

Why Music?
With Faculty and Guests
IIMIF 2020 - July 17

The hardest part of being a musician is that you have to be all-in.

Dr. Charles Borowsky

- Music can open the minds and the hearts of anyone who carefully listens to it.
- Music allows communication across borders
- Music can change the world because it can change people

Emily Cook

- A history of music-making and a love of teaching has led me to become a music teacher
- Perfectionism is never the right way to live life - music has challenged me like no other subject, and it made me feel proud of the work that I put into it
- Do not compare yourself to others/other musicians. Strive to be you.
- Embrace your imperfections! Pursue self-gratification
- Playing an instrument is a life-long learning experience
- Trying to fit a viola into a violin case does not work. Don't force yourself into a preconceived mold of what people expect a musician should be. Make your own mold!

Gustavo Fernandez Agreda

- Music is a necessity. We see music in every aspect of our life.
- There are no shortcuts. There are some days where you feel like you can play amazingly and other days where you feel like it's very difficult to play.
- Music is such a huge part of our identities.

Stephanie Ouer

- Instrumental music provides a sense of community to young students
- Music provides a safe space for students to learn about themselves
- I can't imagine doing anything else as a career - music teacher or bust!

Dr. Dobrochna Zubek

- Music is a never ending journey of going to beautiful places and meeting fantastic people.
- We should have goals, but don't feel like you need to stick to them so strictly. The world is constantly changing.
- If you put all of your energy, talent, and work into achieving your goals, that will generate the next steps for you to take
- Benefit from the differences between one another.

Dr. Blanka Bednarz

- I didn't choose music, music chose me
- If you cannot live without it, why not do it? Life is short so follow your passion!
- Music puts us in a state of communion with such great minds
- Experience world music everyday. We are not limited to only American composers. We interact with music from everywhere
- Music requires physical, intellectual, and emotional skills
- We develop discipline, positive responses to criticism, and being humble.
- There is no greater feeling than when you finish playing in a concert with a group of people such as an orchestra and feel a great sense of togetherness and inspiration.
- Plan a little bit, but be open to your life leading somewhere completely different through music.

Dr. Daniel Weiser

- It is the best way to reach people's souls and give them reason for existence.

Dr. Eric Kutz

- The language of music is simultaneously more general and more specific than words can express.
- The music we listen to and stays in our minds are "divine captives"
- Very thankful to have a job where more matters than just the paycheck

Dr. Andrew Rosenfeld

- Do what you do, do it really well, and make sure to always be ahead of your game. The more you put into it, the more you gain from it.
- “Hitting a street lick with a crooked stick” If you are given a crooked stick- an imperfect thing, there is more work needed to make it beautiful
- Even when instruments are taken away from a culture, the music doesn’t die. They find new ways of making music
- Music is the most fundamental means of communication
- Even if you choose a career outside of music, you will always have a relationship with music that most people have never experienced.

Prof. Cecylia Barczyk

- Music is the greatest gift we can get from Heaven
- If we have a gift for music, we are obligated to share that gift with others
- Some of her most rewarding moments were while performing for children, or in a non-professional setting
- Even if someone can’t understand you, they can understand your music
- Music really matters in everyone’s lives. A lot of people just may not realize it.