



Music Teaching Matters

December 3, 2024 - No. 37

Welcome to **Music Teaching Matters**: resources for music teacher growth, connection, and discovery from Teach Music 21C.



In the previous two newsletters, it's been interesting to consider "technique" from a universal viewpoint and take a closer examination of "core" and "breath" as fundamental elements to students' musical development. Now it's time to wrap things up with a final element. What do you think it is? [Read on](#) for more.

Hope your teaching is filled with inspiration!

Merlin Thompson

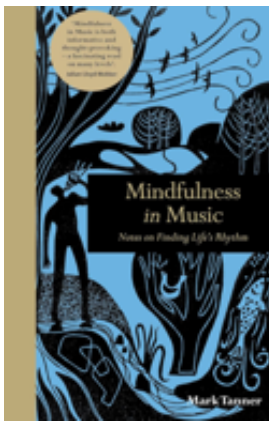
Creator & Founder of Teach Music 21C

Music Teacher Wellbeing

Do you ever question your music teacher expertise when your students don't seem to be doing all that well? Do doubts ever settle in? Here are 3 more ways to ensure music teacher wellbeing and promote student ownership of their own musical journey:

1. **Gather information** on an ongoing basis. Regular check ins help us tailor teaching methods to our students' evolving journey.
2. Encourage **student reflection**. Prompts like **"I'm curious to..."** and **"Tell me more"** invite students to participate as active thinkers.
3. **Shed light** when students can't see what's going on. With phrases like **"Here's what I see..."** or **"You may not have noticed..."**, we can help students understand what's happening beneath the surface.

Mindfulness in Music



Notes on Finding Life's Rhythms.

For the listener, music draws us into the space we have set aside for our own personal meditation -- and for the musician, music eventually becomes a sort of practical meditation. Music and meditation help us to slip from physical space into mental space; we find ourselves transported to a different kind of reality. Available on [Amazon](#).

Food for Thought

Music making is more than a set of skills. It's a **living, breathing journey** that evolves with us. Whether you're a child picking up the violin for the first time, an adult strumming a guitar after years away, or someone belting out your favorite song in the shower, music has a remarkable way of staying with us. It's a **lifelong adventure**—one that invites us to explore, discover, and enjoy at every stage of life. No matter where you are on your musical path, there's always something to **learn, feel, and express**.

TM21C Certification - Schedule NOW



Our numbers are growing!! We now have graduates across Alberta, British Columbia, Colorado, Ontario, Pennsylvania, Quebec, Saskatchewan, and Utah. Would you like to join? We've got tools and strategies you can depend on to empower your students as lifelong music makers. Our next Certification cohorts have start dates in **January and February 2025**.

[Click here to Register NOW!](#)

Testimonial

Feedback from a dedicated music teacher on TM21C Certification:

"Teach Music 21C Certification is a long awaited breath of fresh air. It is exactly what I needed for my music studio. Students have loved

absolutely everything I have tried from this course. I highly recommend TM21C Certification to all teachers!"

Upcoming Dates

January 9: 10-11 a.m. Calgary time

"The Chill Out Concert" - Presentation for Calgary ARMTA members

January 10:

"What I Wish I'd Known from the Start" - Presentation for West Central Branch of the SRMTA.

January 13

Start date for the next Certification program

Register [TODAY](#) and reserve your place. Spots are limited.

Questions, Thoughts

Do you have questions?

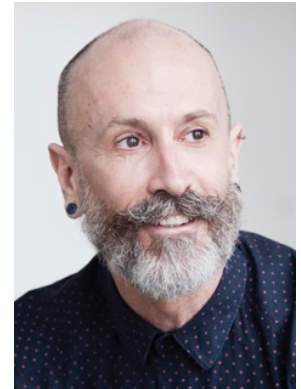
Would you like more info?

How about chatting with Merlin Thompson?

Schedule your **Conversation with Merlin** [HERE](#).

It's 100% FREE.

What about ideas or thoughts you'd like to share? SEND me a message!



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