

National Music Centre Education Philosophy

Mission and Vision

The National Music Centre gives Canada a place that amplifies the love, the sharing and the understanding of music. Education programs at NMC intentionally promote ongoing curiosity through exploration, expression, and dialogue.

Hands-on, minds-on, ears-on.

The National Music Centre is a national catalyst for discovery, innovation and renewal through music.

Education programs at NMC strive to achieve NMC's vision through original and interactive programs that use music in Canada as an entry point to explore curricular topics and support skill development. Education programs at NMC are designed to meet specific outcomes for learners of all ages. They take place at NMC through exhibition spaces, classrooms, via our website, or through outreach at partner institution.

Pillars of Education Philosophy

- **Intentional** – Authentic learning experiences that connect learners to subject matter experts. Programs are curriculum-based and encourage self-directed exploration. We believe that the arts are a way of knowing and thinking, thus we pioneer the use of STEA(rts)M to teach STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math). Music is an entry point to curricular subjects and big ideas.
- **Exploratory** – Education programs at NMC ask a lot of questions! They encourage process over product, building curiosity with the goal that learners leave with more questions than when they came. Our programs use scientific and creative thinking, engage multiple intelligences and take time for learning. We believe it takes a lot of “slow to grow” and we prioritize a quality experience over quantity.
- **Expressive** – NMC's education programs employ storytelling, multi-sensory approaches, performance opportunities and kinesthetic learning to invite students to engage with our collection, exhibitions and team in a way that is meaningful and personal.
- **Encouraging**– Building connections to each other and our community through dialogue is a natural outcome of our programs. NMC promotes life-long learning, foster the sharing of multiple perspectives, new ideas and personal experiences. We are open to influence, always changing, growing and sharing with our visitors and community.

Key terms and phrases that guide us:

- Increasingly meaningful
- Adventure that inspires continuous learning
- Innovative
- Hands on, minds on, ears on (sensory learning)
- Creative and critical thinking
- Tinkering
- Different ways of learning and knowing about our world.
- Access to powerful ways of learning

- Authentic and expressive exploration of music
- Inquisitive spirit/learner
- Play
- NMC opens the door, is a gateway for, a bridge to
- Music is the entry point, the hook
- Fosters ongoing curiosity
- Turn up the volume
- Exposure to experts
- Seek first to understand as opposed to be understood
- Boldness of curiosity
- Suspension of disbelief
- A sense of capability of encountering the unfamiliar
- An irrepressible imagination
- A yearning to enter and play