



# Music Teaching Matters

August 18, 2026 - No. 108

## Getting Ready for September



As summer winds down, it's natural for music teachers to start getting ready for September. Lesson plans. Repertoire selection. Scheduling. Goal setting. All the practical details that come with starting again. There's a lot on the list. But before getting over-focused on *what* you're going to teach, there may be something even more important to prepare—something that will fundamentally influence how you navigate the myriad of opportunities, challenges, celebrations, detours, and awakenings that will soon take shape. [Click HERE for more...](#)

Hope you're enjoying a beautiful summer,

*Merlin Thompson*

*Creator & Founder of Teach Music 21C*

## TM21C Podcasts are back!



**Listen in. Think differently. Get inspired.**

After a summer break, we're kicking off the new season of TM21C Podcasts with another must-listen conversation for music teachers who are ready to think differently about teaching, learning, and the musical lives of our students.

**To check out Podcast #94: What students look for - [Click HERE.](#)**

## Ready to teach with vision?

**Thursday, August 20**

**Teach With Vision — Inspire For Life.**

Be sure to join this informative and inspiring one-hour online workshop. We'll explore how an engaging vision for your students' musical lives can transform the way you teach—from the choices you make in each lesson to the possibilities you open up for your students.

**Thursday, August 20 • 10–11 MST**

If you'd like to begin the new teaching year with fresh eyes, renewed purpose, and a bigger vision for what music lessons can become, **register now and let's begin the year with vision.**

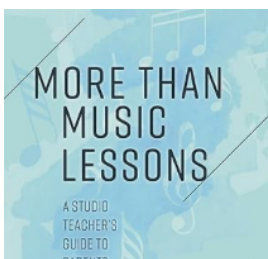
[Register HERE for this free webinar!](#)

## Questions Worth Asking

- What do I want students to remember about being in my studio?
- Am I teaching the students I actually have—or the students I wish I had?
- Where do I want music to fit in my students' lives five, ten, or twenty years from now?
- What am I doing because it truly matters—and what am I doing simply because "that's how it's always been done"?
- If my students could describe my teaching in three words, what would I hope they say?

**Your answers may tell you more about the year ahead than any lesson plan ever could.**

## More than Music Lessons



**This week it's 30% off!**

Order "More than Music Lessons" directly from the publisher Bloomsbury and get 30% off.

Filled with over fifty practical and inspirational teaching tips, this book is a must-read for today's



music studio teacher.

Get your copy from the publisher [HERE](#).

## Beginner Piano Teacher Workshop

**Back this summer by popular demand!**

**Workshop length:** 4 hours

**Dates:** Wednesday, August 19, 9-11 MST and Friday, August 21, 9-11 MST.

**Tuition:** \$149 CAD

**Location:** Online

Would you like to know how to create successful beginner piano lessons? **Beginner Piano Teacher Workshop** is here to support your teaching with tools and strategies specifically designed for beginner lessons. Hope to see you there!

Here's the link for more info and to register - [Click HERE](#).

## Upcoming Dates

**August 19:** Start date for Beginner Piano Teacher Workshop. [Register HERE](#).

**August 20:** Teach with Vision, Inspire for Life Workshop. [Register HERE](#).

## Recommended ReVisiting

What words do you use to describe your students that go beyond their method or book level? What would happen if you took a more personal direction? Here's a blog to get you thinking...

- Describe Your Students' Musical Persona: [Click HERE](#)



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