

Instructor wants you to connect with music

By Ekhlas Abdullahi
Business Manager

There is a little jewel of joy and excitement that is hidden in RCTC, and that is the RCTC Music Program.

Not many know about the music program at the RCTC and what it's about.

There are two parts to the music program, and the first part is done through student life. This part is welcome to everyone and includes band and choir. The second part is for those who are music majors. This includes a musical ensemble and performing in front of an audience.

Michael Mangan is the new professor and teacher for the music program. It's his first-year teaching as a college professor, but he has taught K-12 and adults.

"The music program is available for anyone no matter your background in music," Mangan said.

Musical performance is important to Mangan because it includes three important aspects of performance: physical, emotional, and cognitive.

The physical part is playing an instrument or singing. The emotional part is the connection to the audience and the connection to the music. Finally, the cognitive part is understanding music as a language and using that to express oneself.

"Listening to music through an electronic device has some of these aspects, but it lacks the connection to the audience," he said.

Musical performance for him began as an interest earlier on in life that grew into something that never seemed like work.

He enjoys teaching musical performance because of the connections he makes with the students and that it's something that he's passionate about. Right now, he is focused on more outreach and expansion for the music program.

As mentioned earlier, there are many benefits of joining the music program. It also covers Goal 6 of the Associate of Arts Degree.



Echo photos by Ekhlas Abdullahi
Above, tenor saxophonist Zach Logdahl and trumpeter Zach Stortz practice with RCTC Band Director Michael Mangan. At left, Mangan accompanies Kanika Lakso, Aubree Anna Hansen and John Arachtingi during choir rehearsal.

On Campus

by Seth Boyum



STUDENT SUCCESS DAY

STUDENT VOICE

"I felt like I was part of something great, and that we are all trying to grasp the same goals to have a better future."

"It made me feel proud to be a student at RCTC. It's nice to see how much the teachers and staff care about the students and how much they want everyone to succeed."

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