

John Philip Sousa

Quotes

*Believe, People, Beauty, Effort, Heart, Writing, Lying, Teacher, Music, Men,
Country, Average, America, Sincere, Son, Cold, Judging, Conscious, Orchestra,
Musician*

The red and white and starry blue Is freedom's shield and hope.

~John Philip Sousa

I am happy now, to recall that I was not only his son but his companion, and whenever there was a hunting expedition or any other pleasure, I was always with him.

~John Philip Sousa

Dance as though no one is watching. Love as though you've never been hurt. Sing as though no one can hear you. Live as though heaven is on earth.

~John Philip Sousa

Anybody can write music of a sort. But touching the public heart is quite another thing.

~John Philip Sousa

A band is only as good as its euphonium section.

~John Philip Sousa

I have always believed that 98% of a student's progress is due to his own efforts, and 2% to his teacher.

~John Philip Sousa

From childhood I was passionately fond of music and wanted to be a musician. I have no recollection of any real desire ever to be anything else.

~John Philip Sousa

Remember always that the composer's pen is still mightier than the bow of the violinist; in you lie all the possibilities of the creation of beauty.

~John Philip Sousa

There is one thing that freezes a musician more than the deadliest physical cold, and that is the spiritual chill of an unresponsive audience!

~John Philip Sousa

America can well expect to develop a goodly amount of composers for she has a goodly number of people.

~John Philip Sousa

Jazz will endure just as long people hear it through their feet instead of their brains.

~John Philip Sousa

Any composer who is gloriously conscious that he is a composer must believe that he receives his inspiration from a source higher than himself.

~John Philip Sousa

I can almost always write music; at any hour of the twenty-four, if I put pencil to paper, music comes.

~John Philip Sousa

I still feel the impulse to give young writers a hearing, and I believe I have played more unpublished compositions than any other band leader in the country.

~John Philip Sousa

Composers are the only people who can hear good music above bad sounds.

~John Philip Sousa

The average music-lover hears only the production under prevailing conditions.

~John Philip Sousa

Sincere composers believe in God.

~John Philip Sousa

Grand opera is the most powerful of stage appeals and that almost entirely through the beauty of music.

~John Philip Sousa

American teachers have one indisputable advantage over foreign ones; they understand the American temperament and can judge its unevenness, its lights and its shadows.

~John Philip Sousa

Governmental aid is a drawback rather than an assistance, as, although it may facilitate in the routine of artistic production, it is an impediment to the development of true artistic genius.

~John Philip Sousa

No nation as young as America can be expected to become immediately a power in the arts.

~John Philip Sousa

My success is not due to any personal superiority over other people.

~John Philip Sousa

You can't drive a Spike with a Tack Hammer

~John Philip Sousa

To the average mind popular music would mean compositions vulgarly conceived and commonplace in their treatment. That is absolutely false.

~John Philip Sousa

My religion lies in my composition.

~John Philip Sousa

I think that the quality of all bands is steadily improving and it is a pleasant thought to me that perhaps the efforts of Sousa's Band have quickened that interest and improved that quality.

~John Philip Sousa

The vocal cord will be eliminated by a process of evolution, as was the tail of man when he came from the ape.

~John Philip Sousa

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