



## What Do MUSICIANS Do That Is Valuable?

**Musician:** *1) a person who performs music. 2) one trained or skilled in the art of music. 3) an individual capable of thinking and creating in and with sound.*

### **Musicians Think “Symphonically” (The Ability to See the Big Picture!)**

Individuals trained in music develop their imaginative capacities to see relationships between seemingly unrelated elements, details or events, to detect broad patterns rather than specific answers, and to create something new by combining elements nobody else thought to combine. “Musicians are boundary crossers!”

### **Musicians Are Story Tellers**

Individuals trained in music expand their capacity to understand one thing by developing the skill to express and experience it in the context of something else. Musicians routinely interpret factual information, transform it into a memorable “story” context, and deliver it with an emotional impact.

### **Musicians Think in Terms of Composition & Design**

Individuals trained in music heighten their capacity to recognize and appreciate the combination of function and beauty. Musicians value the artistic potential and contribution of every component of the whole.

### **Musicians are Creative Individual & Group Problem Solvers**

Musicians recognize, respect, and value the importance of contributions from every member of the ensemble/team. Musicians understand that collaboration is essential to moving past small details and differences in order to imaginatively see, hear and/or create the Big Picture.

### **Musicians are Comfortable with Multiple Interpretations/Right Answers**

Musicians are trained to search for and acknowledge multiple interpretations or approaches as opposed to accepting one specific answer or explanation. Individuals trained in music have learned to routinely accept failure as simply part of the creative process.

### **Musicians are Highly Analytical & Critical Listeners**

Musicians realize that the quality of their listening to a high degree determines the quality of their performance. The Northwestern University Neuroscience Department has identified a child’s ability to selectively focus on sounds to be a key indicator of that child’s overall success in school.

*We’ll need to supplement our well-developed high tech abilities  
with abilities that are high concept and high touch.  
High concept involves the ability to create artistic and emotional beauty,  
to detect patterns and opportunities, to craft a satisfying narrative,  
and to combine seemingly unrelated ideas into a novel invention.*

**Why Right Brainers (Musicians) Will Rule the Future**

Daniel Pink