

## MOTIVATIONAL DRUM CLINIC

**Dave O'Neill, B. Ed. OCT, B. Mus. Performance, Dipl. Mus.**

I present a motivational clinic based on the loss of my hand in a workplace accident at the age of 16, my pursuit of music and the drums, and all the trials I went through to achieve my ambition. The clinic is based in music but is not just for music students, it is for all. Music is a universal; it is an innate part of the human experience and because of this, I can connect to an audience immediately. My basic message is this:

*“You can achieve most any ambition you put your mind to. Very rarely is it easy, it’s definitely not free, and you may not even fully succeed. Nothing in life is guaranteed. The biggest failure comes from not trying or expecting that things will magically happen. Things are achieved through hard work, perseverance, and dedication. These are aspects only you can do for yourself; no one can do them for you”.*

In my presentation I play the drums as a demonstration of my message, and then talk about the accident and all the things I went through emotionally and physically. I had played the drums prior to my accident and it would have been easy to convince myself that it was no longer possible; to give up. The driving force that kept me going was the burning desire to get back on the drums and somehow make it work. I had the help of some great people in that early stage; my family, a dedicated teacher, a dedicated prosthetic designer, but the core of the goal was something only I could do. I was responsible for the end result.

We live in a society where anything is possible and we are able to pursue our dreams. It is my hope to inspire others to reach farther, and to push themselves beyond what they believe they are capable of in pursuit of their dreams.

Fee is based on location and duration. References are available upon request. Please visit my website for more information on me, audio/video performance examples, and contact information.

[www.daveoneilldrums.ca](http://www.daveoneilldrums.ca)