

Teaching Philosophy

As an educator and multidisciplinary artist, I believe theatre is an avenue for students to learn about themselves and the world around us through an artistic lens. My teaching philosophy focuses on students developing their own autonomy and creative skills, expanding their critical thinking skills, and prioritizing multidisciplinary artistry.

My classroom is centered around students, adapting to each learner's individual needs and interests. Self-advocacy is vital to students' growth as artists and humans. Anonymous student feedback forms and community agreements created together with my students are some of the ways I emphasize self-advocacy. Feedback forms happen regularly and are a private way for students to express their opinions on the content and advocate for lessons they want to see in the classroom. Community agreements emphasize expectations and boundaries for all in the classroom and change throughout the year as the classroom evolves. Additionally, every lesson and project are created with flexibility in mind, and can be adapted to address any student's learning style or individual needs.

To help students think critically and engage deeply with classroom content, I incorporate guided open dialogue and diverse content from a variety of perspectives. By centering critical thinking and deep engagement in my teaching, I encourage students to explore and reflect on experiences different from their own and help them better understand the complexities of the world around us.

Multidisciplinary artistry is at the core of who I am both in and out of the classroom. Versatility allows students to develop a deep appreciation for all the art they see and makes them stronger by not limiting their creativity and self-expression. In my classroom, I aim to help students develop a broad range of skills, both within and beyond theatre, giving them creative agency and expanding their holistic learning and adaptability.

Overall, my goal is to encourage each of my students to find their own path and give them the skills they need to flourish. I also strive to cultivate an environment where creativity, open-mindedness, and personal expression are not only encouraged but also celebrated. Supporting students to grow into confident, compassionate, and resilient individuals who feel ready to take on all that life will bring.

Sincerely,

Emma Skog