

Jennifer M. Linville
Teaching Philosophy

Between the sounds and silences of the world around us, music springs forth an eternal, shining light that is unquestionably alive. It is my belief that music is an expression of life and is fluid; intangible and yet tangibly perceived. Music is unique in its capacity to challenge and engage people wholly through their intellect, spirit, and body. With such a diverse and powerful medium to utilize, teaching music is vital and rewarding to both student and teacher.

My main goals as a musician and teacher are to help students realize and reach their musical goals and equip them to apply principles of such an intense discipline to other facets of their life. (be it professional or personal) It is my desire to facilitate a positive environment where students are comfortable and encouraged, yet challenged to attain their goals and reach their potential. I plan to achieve this through thoughtful and intentional instruction, guidance, and questioning.

I believe that as teacher it is necessary to demonstrate and explain the value of purposefully caring for their body by relaxing at the piano and minimizing tension at all times. It is essential that I am attentive and can help correct any “bad” or potentially harmful techniques in order to foster and develop healthier practice and performance habits.

Finally, I believe that as a musician and teacher I must continually hunger for knowledge and improve my own abilities through professional development and personal growth. It is exciting to remember that I, too, am still learning and must never be satiated nor grow stagnant at any stage of my education. Music is such a fantastic craft because there is no ultimate peak of erudition. Masters and beginners alike always have something to learn.