



Music Teaching Matters

June 16, 2026 - No. 105

Reflections, Courses, and Take a Break



Last week, the mother of two of my students sat in on her sons' lessons. Not an usual occurrence in my studio by any means. But on this occasion, something most remarkable did take place and I was glad she was there to see it for herself. Over the previous few weeks, her two boys (a first-year student and third-year student) had been gradually putting together the duet parts for Do-Re-Mi from the Sound of Music. [Click HERE](#) to continue reading.

Best wishes as you wrap up your teaching,
Merlin Thompson

Creator & Founder of Teach Music 21C

Summer TM21C Certification



Book Your Summer PD NOW!

Invest in your growth as a music teacher with TM21C Certification. **Five informative hours** to explore fresh ideas, deepen your teaching approach, and connect with a forward-thinking music teaching community.

Tuition: \$99 CAD.

Dates: August 12: 9-11 MST, August 14: 10-11 MST, & August 17: 9-11 MST.

Hope to see you there.

[For more Info & to Register: CLICK HERE.](#)

From the Heart

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

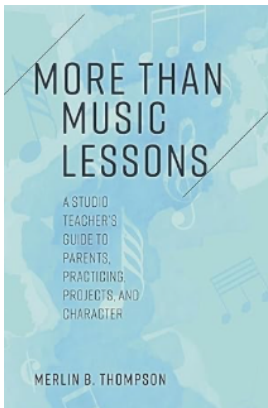
To everyone who reads the Teach Music 21C newsletter - whether you've been with us from the beginning or joined recently - your support, encouragement, and engagement are deeply appreciated. It's a privilege to share ideas, reflections, and teaching insights with a community that cares so deeply about helping students explore the vastness of making music.

Thank you for being part of this journey and for the work you do every day to inspire the next generation of music makers.

The next **Music Teaching Matters will return in late July** as we prepare for a new season of teaching and learning.

Until then, enjoy a well-deserved summer break, continue making music, and thank you for your support of the Teach Music 21C community.

More than Music Lessons



Music is everywhere.

At home. At work. At play.

With friends. With family. Distracting.

Old songs. Folk songs. Pop songs. New songs.

Where time and place take shape.

Where memories live on.

Music is there.

Be sure to spend some time with this book over the summer months.

Get your own copy [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.](#)

Teach With Vision - Inspire For Life

Music Teacher Webinar

Thursday, August 20, 10-11 MST.

A groundbreaking workshop designed to introduce you to an amazing workbook resource:

Teach With Vision - Inspire For Life.

Visionary and inspiring teaching doesn't require new materials or systems, or even more time.

It begins with recognizing what we believe about music making and intentionally sharing that vision.

The goals we emphasize matter.

The language we use matters.

The stories we share matter.

Would you like to teach with greater intention?

How about inspiring with greater impact?

Stay tuned for more details!

Upcoming Dates

July 13: "Reframing the Why: Humanistic Reasons for Music lessons", 2026 Virtual String Teachers Summit.

July 22: "Music Making in Our lives: Music Teaching & Lifelong Music Makers". Presentation for ISME World Pre-Conference in Quebec City.

July 24: "Parental Involvement: Past Lessons, Present Realities, and Future Possibilities". Presentation for ISME World Pre-Conference.

July 26-31: Two presentations for ISME World Conference in Montreal.

July 27: "Repertoire Review/Refinement", presentation for Connecting Canada 2026.

August 12: Start date for TM21C Summer Certification. [Register HERE.](#)

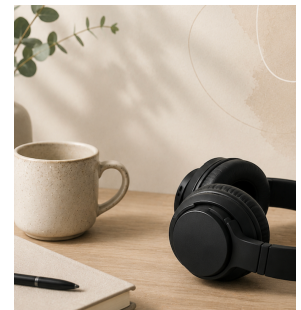
August 19: Start date for Beginner Piano Teacher Workshop. [Register HERE.](#)

August 20: Teach with Vision, Inspire for Life Workshop

Recommended ReVisiting

Find out what happens when Merlin Thompson decides to create a year-long studio activity focused on gratitude. There's lots to unpack in this video presentation.

- Gratitude in the Shadow of a Global Pandemic: [Click HERE.](#)



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