



Music Teaching Matters

August 20, 2024 - No. 23

Welcome to **Music Teaching Matters** - your resource for practical strategies that enhance music teacher wellbeing.



September is that time of year when music teachers put lots of time and effort into getting everything ready for our students. But what about us?? How can music teachers make sure we don't lose sight of our own needs as we head into a very busy, exciting, and potentially draining time of the year?

Let's explore what it looks like to invest in our own wellbeing. The benefits for us and our students are immense.

Merlin B. Thompson

Creator & Founder of Teach Music 21C

Work/Life Balance

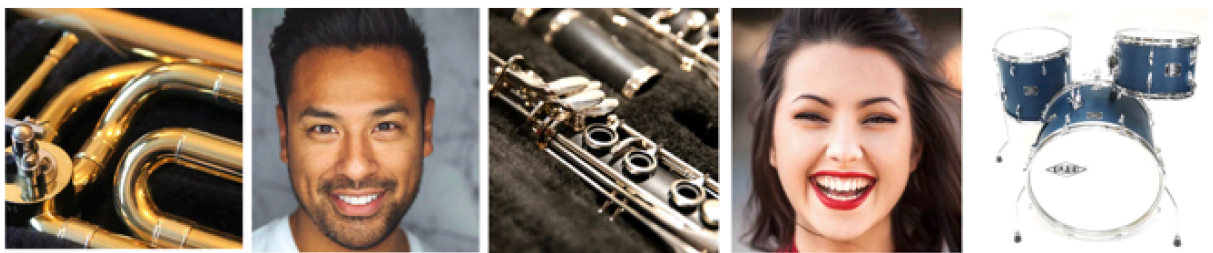
Music teaching is an all-consuming job with a ton of responsibilities that may negatively impact music teachers' healthy work/life balance. Engaging in self-care routines like incorporating breaks into your teaching schedule can help ensure music teachers' ongoing wellness and readiness to teach.

- How long do you teach before you take a break? Is it enough?
- How do you incorporate self-care into your longterm schedule?
- Have you made sure your daily music teaching schedule is sensitive to your own needs for downtime to rejuvenate?

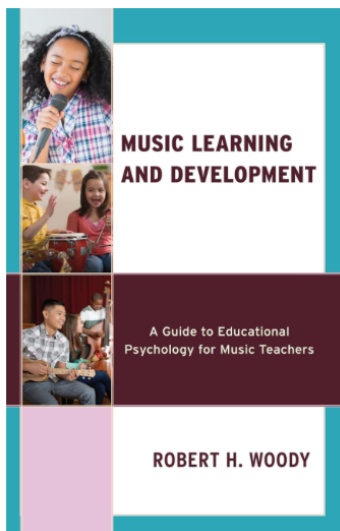
Teacher Peers

Spending time with music teacher peers is an essential component for music teacher wellbeing. Unlike partners, family members, interested neighbours, or our students - teacher peers know exactly what it's like to deal with the challenges and celebrations of music teaching. Getting together with peers on a regular basis is important for support and often leads to valuable exchanges of ideas and techniques that may enhance teaching effectiveness.

- Who are the teacher peers you meet with regularly?
- How often do you meet with music teacher peers? Is it sufficient?
- What gets in the way? What can you do about the obstacles?



From Robert Woody



Becoming a great music teacher is more difficult than become a performer because it requires more than musical expertise. Skilled teaching requires a musician to learn how to effectively guide the musical development of other people. And just drawing on one's own experience ("what worked for me when I was a student") is an inadequate and outdated teaching approach.

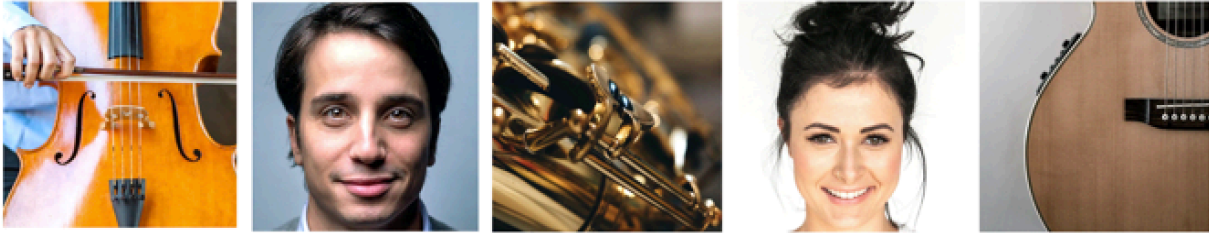
Doing Things Differently

Getting stuck in a rut as a music teacher can be detrimental to student engagement and to our own personal satisfaction. Teaching can become predictable and uninspired, leading to a lack of enthusiasm among students.

- What can you change in your teaching this September?
- What resources are out there that could help you?
- Have you checked out [Teach Music 21C Certification](#)?

Resources from Teach Music 21C

Have you tapped into the Resources on our website? Try starting with the podcasts and videos on "Practicing". You may find just what you're looking for. Click [here...](#)



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 next session begins October 1.

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

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