



# Music Teaching Matters

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## **Your music teacher source for strategies that work with today's music students.**



I think something music teachers can all support is developing solid, respectful relationships with our students. Because without a foundation of trust and honesty, we may not get very far in helping our students explore their own musical journey. So - how can music teachers tell if we're developing solid, respectful relationships with our students? Is it smiling faces? Students who respond to our questions with the correct answers? Read more [HERE...](#)

All the best for your teaching journey,  
*Merlin Thompson*

*Creator & Founder of Teach Music 21C*

## Podcast Recommendation



### **#77 Collaborative First Lessons**

Is it possible for teachers to be collaborative even in students' very first lesson? Yes it is! Connie Bell and Merlin Thompson explore the tools of collaborative teaching and how to get things going from the very first lesson. A practical discussion. [Listen HERE.](#)

## FREE Music Teacher Mentorship

**Attention university music students currently teaching private music lessons!**

Did you know Dr. Merlin Thompson is available to guide your music teaching process? So there's no need for you to go it alone! Click [HERE](#) to contact Dr. Thompson today and start your FREE Teacher Mentorship. You'll find out how to -

- Nail your first lessons.
- Handle tricky situations with students/parents.
- Build confidence fast in your teaching.
- Get the results you're looking for.

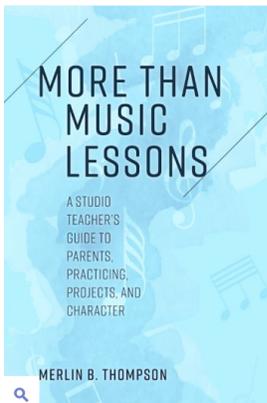
Behind every confident music teacher is an experienced mentor.

## Recommended Reading



Dr. Karen Gerelus is a Calgary-based music scholar and piano teacher with extensive research into adolescent piano students. Be sure to check out her award-winning article "Envisioning a Future Musical Self: Identities of Dropout and Continuing Adolescent Piano Students". Click [HERE](#) for the entire article pages 2-24.

## More than Music Lessons



### Teaching Tip

**Get to know your student's character, sense of self, and authenticity.**

1. Watch what students do.
  2. Listen to what students have to say.
  3. Be prepared for students to gradually evolve.
- Order your copy [HERE](#) or spend a few moments of refreshment if you already have a copy.

## Thought for Today

**Did you know?** Giving yourself advice out loud or writing down instructions for you to complete actually works. When you say out loud or put to paper, "I'm doing ..... with my students today", there's a higher probability you will actually complete the task.

***What goal will you say out loud or commit to paper today?***

## Upcoming Dates

**February 14:** Presentation for Texas Music Educator's Association Conference.

**February 26 & 27:** Presentations for Suzuki Association of the Americas Conference.

## What to do with "I don't know"

Do you have students who respond to your questions with "I don't know"? Then be sure to check out these practical and informative resources:

- How to Respond to Students who Say "I don't know". Click [HERE](#).
- Why Patience is Important for Music Teaching. Click [HERE](#).



And if you'd like to share your thoughts on anything in this newsletter, please click [HERE](#) to send a message to Merlin Thompson. Thanks!

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