

## **Music Advocacy's Top Ten Advocacy Quotes**

1. "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

2. "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

3. "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

4. "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

5. "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

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6. "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

7. "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

8. "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

9. "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

10. "Some people think music education is a privilege, but I think it's essential to being human."

- Jewel – singer, songwriter, and instrumentalist