

## Author Bio



Dr. John L. Vitale has been teaching music in Ontario schools since 1993, including two years at the elementary level and 12 years at the high school level. At the high school level, Dr. Vitale has taught choir, strings, band, guitar, and music technology with the Toronto District School Board where he served as Department Head of the Arts at Victoria Park Secondary School. Currently, Dr. Vitale teaches high school band with the York Catholic School Board and is also a faculty member with Lakehead University (Orillia Campus), where he instructs pre-service teachers in music education. Some of his current research interests include unschooling techniques in the high school classroom, the effect of music on the meanings students gain from film, the benefits of music education for at-risk students, and the politicization of music education.

As a bass player, Dr. Vitale has recorded and toured internationally with Warner recording artist and Juno Award winner Robert Michaels. Other performance credits include playing bass for Order of Canada Recipient Guido Basso, comedian Joan Rivers, and most recently on a regular basis, two-time Juno Award winner Liberty Silver. Dr. Vitale also has numerous compositional credits, including the score to children's animated film *Attic-in-the-Blue* (first place winner at the Chicago International Children's Film Festival).