

## Zoltán Kodály's Method

The basic objectives of Zoltán Kodály's method of musical education is to cultivate within the child a highly attuned perception of music, to instill the love of music, and to integrate the value of both artistic appreciation and artistic expression.

It was Zoltán Kodály's philosophy that the most effective method of imparting musical knowledge to young children was to utilize the folk songs of their own culture and then transition to world music as their lexicon increases. In this fashion, the child is able to expand their musical literacy in a cognitive and emotional way in order to encompass a range of cultural perspectives. This philosophy of music education is being adapted to many countries around the world.

The elements of Kodály's system acknowledge the profound role of music in the child's development. He asserts that music, in a unique way, can broaden the range of emotional and intellectual potential as well as enhance the development of personality and sensitivity within the child.

The main emphasis of Kodály's didactics is the acknowledgment that the instrument of voice is the most direct, the fullest, and ultimately the most widely available method of communicating through and learning music. Kodály's method includes techniques by which even the very young can access and benefit from the knowledge of music.

The basic goals of Kodály's didactics are summarized by the following:

- To intensify and refine the skill of listening
- To cultivate musical sensitivity
- To introduce musical notions as expressed in singing
- To impart an appreciation of a vast range of musical cultures
- To bestow a familiarization with national tradition
- To expose the student to musical material which is simple but at a high level
- To reinforce the value of music as a vital component of culture and education