

DEVELOPING MUSICIANSHIP THROUGH IMPROVISATION

Using repertoire as a foundation, this musically interactive session will provide practical and accessible ideas for learning to improvise. Participants will be introduced to practical techniques designed to: (1) improve musicianship; (2) develop improvisation skills in a variety of musical styles; (3) include improvisation as an integral part of teaching and learning; (4) define relationships among improvisation, reading, and composition; and (5) assess student learning.

Improvisation in music is the spontaneous expression of meaningful musical ideas. We are born improvisers. When not encouraged to improvise as a part of our formal music education, the very thought of improvisation invokes fear. If we let go of that fear, we find that indeed we are improvisers. Improvisation enables musicians to express themselves from an internal source and is central to developing musicianship in all aspects of music education.



CHRISTOPHER AZZARA

Pianist, arranger, author, and educator, Christopher Azzara has taught and performed on four continents. He has produced and performed on studio and educational recordings. Internationally recognized for research and writings on music education, Christopher Azzara incorporates wisdom and humor into his presentations about music learning. Dr. Azzara is Professor & Chair of Music Education and Affiliate Faculty of Jazz Studies and Contemporary Media at the Eastman School of Music. Known for innovations in music teaching and learning, Azzara offers extensive music learning expertise that reflects his academic research and his experience as a father of three children.

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14.30-16.30 UHR
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