



# Music Teaching Matters

September 9, 2025 - No. 68

Welcome to **Music Teaching Matters**: September ideas and inspirations from Teach Music 21C.



We all know that our students' musical futures are shaped by what we do today. Through countless conversations and explorations, we help students acquire the mindset, tools, strategies, and knowledge to pursue their own musical futures. Which brings me to these questions - How do the activities you include in this week's music lessons have an impact on students' future music making activities 20 years from now? What can music teachers do to sow seeds for our students' future music making? Read [MORE...](#)

Hope your September teaching is off to a great start,

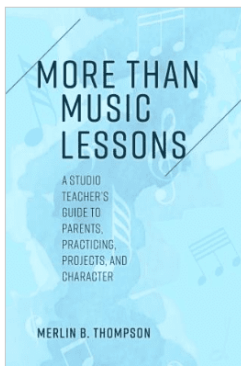
*Merlin Thompson*

*Creator & Founder of Teach Music 21C*

## Music Teaching

How music teachers teach is always evolving for better or for worse. As you enter a new season, teaching habits that served you well may need to be refreshed or adjusted. Which of your current habits have you outgrown and may need to change? What small steps can you take to support your own music teacher evolution? What might be holding you back?

## More than Music Lessons



something if someone tells you to put artistry in a piece that just makes it special. To me, it's like a window of opportunity, because you're playing a piece and it sounds astonishing. Then someone asks you to put artistry in, and in my head, I'm saying here's my chance to push myself above and beyond my limits. Sometimes it sounds great. Sometimes it doesn't, but in the end it doesn't really matter because you're just trying something new."

Order your copy in Canadian dollars - [HERE](#).

## September Resource Package

Be sure to check out the TM21C September Resource Package filled with FREE downloadable resources for today's vocal and instrumental music teachers. We've got Best Practice Cards, Best Teacher Phrases, Student Profile and Info Sheet, Getting Ready for September Video, and more. Click [HERE...](#)

## TM21C Podcast



### Episode #59: Student Motivation

Such an important topic for today's music teachers and it's a huge part of the TM21C Certification program. A timely topic for September. Click [HERE](#).

## Teach Music 21C Certification



Our goal is simple: **lifelong music making for every student - and we mean everyone!**

*Here are some Certification details:*

Cost - \$99

When - Tuesday mornings

Dates - October 7, October 21, November 4

Duration - a total of 5 hours

**Every student. Every lesson. Every note matters.**

👉 [Click here](#) to register for our Oct/Nov

## Tips for This Week's Lessons

1. **Be patient** - There's a lot going on for students as they return to school. Let's make music lessons a safe place for students to get back to their music making routine.
2. **Be curious** - Over the summer months, student's interests and drivers may have evolved. Let's take some time to find out where students are today.
3. **Be welcoming** - A warm open atmosphere invites students and families to feel at home in our studios. Let's create music lessons that honour our shared human experience.

## Upcoming Dates

**September 19:** "What Music Teachers Need to Know about Practicing". Presentation for Chilliwack BCRMTA.

**September 22:** "Repertoire that Resonates: Connecting with Student Choice". Presented by Long & McQuade. Click [HERE](#) to register.

**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

What topics are on your mind?  
Is there a question you'd like to ask?  
How about chatting with Merlin Thompson?

SEND me a message at  
[Admin@TeachMusic21C.com](mailto:Admin@TeachMusic21C.com)



and we'll get together!



Follow Teach Music 21C On



[Instagram](#)



[Youtube](#)



[LinkedIn](#)

Overwhelmed by emails? We understand.

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