



# RAMAKRISHNA TEACHING PHILOSOPHY

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My teaching philosophy in regard to music education is in direct correlation to my diverse upbringing. Born in Italy, to a Swiss mother and Indian father, while growing up in the United States has instilled in me the importance of cross-cultural collaboration. I think of music as one language with a vast number of dialects (I avoid using the term genre because I believe genre has created borders instead of bridges). When musical creators and recipients visualize music as one language of the highest power, we can appreciate every dialect that is its DNA. While teaching, I try to instil the notion that what my students are learning is not only a profession or hobby, but a deep form of communication and feeling. I encourage my students to be open minded, accepting, and curious about various dialects, and more importantly to find their own personalities, cultures, and goals in music. Through a strong focus on aural/oral methodology, I have applied my philosophy to various instrumental and vocal private instruction of various ages, and group settings including an after-school music program for middle school children (ages 10-14), and a course curriculum for higher music education called “Global Music Concepts and Application”.