

Director Kevin Collins

The UW-Green Bay music camps are one of the longest standing camp programs in the state of Wisconsin. We have bands, orchestras and choirs that come together for a week of really intense music making. The students get to work with some of the most outstanding faculty from across the country, both music educators from across Wisconsin and people, literally, from all across the country who come here who are passionate music educators, dedicated to teaching young kids and also people who are also wonderful musicians

It's an opportunity for kids who are really interested in music to be with other kids who are also really interested in doing what they do. When you come here the cool things that kids tell us about is everybody's this way; all the teachers are this way, the counselors support what they're doing. It gives students the feeling that they really belong with a bunch of other kids with the same interests.

We like them to get a couple things out of this. First is the experience of the joy of music making. That is just part of the fun of being around a camp where you're doing this all day and you're immersed in it. But beyond that, we want to make sure the kids get a fundamental grounding in the basics of what they do. They're going to learn the fundamentals of their instrument or their voice, and good healthy practice on those instruments.

Beyond that, we always hope that they have that special musical experience that is the kind of thing that they take with them for a lifetime. That's what we're really going for, is that they develop skills that allow them to have those deeper experiences and we have faculty who really are passionate about helping make those experiences happen at the camp.

We hope that they walk away feeling that they have made music that is going to stay with them forever. The sounds die out after a few seconds in here, but the experiences that they've had that changes them as a person stays with them for their whole lives if things work like we hope they will. And that really is a fairly common thing here.