

It's difficult to find a balance between instilling solid technical work and musical expression. One needs the technique in order to express emotion through an instrument, but it seems easy to detract from the student having fun (usually the younger students). How can I teach notes so that they know them well, while still making it as enjoyable as the actual playing? With the mid-ranged students, I have them work from beat to beat or measure to measure with a lot of repetition in order to smooth out technical problems. But perhaps I have them repeat it too much. Maybe I should leave more for them to practice at home. But then I'm afraid they may not get it worked out. Maybe I should trust them more. I realize that kind of technical work is what my teacher did with me, and it worked very well. But I took to that kind of intensity- many students probably would not. This is clearly an ongoing process.