



Music Teaching Matters

March 4, 2025 - No. 46

Welcome to **Music Teaching Matters**: inspiring today's music teachers with forward-thinking ideas from Teach Music 21C.



I really appreciate all the recent conversations I've had with music teachers who are intentionally changing the tone of music lessons. Like Sophia who's integrating students' own choice right from the first lesson. And Patrick who's grown comfortable with promoting student independence. And Joanne who previously couldn't imagine teaching...

[Read on to find out more](#) about Changing the Tone of Music Lessons.

All the best with your teaching,

Merlin Thompson

Creator & Founder of Teach Music 21C

Outside Influences

The challenge with music lessons is that a tremendous number of outside influences cannot always be predicted. For example: student home life, student health and wellbeing, student attitude, student interests, student obstacles, and more.

The best plan for teachers is flexibility.

Idea of the Month Webinar

This month's topic is a good one!

"How can music teachers encourage musical expression without outlining every detail of phrasing?"

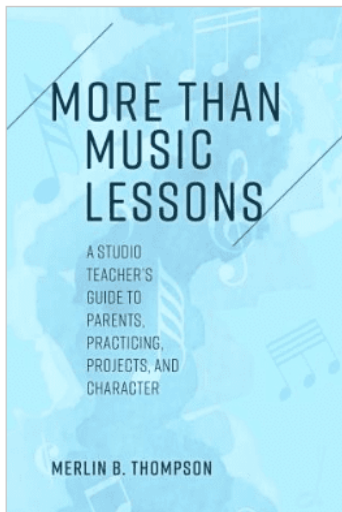
**What are your thoughts?
What strategies do you use?**

[Click HERE to register](#)

for the next Idea of the Month Webinar

Thursday, March 20, 10-11 a.m. Calgary time

"More than Music Lessons"



Here's a sample of one-liners to stimulate curiosity, imagination, and connection for students' musical interpretations. Use any line as the catalyst for performance:

- Wipe away the moon's tears.
- Get directions from a sunbeam.
- Make friends with the color red.
- Take a trip to the furthest star.

The whole point is to get outside our usual parameters. Available on [Amazon.](#)

Music Making

Music making nourishes and exercises our entire self.
As nourishment, music making amplifies joy and celebration, it
soothes hardship and grief.
As exercise, music making provides a comprehensive workout
for body, heart, mind, and soul.
Music making enriches our inner world.

TM21C Certification



The Spring and Summer cohorts are now
open for registration.
[Check out the Schedule](#)



[HERE](#)

Spring Session - Tuesdays beginning
March 25.

July Summer Session: begins July 16

August Summer Session: begins August
13

👉 [Click here to Register NOW!](#)

Asking Questions

Better questions make better student learning.

Instead of asking - "Does this make sense?"
Try - "What are your thoughts on this?"

Instead of asking - "What do you think?"
Try - "How would you explain this?"

Upcoming Dates

March 13: 10-11 a.m. Calgary time

"Helping Students to Think Things Through" - sponsored by Long & McQuade

March 20: 10-11 a.m. Calgary time

Idea of the Month Webinar - Musical Expression. [Register HERE.](#)

March 25: Spring Start for Certification program

Sign up for 5 one-hour online sessions [HERE.](#)

April 10: 10-11 a.m. Calgary time

"What Neuroscience has to Say" - sponsored by Long & McQuade

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!



Follow Teach Music 21C On



Overwhelmed by emails? We understand.

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