



Music Teaching Matters

May 19, 2026 - No. 101

Music teaching strategies for this week & beyond.



Sometimes it seems like there's no end to the problems music teachers are required to solve. We've got students who need guidance from us. Students with certain problems. Students in situations that pull our attention. So what do we do? Take a look at these two solutions that may not be what first comes to your mind...[Click HERE.](#)

Best wishes for your teaching,

Merlin Thompson

Creator & Founder of Teach Music 21C

Podcast Recommendation



#91: Busy Families

Do you have busy families in your studio? Families who organize their schedules to the maximum? Join Connie Bell and Merlin Thompson as we bring empathy and practicality to this dynamic topic. [Listen HERE.](#)

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: 9-10 MST, & August 17: 9-11 MST.

Hope to see you there.

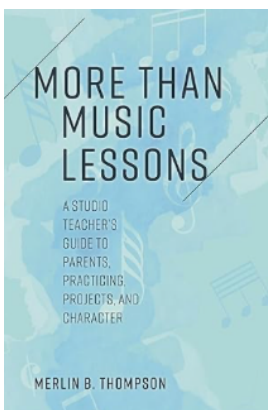
[For more Info & to Register: CLICK HERE.](#)

Student Ownership

Having ownership means that students are actively involved rather than simply following instructions. Which of the following "**Ownership Activities**" do you use?

1. Ask students to tell you about their **goals** from last week, on one piece, on all pieces.
2. Ask students, "Which piece do you want to **play next**?"
3. **Hand the pencil** to the student. Have them write in the fingering.
4. Ask students to **point to where** they need the most improvement.
5. As you write their **homework notes**, have students tell you the bar numbers for extra practice.
6. Ask students to tell you which piece they'll play as **friend, challenge, entertainment, or ritual** in the upcoming week.

More than Music Lessons



"This is the kind of book I wish I could have referenced when I first started teaching." Tema Blackstone, The Julliard School.

Currently 30% off from the publisher. Order now as this offer won't last long!! Get your copy [HERE.](#)

Teach With Vision - Inspire For Life

Music Teacher Webinar

Thursday, May 28, 10-11 MST.

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

Teach With Vision - Inspire For Life.

Helping music teachers clarify, communicate, and live out the vision behind our teaching.

Would you like to teach with greater intention?

How about inspiring with greater impact?

[Click HERE to reserve your spot NOW!](#)

Upcoming Dates

May 28: Teach With Vision - Inspire For Life webinar. [Save your spot HERE.](#)

June 4: Music Lessons for Trust. Presentation for Lethbridge, ARMTA.

June 11: "Inspiring Music Teachers". Presentation sponsored by Long & McQuade.

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

July 24-31: Four presentations for the ISME World Conference in Quebec City & Montreal.

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

Recommended ReVisiting

Here's another informative podcast from The Music Educator's Crucible (which led to the creation of Teach Music 21C). Listen to find out how Costa & Kallick's 16 habits of mind provide a resourceful framework for vocal and instrumental music teaching.



- Podcast #5: Life Skills Meet Love of Music [Click HERE.](#)

Follow Teach Music 21C On



Instagram Youtube LinkedIn

Overwhelmed by emails? We understand.

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