



I believe that...

- **The greatest discoveries are yet to be made.**

I get a lot of students who are afraid to paint, telling me on the first day of class that they are “not very artistic” or they “cannot even draw a straight line”. By the end of the semester many of them say to me with astonishment: “Wow! I didn’t know I could do that!” Well, now they can. I love being a part of their journey.

- **Respect is a mutual affair.**

To gain respect, you have to give respect. Students should always feel welcome and appreciated, never belittled or ridiculed. Some of the ways I like to accomplish this goal is by making sure I know everyone’s name in a timely fashion, as well as inquiring about what field of theatre they are interested in, so I can target my lessons and examples towards individuals.

- **Students know when you fake it.**

Enthusiasm portrayed during classes has to be real- if you do not passionately care about the given subject neither will your students. A genuine interest in the subject matter also provides an instructor with the courage to admit when he or she does not know the answer to the question, confident they can research the topic and provide answers during the next class session, as opposed to skim over the question or answer in vague nonsense.

- **Everyone should celebrate the twenty-first century.**

New technologies are invented every day, and it is very important to incorporate them in the classroom. Not only does this mean multi-media presentations with video and slideshow presentations, but also keeping up with modern developments such as new versions of drafting and editing software, and being up to date with current events in the world of fine arts.

- **A teacher is always a student.**

Whether a teaching experience is successful or not, learning occurs on both ends, for teachers as well as students. Students can often introduce an instructor to new ways of thinking, or new techniques. Additionally, a teacher can learn from mistakes and fix their method as they discover which parts of lectures and demos work, and which do not. Student feedback is also incredibly valuable; therefore students should be encouraged to share their opinions about the course throughout its duration.