

Music

Dance, Singing, Clarinet, Piano, "Feeling" the Music, Listening, Creating, Reading the music, and the things around the music

2 Intense times

1. Talent Show
2. Feeling like I need to sing/play
3. Talk about the marching band and theta? AOSFYC?

Find a quote to start my paper?

"Artists- musicians, painters, writers, poets- always seemed to have had the most accurate perception of what is really going on around them, not the official version or the popular perception of contemporary life." -Billy Joel

<<http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/keywords/musicians.html>>

Rhetorical question and then a quote?

Has listening to music ever given you chills?

Have you ever faced the reality of stage-fright?

Look up MLA format!! Write down what all you need to do so the paper looks good after the words are solid.

OUTLINE:

Intro- What is a literacy? What all do I do with music?

P1- Intense Time #1 Talent

P2- Intense Time #2 Feeling

P3- Why does this matter?

P4- Words to the audience about it/advice

Conclusion- Say the main point again

I was feeling very nervous- sweaty palms and neck, shortness of breath, the feeling of always having just a little too much saliva in the back of your throat. I was staring at the door that led backstage when my dear friend (who also happened to be one of the hosts for the evening) came up to me and said one of the most inspirational things I've ever heard. He said "Remember: performance is 95% confidence, and 5% talent. And you've got the talent." I will

never forget those sentences. In that moment they were just incredibly kind words from a friend, but over the years they have become a personal mantra.

Announcement of my name, could not remember any words.

I remember staring at the curtains. I knew I had to walk through them very soon, I could almost feel them gliding across my hands, the velvet so soft and yet fuzzy at the same time. The scarlet color both intimidating and comforting. I had touched these curtains a thousand times before, helping backstage with the plays and setting up for band and choir concerts, but this time was different. I felt worlds away from all that. I felt suddenly vulnerable, exposed. The skirt I was wearing felt too thin, too flowy. It was much different than the long jeans I was used to wearing. The makeup on my face felt too heavy. *No one wants to hear me sing, why am I even up here?* This incoherent thought- interpreted as a feeling of nervous embarrassment- cycled through my mind, adding to my discomfort. I hadn't paid much attention to the words my friend had said earlier, but they came back to me and taunted me as I lost control of my self confidence. Failure at a time like this felt silly to me. I was used to passing every test that was put before me. Surpassing every challenge. Something about being along on a stage with everyone looking at me took all my determination away for some reason.

The opening chords for "Someone Like You" by Adele filled the auditorium. I peered into the crowd, trying to distinguish faces behind the piercing stage lights. In retrospect it was probably good that I didn't end up spotting anyone and psyching myself out. I heard the series of chords that signaled my entrance. Everything else fell away. I opened my mouth, and sang. I was aware- somewhere in my mind- that there were other people present, but I was not singing for them. I was singing for me. To show myself that I could do whatever I wanted, and that I wouldn't let my anxiety get in my way.

Messed up at the end but just sang on "oooh".

The music stopped a few seconds after my voice. I could breathe correctly again. It was very quiet for a couple moments and then the second host (whom also happened to be the boy I had a crush on at the time) took the microphone and said very softly "...and wasn't that beautiful."

It made me feel like a different person.

Often times when I feel strong emotions I will engage in musical activities. I play or sing songs that align with my mood (eg: sad, angry, elated). When I am finished with a song I am usually a bit more calm/content than when I started.

Getting chills when listening to what I am playing

Looking around and feeling such intense feelings of love for those around me I could cry

Becoming a better person and accepting myself through band and choir both in HS and college

Playing with the UC Bearcat Marching bands has been such a blast. At home games, the woodwinds and brass all “Charge down the steps”. I can remember my section leader saying, “Yeah, you guys will love the football games. There are skydivers, and fireworks and everything.” Coming from a high school of about 500 people and a marching band of 100, I also remembered thinking that those words were a sarcastic joke.

When I stood at the top of those stairs and watched five people fly into the stadium, I was terrified.

Music and other literacies are a great way to expand your knowledge of yourself and become more comfortable in your own skin. Whether it be writing by yourself in your room, using your own ideas and imagination, or playing a sport with a team and working together to score points. Developing literacies is an important part of anyone’s... well, development. It is a way to convey feelings to one another. For example, playing a succession of notes that create a certain tone of a tune that makes the members of an audience apt to feel a specific feeling according to those sounds. And this was all planned by the composer. Writing music is yet another literacy, different even from reading it.