



## **Koji Matsunobu**

### **Abstract**

In this panel presentation, we reflect on the evolution of our ideas as they travel across various disciplines of arts and education and their distinct cultures. We start with Elliot Eisner's conceptualizations of curriculum and qualitative research methodology in the 70s and 80s, tracing their journey through the work of Liora Bresler and five of her former doctoral advisees who develop their contributions in the respective fields of Art Education, Music Education, Design, Spirituality, Higher Education, and Expressive Arts Therapy. We note the confluence of individual researchers' backgrounds, expertise, and aspirations with academic mentorship and diverse institutional cultures.

### **Bio**

Koji Matsunobu came to an academia with an interest in curriculum studies in Japan. As a music and math teacher, he wrote a PhD dissertation on arts integration. His move to the US was transformative. Under the supervision of Liora Bresler, Bob Stake, and Bruno Nettl, he engaged in intercultural research on spirituality and Japanese aesthetics, which resulted in another dissertation. He combined his musical and cultural perspectives, originally cultivated through his training in Japanese and Western music, with Bresler's work on empathetic arts-based research, Stake's quality evaluation of educational experience, and Nettl's ethnomusicological perspectives. This influenced his qualitative research work concerned with musical space, time, and embodiment creativity. In this presentation, he will also explore how his physical, musical, cultural, and institutional transitions allowed him to create a space in which he continued to work on interdisciplinary, intercultural issues of education.