-term Subbing in K-4 General Music

January 2012 to June 2012

Farmington Public Schools – Farmington Hills, MI

- Assumed duties of general music instructor Brian Christian in January of 2012.
- Created and implemented customized lesson and unit plans unique to grade level.
- Improved student's sense of aesthetic development, melodic contour, rhythm, pulse, and simple dictation using Orff and Kodaly methods.
- Assumed duties as Safety Patrol Coordinator.

Long-term Subbing in Instrumental Music

September 2011 to November 2011

Novi Community Schools – Novi, MI

- Assumed duties of orchestra director Michelle Rais in September 2011.
- Coordinated string programs at Novi Middle School and Novi High School.
- Coordinated participation in string clinics and other MSBOA-sanctioned events.
- Prepared and conducted middle and high school string ensembles in their respective fall concerts.

Student Teaching Experience

August 2008 to January 2009

Northview Public Schools – Grand Rapids, MI

Collaborated with Max Colley, Jr. of Northview High School and Joyce Antel and Mark Lago of Crossroads Middle School and Highland Middle School to carry out rehearsals, lesson planning, and administrative tasks.

Aquinas Jazz Camp Counselor and Combo Instructor

June 2006 to June 2008

Aquinas College – Grand Rapids, MI

- Supervised and coordinated activities for the overnight jazz camp students.
- Auditioned and organized jazz camp students into their respective big band and combo groups. Selected music charts and rehearsed with the beginning level combo groups.
- Coordinated performance logistics for the combo; including song order, solo order, and quality of solos.
- Worked to broaden the students' understanding of the music theory behind the art of improvisation.
- Supervised and coordinated activities for over-night campers.

Education and Training

Aquinas College 2009

Grand Rapids, MI

Music Education

B.M.E

- Instrumental Music Education, specializing in Secondary Education.
- Graduated with a 3.173 cumulative GPA.

Tennessee State University

Nashville, TN

Instrumental Music Education

B.M.E

- Pursued B.M.E., Instrumental Music Education.
- Member of *Aristocrat of Bands* and TSU Wind Ensemble from 2002-2005.

Certifications

JQ Professional Certification in K-12 Secondary Music Education.

Awards

- Awarded the 2017-18 "Spirit of U" Award, as nominated and voted on by colleagues at University Prep Academy.
- Awarded the Bennie Carew Memorial Jazz Scholarship for the 2006-07 and 2007-08 academic years.
- Member of the National Scholars Honor Society since 2006.
- Awarded the Audrey E. Mohler Scholarship for the 2005-06 academic year.
- Recipient of a performance-based scholarship at Tennessee State University from 2002-2005.

Initiatives

- Served as a Faculty Council member (2016-17) and Chapter Adviser (2017-present) for the National Junior Honor Society (University Prep).
- Instituted the school's first Paper Retrieval program by partnering with GFL Environmental Recycling (University Prep).

References

Available upon request