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Philosophy of Teaching

Choral music is an art form unlike any other I have ever experienced. Singing is the one form of music where you are the instrument. It is so personal and yet so exciting and invigorating when singing with others. Music is such an important part of life. Music helps to fill the soul in a way that other disciplines cannot. Music is the first place my students run to when they are upset, or happy or pensive. Music can even reach unborn babies as well as Alzheimer patients in their latter stages. There is a natural insatiable hunger in the soul for music.

Music is the vehicle with which I choose to teach my students because there are many life lessons they can learn through music and singing in choirs. Choral music gives my students a sense of community as well as pride and self worth. Through music I can expand the horizons of my students with challenging and diverse repertoire. Through music I can encourage my students; I can help them excel above that which they thought they were not able to do. Through music students can dream and be inspired to pursue their own dreams and goals.

Not all of my students will choose to continue singing when they leave high school, but I hope I can at least instill a love and understanding and an appreciation of music within themselves, which will last a lifetime. I love teaching music and everyday I feel blessed to be able to share my love and passion of music with my students.

Biography

Ms. Pompei has been the choral director at Long Reach High School since its inception in 1996. She also teaches Piano I and II at LRHS with the use of the Music Technology Lab. Prior to Howard County, Ms. Pompei taught at High Point HS in PGCPSS for 10 years and one year in the Bel Air Prep School in Los Angeles, CA. Ms. Pompei has a bachelor of science in music education and also a bachelor of science in mathematics from West Virginia University. Her graduate work included a year at University of Maryland and her Master of Music in performance is from Catholic University of America. Ms. Pompei also taught voice privately at the Washington Bible College for three years. Ms. Pompei has also been a soprano soloist and a minister of music at various churches in the DC area for over 25 years in addition to her teaching career. Ms. Pompei's vocal performance included sacred solo singing at various churches in DC area. Ms. Pompei has also performed with UMD Chorale at the Kennedy Center & Royal Festival Hall in London with the National Symphony. Ms. Pompei also had several roles with the Catholic University Summer Opera Theatre, Annapolis Opera and Summer Opera Program in Italy where she sang the role of Fiordiligi in "Cosi fan Tutte" in Rome and in Venice. Ms. Pompei feels she is "living the dream everyday" by teaching at Long Reach High School in HCPSS.