

## **The Methodology of Howard Gardner Applied to Music Learning**

Much has been written about the educational theories of Howard Gardner. First advocated in Frames of Mind: The Theory of Multiple Intelligences (1983), Gardner's theory of multiple intelligences has been the basis of Gardner-like learning centers and Gardner instructional materials. His newest book, The Disciplined Mind (1999), makes a strong case for a variety in education based around three vital human attributes; the true, the beautiful, and the good. His theory of "multiple intelligences" now embraces nine distinct areas of brain potential.

Those who teach music could glean much from Gardner's theories. It would be a mistake, however, to assume that since one is involved in the teaching of music that whole brain is engaged. Though the music teacher might be teaching music, that teacher may not be teaching in a musical manner or accessing all of the intelligences. The following is a sample of the many possible teaching strategies that the "Gardner aware" music teacher might explore:

<b><u>TEACHING ACTIVITY</u></b>	<b><u>INTELLIGENCE PATHWAY</u></b>
Provide & Allow Verbalization	LINGUISTIC (paired with musical)
Explain & Perform Relationships	LOGICAL-MATHEMATICAL
Model Musical Performance	MUSICAL
Teach Music with Movement	BODILY-KINESTHETIC
Diagram Musical Concepts	SPATIAL
Sensitize Students to Conducting	INTERPERSONAL
Discuss Performance Feelings	INTRAPERSONAL
Allow Musical Introspection	EXTISTENTIAL
Explore the Natural Laws of Music	NATURAL