

Doug Goodkin: *Short Curriculum Vitae*

ABOUT ME:

I didn't love school as a child, but was enchanted by the world's wonders and always curious about how the world worked— or didn't work. And so in a mixture of revenge and vision, I became a lifelong teacher. Throughout my adult life, I followed my passion for multiple fields of study— jazz, world music, body percussion, children's games, improvisation, ritual and ceremony, community-building, poetry, storytelling, mythology, human health and culture, brain research, history, social justice and more— and was thrilled to discover that each found a voice within the practice of Orff Schulwerk, a dynamic and wholistic approach to music education.

In the course of almost half-a century of working with children and adults of all ages, I found myself not only releasing each person's childlike love of play, but also articulating the deep thinking behind the fun games and activities, stretching it far beyond teaching music to offering a healing tonic to a deeply troubled world. I created contemporary rituals and ceremonies in both my school and my workshops, consistently spoke out on behalf of children's deepest needs and told the stories of the music we made that often had roots in suffering and oppression, rising toward justice and triumph. I treated each class like a musical composition or improvisation seeking to meet the needs of the moment, to help the students play far beyond what they imagined they could, and to reveal the unique gifts they brought to the class.

In my life outside of schools, I move from one pleasure to the next. A lifetime of reading, a daily writing practice, a daily Zen practice, an ongoing piano practice still trying to weave my way through the intricacies of Bach or jazz chord changes without anyone getting hurt. I keep my mind sharp with Crostics, solitaire and jigsaw puzzles, my body healthy with daily walks or bike rides, my palette pleased with home cooking and my spirit uplifted by poetry, tree hugging and grandchildren. I am not a gardener or a handyman or a mechanic, so don't count on my help in those areas. But I sow seeds in the garden of human possibility, water those tender plants and weed and harvest. I look at systems that are broken and see what needs adjustment or replacement. I offer music that can tune up and keep the engine of the human spirit running.

Oh, and travel. A lifetime of it, seeking, searching, considering, "There must be a better way to do this" and finding hundreds of inspired ways to organize a human community. I am drawn to societies more harmonized with the natural community, cultures that bring music to the daily round through ritual, art, ceremony and a rich festival life, communities that have the wisdom to pause and savor life and governments that offer good healthcare and social services. In the villages of Ghana, South India, Bali, on the beaches of Brazil and Buenos Aires, in the bustling streets of Bangkok and Barcelona, amidst the high-tech high-rises of Singapore, Sydney and Shanghai and in scores of other countries live many beautiful, intelligent and fun people that I am honored to call my students, my teachers, my friends.

In short, as a Jewish man by birth, Unitarian by upbringing, Buddhist by choice, grandfather to mixed-race grandchildren, as a musician blending bagpipes, banjos and balaphones, winding through the folk musics of the world, the European classical tradition and jazz, I live at the cross-roads of multiple disciplines and multiple identities.

Here below are the details of how it all flowered:

ORFF SCHULWERK TEACHER:

- Taught children from 3- 14 years old for at The San Francisco School (45 years)
- Directs and teaches in the SF International Orff Course (32 years)
- Directs and teaches his unique Jazz Course (32 years)
- Co-creator of and teacher in Orff-Afrique Course in Dzodze, Ghana (8 years)
- Presented workshops, courses, conferences in 50 countries (35 years)
- Frequent guest teacher at The Orff Institut, Salzburg, Austria (30 years)
- Teacher at the SF Conservatory of Music (6 years)
- Creator of and teacher in The San Francisco Intern Program (6 years)

AUTHOR:

- Author of ten books about Orff Schulwerk, jazz, integrated arts, education, social justice.
- Author of over 100 articles in professional journals worldwide
- Author of an ongoing blog “Confessions of a Traveling Music Teacher” (11 years)
- Co-author of eight books, including the MacMillan McGraw-Hill textbook series Share the Music.

PUBLISHER:

- Creator and CEO of Pentatonic Press,
publishing nine books from six authors and two CD's from a Ghanaian musician.

PERFORMER:

- Creator, director and pianist in the jazz quintet Doug Goodkin & the Pentatonics
- Group performances at SF Jazz Center, Stanford Jazz Festival,
New Orleans Jazz Museum and other venues
- Recorded CD Boom Chick a Boom: Jazz for All Ages
- Various performances with children in Keith Terry's Body Music Festivals
- Various performances with children in the San Francisco World Music Festivals
- Various performances with children at AOSA National Conferences
- Musician in several performances by the Margaret Jenkins Dance Company.
- Studies in and integrated performances with Bulgarian bagpipe, Irish tinwhistle, recorder, Ghanaian xylophone, Balinese gamelan, Philippine Kulintang, Brazilian samba, South Indian drumming, African American Steppin' body percussion, guitar, banjo, accordion, jazz and classical piano.

SPEAKER:

- Ted Talk: Why Music Matters
- Keynote Speaker at various conferences worldwide
- Officiant at public ceremonies— weddings, memorial services, retirement parties, political protests, etc.

MISC:

- Awarded the Pro Merito Award by the Orff Foundation in Munich for his work in promoting Orff Schulwerk practice worldwide. (2000)
- Awarded the Distinguished Service Award by the American Orff Schulwerk Association for his dedicated work in training American teachers in Orff Schulwerk. (2018)
- Volunteer pianist at the Jewish Home for the Aged, bringing comfort and happiness to the elderly once every week (14 years).
- Organized a monthly neighborhood sing for the families in the neighborhood during the pandemic.
- Organized a monthly online alumni sing during the pandemic, singing again the songs from the SF School with alums from 18 to 55 years old, many with their children present.
- Mentor to two Orff teachers at The Children's Day School, both guiding and co-teaching classes.
- Loving grandparent of Zadie and Malik Taylor, offering guest music classes at their school in Portland, Oregon whenever visiting.
- Zen student of Joshu Sasaki Roshi at Mt. Baldy Zen Center, starting in 1973.
- Member of a Men's Group, meeting twice a month since 1990
- Husband, father of two daughters, grandfather of two.
- San Francisco resident since 1973.