

## *Judyirene Harney's Educational Philosophy*

I believe that all children should have the opportunity to learn. Students are an individual with their own unique way of learning. Everyone has a learning style that needs to be taken into consideration when lessons are being developed. Howard Gardner's theory of multiple intelligences' is becoming a more popular approach towards meeting the needs of our diverse student learners. Gardner suggested that intelligence has more to do with the capacity for solving problems and fashioning products in a context-rich and naturalistic setting.

*The Intelligences from Gardner's Multiple Intelligences (MI) theory are:*

**Linguistic intelligence**  
**Logical-Mathematical intelligence**  
**Spatial intelligence**  
**Bodily-Kinesthetic intelligence**  
**Musical intelligence**  
**Interpersonal intelligence**  
**Intrapersonal intelligence**  
**Naturalistic intelligence**

**Key points in MI theory are:**

- Each possesses all eight intelligences
- Most people can develop each intelligence to an adequate level of competency
- Intelligences usually work together in complex ways
- There are many ways to be intelligent within each category

These intelligences when incorporated into a lesson plan or unit has the potential of addressing many diverse learning styles found in the classroom. The idea of teaching one way only is no longer acceptable today, for both Hearing and Deaf/Hard of Hearing students.

I am hard of hearing myself and I hope to inspire all students that being different doesn't limit our ability to reach our potential as an individual but can extend beyond it. I believe that it is critical that all students should have access to technology in order to have the skills to succeed in today's technology age. Technology has found it way into the educational institute today in all subject and grade levels including the Art Classroom. Technology advances in communications has improved life for the global community and exposed the outside world to the unique and beautiful culture that can be found around the globe.

My expectations are that students will respect the diversity that can be found in the visual arts, individuals in the community, family members, and of other cultures. This kind of positive attitude will increase the students' self-awareness and understanding of others who are different and will lead to the belief that they can succeed in life in whatever capacity they chose.

Being a teacher is a rewarding and challenging profession to be in today. The culture in the

United States and elsewhere has become more diversified in the last 30 years. As teachers, we are to create a multiple intelligence friendly environment in our classrooms and design and introduce exciting opportunities that will give our students valuable stepping-stones towards reaching their goals.

We need to provide support and encouragement through meaningful dialogue and provide opportunities for reflection by providing them with their own portfolios where they can reflect upon their studies and see how they have grown. We need to offer students challenges and serve as role models of the initiative explorer who is inquisitive and reflective regarding everything in life. Teachers should follow, assess, and comprehend a students' development and maintain records of student growth through portfolio assessment and/or Individual Education Plan (IEP).

I will have a classroom that is rich with visual aids and an environment that is conducive to learning. I will utilize the whole community as an extension of the classroom by inviting guest speakers and artists to share their knowledge and background. Respect of others diversity is vital in order for students to truly appreciate the Cultural diversity that is present around every corner.

Respect is one ingredient that will enhance a learning environment for everyone. After students leave the academics field, they eventually return to share their experiences. It is important to understand that as teachers, we have a crucial, vital role in creating a safe creative environment and providing a well-rounded education.