

percussion teaching

David Alderdice has an ongoing relationship sharing and teaching music and rhythm theory through private lessons and with the Montessori school in Hotchkiss, the Colorado West School of Performing Arts, Crawford Middle School, the Lamborn School, and the North Fork Vision Program. He has coached the drumline and percussion ensemble at Paonia High School, Hotchkiss High School, and Quince Orchard High School. He also teaches weekly Embodying Rhythm classes and Embodying Rhythm workshops combining the frame drumming and Solkattu traditions.

teaching philosophy and intention

to share the universal concepts and creative aspects of artistic learning by pointing at natural movement through unlearning tension by providing a supportive environment which promotes awareness and growth through delving deeper into our relationship with music and thus creating the capacity to be able to embrace and allow the embodiment of these universal concepts to transform into direct experience through rhythm and music.

David offers private lessons out of his teaching studio in Paonia, Colorado {multithumb thumb_width=150 thumb_height=145 thumb_proportions=bestfit}

drum set lessons focus on:

- breathing and natural body movement
 - communicating through the instrument - improvisation and notation
 - rudimentary studies for the hands and feet
 - modern and traditional techniques for stick control
 - grooveability through internalizing concepts of pulse, subdivisions, syncopation, touch, clave, and feel
 - interdependence and four limb coordination
 - ethnic styles and sensibilities from around the world
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frame drums include:

- the North African/Persian tar
- the Moroccan bendir
- the Egyptian/Lebanese riqq
- South Indian kanjira
- Irish bodhran
- European tambourine

rhythm theory:

- history of drums and percussion
- different types of percussion instruments
- different styles and playing techniques
- rhythmic concepts such as: syncopation, pulse, subdivision, tension and release, clave, polyrhythms, groove, time-feels, "odd times", crossrhythms, and more
- Solkattu; South Indian time keeping patterns and vocalizations with hand movements
- improvisation; tapping into the universal rhythm
- ethnomusicology and world sensibilities

"As a teacher, David is knowledgeable, enthusiastic, observant, creative and innovative. He cares about his students and meets their individual learning needs as he teaches. David brings his sense of humor along, making his classes fun and relaxing. "In his teaching, David has led me to the understanding that there is a feeling of joy and goodness, beyond technique, that can come when I bring myself to the drum with a creative, exploring, appreciative attitude." ~Jean

[more information about workshops and classes](#)

[look and listen](#)

[current group classes](#)