



Music Teaching Matters

August 12, 2025 - No. 64

Welcome to **Music Teaching Matters**: info & insight for curious, compassionate, and courageous 21st century music teachers.



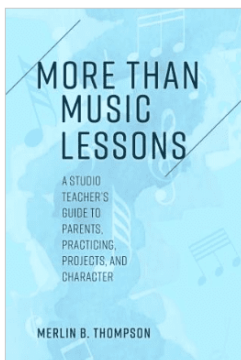
The final weeks of August can be an intense time for music teachers. Getting ready for September. Organizing the teaching schedule. Looking for fresh music. Tweaking everything possible. It can take a lot of time, energy, and thought. So let me share with you my own experiences regarding the end of August intensity. When I first started teaching, I did what I thought every good teacher should do: I made a lot of decisions for my students. [Read MORE...](#)

All the best for these final weeks of summer!

Merlin Thompson

Creator & Founder of Teach Music 21C

More than Music Lessons



More than Music Lessons is now published by Bloomsbury. And in celebration of this new availability, Bloomsbury is offering discounts on hardback, paperback, and e-book versions of this book.

Order your copy [HERE](#).

Podcast Recommendation



Here's a podcast from six years ago - something I published in my early days of podcasting that has stood the test of time.

"A Matter of Chemistry" is a thoughtful exploration of five dynamics that help music teachers get the chemistry right with our students: Understanding, Acceptance, Care, Acceptable tensions, and Authenticity.

Audio link [HERE](#).

For Music Teachers

Music teaching is always evolving. Sometimes for the better.
Sometimes for worse.

As music teachers enter another new seasons, habits that previously served well may need to be refreshed or adjusted.

Which one of your current music teaching habits have you outgrown and is in need of change?

Coming September 30



Are you a Suzuki music teacher looking to update your music teacher skillset?

From Mother Tongue to Modern Teaching

is a 10-hour enrichment course specially designed for Suzuki teachers by Dr. Merlin B. Thompson.

Tuition is only \$149 and sessions start September 30.

👉 [Click here for more info and to register.](#)

Making Music

Making music isn't something we do just with our voice or fingers or ears.

Making music engages our whole person - body, heart, mind, intuition, and spirit in one expressive journey.

In teaching music, we expand on this fullness, weaving together

community, culture, tradition, family, and individuality to shape deep connections.

That's the kind of music teaching we're committed to.

Upcoming Dates

August 27: "Getting Ready for September: Music Teacher Strategies for Success". Presented by Long & McQuade. Click [HERE](#) to register.

September 19: Presentation for Chilliwack BCRMTA.

September 27: "Finding the Right Words: Communication from the Start with the End in Mind". Presentation for APTA Conference.

September 30: Start date for Sept/Oct/Nov Suzuki Enrichment. Click [HERE](#) to register.

October 7: Start date for Oct/Nov Certification. Click [HERE](#) to register.

October 25: "We Can Do This: How to Be a Mentor, Facilitator, and Collaborator in Today's Evolving Music Studio Environment". Presentation for Music Conference Alberta.

Questions, Thoughts

Do you have questions?
Would you like more info?
How about chatting with Merlin Thompson?

SEND me a message at
Admin@TeachMusic21C.com
and we'll get together!



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