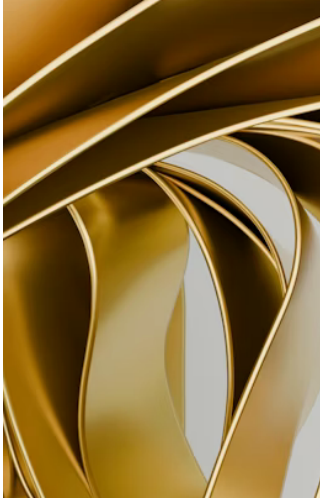




Music Teaching Matters

March 17, 2026 - No. 92

Inspiring our students as lifelong music makers.



I think it's safe to say that for many of us, we become music teachers because of the profound way that making music has shaped our own lives. We've experienced the wonder and magic that making music has to offer year after year. Looking back to my childhood days, I had a lot of music lessons even though I have limited memories of what actually went on. What I do remember from my childhood and what I do carry forward to this very day mostly has to do with what I call "completeness". How making music confirms who we are at our very core while expanding the borders of our lives...

[Click HERE](#) to continue reading.

Here's to inspiring our students,

Merlin Thompson

Creator & Founder of Teach Music 21C

Podcast Recommendation



Episode 105: Curriculum, Choice, and the Path to Lifelong Musicianship

An informative session from Pass the Baton Podcast Series, Merlin Thompson joins hosts Theresa Hoover and Kathryn Finch in an exploration that starts with "the elephant in the room". There's lots to unpack when teachers embrace experimentation, reflective practice, and small, low-risk shifts. [Listen HERE.](#)

Meet With Merlin - March 26



This is your invitation to a dynamic, open-ended event designed for music teachers looking for a place to explore thoughtful topics. It's all about developing a deeper understanding of what's actually happening and what can be accomplished in today's music lessons.

When: Thursday, March 26, 10-11 a.m. MST

Where: Online

[Click HERE to save your spot.](#)

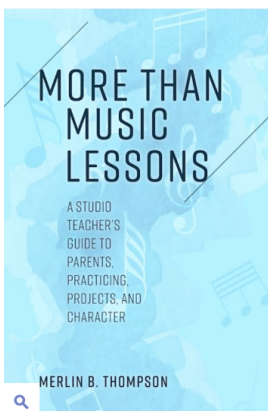
Montessori & Teach Music 21C

Beginning in the early 20th century, Maria Montessori was an education pioneer who encouraged teachers to involve students as active participants and reflective thinkers.

Over the past century, her work has grown to have a profound impact on teachers around the entire globe.

To read an article by Dyane Protzmann-Rogelstad on the "Intersection of Montessori principles and Teach Music 21C", [CLICK HERE.](#)

More than Music Lessons



From Page 47

"Music gives spark to the flame that is the individuals' sense of self.

No matter the level of musicianship amateur or professional, casual or dedicated, music ignites something deep inside every person.

No matter how much time we spend at the instrument, no matter how difficult the repertoire, no matter finishing the piece, we go back for more because music reminds us of who we are."

Order your copy [HERE.](#)

Spending a few moments reading this book is a

great way to refresh your teaching.

Vision Letter

How do you communicate your studio philosophy?

What long term goals do you share?

[CLICK THIS LINK](#)

to download Vision Letter to parents.

Invite parents, students, and their families to join your vision of lifelong music making.

It makes a huge impact when music teachers provide parents with an inspirational foundation for their child's musical journey.

Upcoming Dates

March 17: Presentation for East Carolina University music students.

March 26: Meet With Merlin webinar. Save your spot [HERE](#).

March 28: Start date of Three Sessions for Lethbridge Branch of ARMTA. Register [HERE](#).

April 9: "Inspiring Today's Music Students." Presentation sponsored by Long & McQuade. [Click HERE](#) to save your spot.

April 23: Start date for the Teach Music 21C Spring Cohort. [Click HERE](#) for more information.

Recommended ReVisiting

Developing relationships with the parents of our students can take time, effort, and intentional communication. Take a look at the following explorations from previous newsletters:

- How to Have Meaningful First Conversations with Parents. Click [HERE](#).
- How Music Teachers can Help Today's Families: Busyness & Balance. Click [HERE](#).





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