



Music Teaching Matters

August 13, 2024 - No. 22

Welcome to **Music Teaching Matters** - tips, ideas, & inspirations for your music teaching journey from Teach Music 21C.



With September just around the corner, it's time we start thinking about how to set the tone for a fantastic year of music making! Writing an introductory letter to our students' parents is a great way to share our enthusiasm for teaching, outline our plans, and create a collaborative spirit for the year ahead. It's all about building meaningful bridges between our studios and our students' families. Read [more...](#)

Merlin B. Thompson

Creator & Founder of Teach Music 21C

Teacher Must-Haves

Here are two must-have responses for music teachers when students ask difficult questions:

1. "That's a great question. Give me a week to think about it and I'll see what I can come up with."
2. "That's a great question. Let's brainstorm and see what we can come up with between the two of us. You go first."

Insight from Students

After a particularly poor performance of Beethoven's Theme, I asked my student, "Why do you think kids sometimes play well and sometimes don't?"

"Well... kids who play well, want to," she remarked. "And kids who don't, don't really care."

An example of student's insight that really hits the mark!!

What can we do?

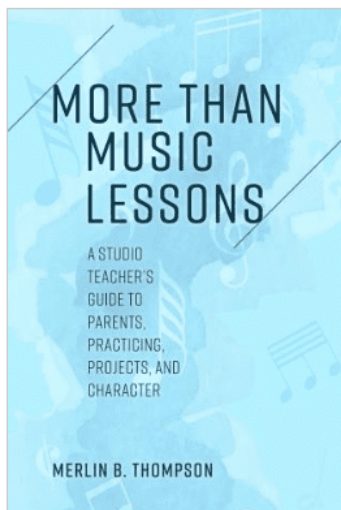
It's well known that the majority of students who learn to sing or play a musical instrument during their childhood never engage in music making activities as adults. What can we as music teachers do to turn around this unfortunate legacy in the upcoming lessons we teach?

From Igor Levit



Internationally acclaimed pianist Igor Levit ranks among the greatest pianists of today's generation. He has lots to say in his book "House Concerts" that resonates with music teachers. "I play music as intuitively as I can. I go here and there. I keep changing routes the whole time, and at the same time try to stay honest, open and authentic."

"More than Music Lessons"



Here's a Teaching Tip from Chapter 3:

Make it work for real life families.

1. Find out what's already there.
2. Come up with multiple destinations and possible routes.
3. Be prepared for detours.

(Kindle & paperback available on [Amazon](#) & from the publisher [Rowman & Littlefield](#).)

Upcoming Dates

Wednesday, August 21, 10-11 a.m. MST

Long & McQuade Professional Development - Register [here](#).

Thursday, August 22, 10-11 a.m. MST

Idea of the Month Webinar - Register [here](#).

October 18-19

Saskatchewan Registered Music Teachers Conference

October 25-26

Music Conference Alberta

TM21C Certification

Imagine your studio buzzing with enthusiasm, your students mastering new skills and repertoire week after week and year after year. It's all possible with Teach Music 21C Certification.

In just 5 one-hour online sessions, we'll help you to expand your teacher skillset with 21st Century tools that stimulate engaging, interactive, and lifelong learning experiences.

Our summer intensive begins August 14. Or register for the October 1 start date.

For more info - Visit Teach Music 21C Certification and take the first steps to transforming your studio! Register [here](#).

Follow Us On



[Instagram](#)



[Youtube](#)



[LinkedIn](#)

Overwhelmed by emails? We understand.

Click here to [Unsubscribe](#). Come back when you can.