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Verein für rhythmisch-musikalische Erziehung zur Förderung der Gesamtpersönlichkeit

What is rhythmic-musical education?

It is a progressive education.

It integrates music and movement in play-based activities, which incorporate various materials, language, voice, and drawing to promote:

- a fine-tuning of the senses
- individual expression and creative intelligence
- social development

Current research confirms that participation in rhythmic-musical education has a sustained positive effect on the development of autonomous, action-oriented physical and mental creativity.

Rhythmic-musical education distinguishes itself as a comprehensive artistic-pedagogical and hands-on method, which promotes and facilitates personality development--in terms of one's individual skills and capabilities--for people of all ages. It is education through music and movement.

The English philosopher John Locke once said, "Nothing is in the mind, which was not before in the senses." This belief is at the core of the work we do at the RhythmikStudio, the independent institute we founded in 1992.

For our work, this means: providing for the sustainability of experiences, building on skills in conjunction with basic knowledge, and offering opportunities for one's natural curiosity and participation in a group dialogue to stimulate important learning processes, especially in children. In regards to efficiency, it pays to intentionally build our lessons on the use of music and movement to support each participant's personality development, intelligence advancement, and deficit compensation.

What does rhythmic-musical education achieve?

It provides foundational experiences and promotes individual skill development in the following areas:

- Musicality • Dexterity • Movement
- Spontaneity • Team Spirit • Perception & Expression
- Assertiveness • Communication • Concentration & Inner Balance

What is unique about rhythmic-musical education?

- The instructors use “live music” to lead, guide, and accompany the participants through a variety of movement and play activities. By using their voices and playing musical instruments they have mastered (e.g., the piano, the guitar, the violin, drums), the instructors enable the participants to incorporate the music directly into their actions.
- The rhythmic-musical sessions provide sensory experiences which stimulate the participants’ perceptive and expressive capabilities in amazing ways, broaden their creative competencies, and enrich everyday life for children and adults alike. Many children consider the rhythmic lessons to be an indispensable weekly highlight.

What happens during a rhythmic lesson?

Children and adults alike actively participate in the hourly sessions, and in doing so, they help to shape the thematic activities for each course. They experiment with different rhythmic materials like wooden hoops, ropes, balls, sponges, and scarves; and they gather foundational experiences as they play using musical instruments. Thereby, they experience first-hand the delightful connection between their music, their movement, the quality of the materials, the time shaped by music, and the trainer’s improvised, musical accompaniment. We prepare the rhythmic sessions specifically for the groups. The participants experience and help to create a "crossover" between the various arts: music, dance, painting, role playing, etc.

What is important to us:

Continuity is the key. Our children's rhythmic-musical courses are year-long courses in which one builds upon the skills developed in the other over several years, since differentiated development and learning processes develop over a long period of time. In our weekly team meetings, we also reflect on and, as necessary, adjust our pedagogical activities to benefit the participants entrusted to us.