Instructional Unit Title: The Music in You (designed to span a full course)

Ensemble - Generalist and Performance Pathways

The teacher may model ensemble procedures so that students can understand the importance of procedures in an ensemble setting.

The teacher may model strategies for obtaining proper posture and breathing techniques so that students can internalize the importance of body positioning for optimal sound production within musical ensembles.

The teacher may present various examples of contemporary music styles so that students can analyze necessary procedural/process adjustments to align with the demands of the genre/style (e.g., performance of hip hop, jazz, in comparison to traditional band/choir/orchestra procedures).

The teacher may present various scenarios of ensemble contexts so that students can evaluate the appropriate procedures/expectations for each context.

The teacher may introduce a variety of compositions so that students can begin to understand the unique musical elements that make up Pep Band/Marching Band repertoire (see teacher resources).

The teacher may model a list of criteria for successful production of a recruitment video so students can understand the importance of planning when developing a persuasive/advocacy work (e.g., video, essay, skit).

The teacher may introduce a variety of compositions so that students can begin to understand the unique musical elements that make up concert band repertoire.

The teacher may introduce musical techniques for scale proficiency and articulation techniques so that students can begin exploring their execution and explaining why they are necessary for musical ensemble performance.

The teacher may introduce various examples of tone quality/intonation techniques so that students can begin exploring how to successfully execute desired sound (see teacher resources).

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The teacher model/introduce rhythmic concepts and musical techniques so that students can successfully execute complex patterns in sight reading and musical ensemble performance.

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Performance Assessment: You are the musical director and want to ensure your program continues after your current High School students graduate. You will plan, design and produce a video (or other engaging presentation) that incorporates all the rehearsal and performance practices and techniques you have learned as high school ensemble members. This presentation will be a recruitment tool for students interested in the high school music program. Your final presentation must contain creativity, originality and express the unique teaching styles of your group.

This unit was authored by a team of Colorado educators. The unit is intended to support teachers, schools, and districts as they make their own local decisions around the best instructional plans and practices for all students. To see the entire instructional unit sample with possible learning experiences, resources, differentiation, and assessments visit http://www.cde.state.co.us/standardsandinstruction/instructionalunitsamples.

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