*“During the Gulf War, the few opportunities I had for relaxation I always listened to music,*

*and it brought me great peace of mind.*

*I have shared my love of music with people throughout this world, while listening to the drums and*

*special instruments of the Far East, Middle East, Africa, the Caribbean, and the Far North, and*

*all of this started with the music appreciation course that I was taught in a third-grade elementary class in Princeton, New Jersey.*

*What a tragedy it would be if we lived in a world where music was not taught to children.”*

*-* ***General H. Norman Schwarzkopf*** *— United States Army*

*“Music is exciting. It is thrilling to be sitting in a group of musicians playing (more or less) the same piece of music. You are part of a great, powerful, vibrant entity.*

*And nothing beats the feeling you get when you’ve practiced a difficult section over and over and finally get it right*

*(yes, even on the wood block). Music is important.*

*It says things your heart can’t say any other way, and in a language everyone speaks. Music crosses borders, turns smiles into frowns, and vice versa. These observations are shared with a hope: that, when schools cut back on music classes, they really think about what they’re doing – and don’t take music for granted.”*

*-* ***Dan Rather*** *— CBS News*

*“In every successful business…there is one budget line that never gets cut. It’s called ‘Product Development’ – and it’s the key to any company’s future growth.*

*Music education is critical to the*

*product development of this nation’s most important resource – our children.”*

*-* ***John Sykes*** *— President, VH1*

*“The things I learned from my experience in music in school are discipline, perseverance, dependability, composure, courage and pride in results. . . Not a bad preparation for the workforce!”*

*-* ***Gregory Anrig*** *– President, Educational Testing Service*

*“Music is an essential part of everything we do. Like puppetry, music has an abstract quality which speaks to a worldwide audience in a wonderful way that nourishes the soul.”*

*-* ***Jim Henson*** *– television producer and puppeteer*

*“Should we not be putting all our emphasis on reading, writing and math? The ‘back-to-basics curricula,’ while it has merit, ignores the most urgent void in our present system – absence of self-discipline. The arts, inspiring – indeed requiring – self-discipline, may be more ‘basic’ to our nation survival than traditional credit courses. Presently, we are spending 29 times more on science than on the arts, and the result so far is worldwide intellectual embarrassment.”*

*-* ***Paul Harvey*** *– syndicated radio show host*

*“It’s [music education] terribly important, extremely important — because*

*when you are a child, you are in a receptive age … In high schools, public schools — that’s where they must have the best influence, the first influence, which will go through their whole life.”*

*-* ***Eugene Ormandy*** *– conductor of*

*The Philadelphia Orchestra*

*“It is our job, as parents, educators, and friends, to see that our young people have the opportunity to attain the thorough education that will prepare them for the future. Much of that education takes place in the classroom. We must encourage our youngsters in such pursuits as music education. In addition to learning the valuable lesson that it takes hard work to achieve success, no matter what the arena, music education can provide students with a strong sense of determination, improved communication skills, and a host of other qualities essential for successful living.”*

*-* ***Edward H. Rensi*** *– President and Chief Operation Officer,*

*U.S.A. McDonald’s Corporation*

*“A grounding in the arts*

*will help our children to see;*

*to bring a uniquely human perspective to science and technology.*

*In short, it will help them as*

*they grow smarter to also grow wiser.”*

*-* ***Robert E. Allen*** *– Chairman and Chief Executive Officer,*

*AT&T Corporation*

*“Some people think music education is a privilege,*

*but I think it’s*

*essential to being human.”*

*-* ***Jewel*** *– singer, songwriter, and instrumentalist*

*The greatest danger for most of us is not that our aim is too high and we miss it,*

*but that it is*

*too low and we reach it.”*

*~ anonymous*

*“It is our choices... that show what we truly are, far more than our abilities.”*

* *Albus Dumbledore*

***Additional Selected Quotes:***

***On music***

**“**Music should make you feel good.**”** – Mark James Klepaski

“Music can change the world because it can change people.” ― Bono

“One good thing about music, when it hits you, you feel no pain.” ― Bob Marley

"This will be our reply to violence: to make music more intensely, more beautifully, more devotedly than ever before." ― Leonard Bernstein

“Music is your own experience, your own thoughts, your wisdom. If you don't live it, it won't come out of your horn. They teach you there's a boundary line to music. But, man, there's no boundary line to art.” ― Charlie Parker

“Music expresses that which cannot be put into words and that which cannot remain silent” ― Victor Hugo

“The only truth is music.” ― Jack Kerouac

***On learning***

“The beautiful thing about learning is that nobody can take it away from you.” ― B.B. King  
"For the things we have to learn before we can do them, we learn by doing them." ― Aristotle  
"It's taken me all my life to learn what not to play." ― Dizzy Gillespie  
“Learning never exhausts the mind.” ― Leonardo da Vinci  
“When you play, never mind who listens to you.” ― Robert Schumann   
“Any fool can know. The point is to understand.” ― Albert Einstein  
“In learning you will teach, and in teaching you will learn.” ― Phil Collins

***On practice***

“The wise musicians are those who play what they can master.” ― Duke Ellington

“Try a little harder to be a little better.” ― Gordon B. Hinckley  
“It is not a daily increase, but a daily decrease. Hack away at the inessentials.” ― Bruce Lee  
"Don't only practice your art, but force your way into its secrets, for it and knowledge can raise men to the divine." ― Ludwig van Beethoven  
"Your habits in the practice room make you the musician that you are." ― The Musician's Way  
“You've got to learn your instrument. Then, you practice, practice, practice. And then, when you finally get up there on the bandstand, forget all that and just wail.” ― Charlie Parker  
“Motivation gets you going and habit gets you there.” ― Zig Ziglar

***On being a musician***

**“**Wanting to be someone else is a waste of the person you are.**”** – Kurt Cobain  
“If I were not a physicist, I would probably be a musician. I often think in music. I live my daydreams in music. I see my life in terms of music." ― Albert Einstein  
“I mean, give me a guitar, give me a piano, give me a broom and string, I wouldn't get bored anywhere.” ― Keith Richards  
**“**Creativity is not linear, just like the earth is not flat….If you keep going long enough you will always get back to where you started from. That is when you have lived a full life. That is the artist’s path.**”** ― Nikki Sixx  
“I believe musicians have a duty, a responsibility to reach out, to share your love or pain with others.” - James Taylor  
“I believe in singing. I believe in singing together.” ― Brian Eno  
“A man is a success if he gets up in the morning and gets to bed at night, and in between he does what he wants to do.” ― Bob Dylan

***On motivation***

“Your talent determines what you can do. Your motivation determines how much you are willing to do. Your attitude determines how well you do it.” ― Lou Holtz  
"The big win is when you refuse to settle for average or mediocre." ― Seth Godin  
“It is never too late to be what you might have been.” ― George Eliot  
“The way to get started is to quit talking and begin doing.” ― Walt Disney Company  
“All great achievements require time.” ― Maya Angelou  
“A year from now you may wish you had started today.” ― Karen Lamb  
“Life's short. Live passionately.” ― Marc A. Pitman