

# Handbell Teacher's Toolkit

Resources for Building a Successful Handbell Program

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You may or may not be an educator, but you definitely know one. Many times, you are your own teacher. Every conductor/educator needs resources, methods, and materials to meet the individual challenges of their musicians. This clinic explores ways to engage musicians with meaningful activities to develop their technique, knowledge, and musicianship. While the class has a strong component geared toward building handbells programs in schools, it is applicable to any musicians with a desire to develop a stronger handbell ensemble.

## **Primary resource - the director**

- Quality musician
  - Have knowledge
  - Have skills
- Quality human
  - Be honest
  - Be yourself
  - Be positive
  - Be versatile

## **Secondary resource - the musicians**

- Keep engaged learning at the forefront
- Build a strong support system (inside and out)
  - Training group
  - Social media
  - Marketing
  - Engage ALL stakeholders
    - Musicians
    - Parents
    - Boosters
    - Administrators
    - Community

## **Tertiary resources - the workshop and the tools**

- Planning
  - Space/ equipment
  - Purpose
  - Ensemble scope
  - What to teach
  - The teaching cycle
  - The lesson cycle
- Instruction
  - Sequenced instruction
    - Knowing the HMA Handbell Notation/Grading System
    - Knowing the available literature, method books, other resources
    - Make the resources relevant
      - Skills/objective related
      - Demographic related
  - Teaching to multiple intelligences in the music classroom (Gardner)
    - The anthill collective
    - Assign the correct positions
      - Teach EVERYONE
- Assessment
  - Formative
    - Appropriate for the goals/objectives
    - Appropriate rubrics
    - Summative - the concert
    - Your baseline for future goals/objectives/concerts
  - Transfer and negative transfer of principles
- Analysis
  - Reflect and revise
  - Share data
  - Quality feedback
    - Recording
    - Other professionals
    - Stakeholders
      - Parents
      - Boosters
      - Administrators
      - Community