

LINDA LANIER-KEOSAIAN

RESPONSE TO KATHY'S CRITIQUE

Kathy, do not ever hesitate to criticize me. I thrive on a good constructive critique and will grow because of it.

I found when reading your first critique, however, that it felt as if you were writing to someone else. Some of what you wrote about I could not find in my "Purpose of Music Education." Your first sentence says "To 'enjoy and appreciate music' is really what you need to flush out." Did you mean "flesh out?" Or to get rid of it, as in "flush out?"

Also, you ask how we can "make" someone appreciate music. I never said in my statement that I thought we should "make" someone appreciate music, nor did I say that we *have* to have music in our lives in order to live fully. What I did say is that music education presents to students a *means* of enjoying and appreciating music of many different kinds and traditions. I also said that music theory (i.e. notation, harmony, analysis) is important only when it becomes a *tool to empower students to explore music on their own*.

Finally, if I did not believe that music could enrich the lives of my students, no matter on what level they experience it, I could not stand before them as a teacher of music. I am not trying to force onto them my own views, but rather to open some doors through which they might peek from time to time, and, perhaps, even walk through, if they so choose.

See you on Monday.

Linda Lanier-Keosaian