

**Re-Igniting our Artistry - Re-Minding our Calling
Re-Greening our Teaching**

Dr. Jody Graves – June 27, 2024

WSMTA Conference

A few ideas on changing things up, both for yourself and for your teaching!

- Incorporate composition into your teaching.
 - Compose something yourself!
 - Write a poem about your own artistry.
 - Learn how to play another instrument.
- Compose a cadenza for your favorite Mozart piano concerto.
 - Make time to play through 'old favorite' pieces.
- Work on 8-16 measures of a piece you have always wanted to learn...it will lead to the next 8-16 measures!

Have a list of creative things you can do if a student is unprepared or waning in their interest such as:

-Inspiring video clips telling real stories or addressing mindset.

Some of my favorites:

-Itzhak Perlman on The Today Show (2003)

-Make Good Art (Youtube)

-"How Deep Is Your Love" (Bee Gees) - Pub Choir in Brisbane

-Landfill Harmonic (several clips available)

-Interview with baritone Thomas Hampson

-LIFE IS HARD - Motivational Speech Video (Featuring Matthew McConaughey)

-Sight readable duet music

-Simple lead sheets of familiar songs

-A handy list of familiar tunes you can play/teach by ear

-Video clips about other young musicians learning music

-Video clips about famous musicians talking about their path

-Share reading funny poems or even something from Children's books out loud...expression, shaping, inflection.

-Have scripts (or partial) from plays/musicals – assign a part to yourself and the student (s) and do a little “acting out”!

And you fill in the list with your brilliant ideas! This just adds another dimension to your teaching, to your students' experience and to your own artistry in teaching!

'Music has the power of producing a certain effect on the moral character of the soul, and if it has the power to do this, it is clear that the young must be directed to music and must be educated in it.' *Aristotle*

