



# Music Teaching Matters

November 19, 2024 - No. 35

Welcome to **Music Teaching Matters** - timely insights and ideas for music teachers to use in today's music lessons.



As a vocal or instrumental music teacher, I suspect you've already got a fairly concrete list of technical aspects that you want to pass on to your students. You pay close attention to various factors that assist students with producing beautiful tone, developing technical ease, and promoting students' musical proficiency. Now what happens to your list if we change things up a bit? [Read more...](#)

Here's to meaningful music lessons!

*Merlin Thompson*

*Creator & Founder of Teach Music 21C*

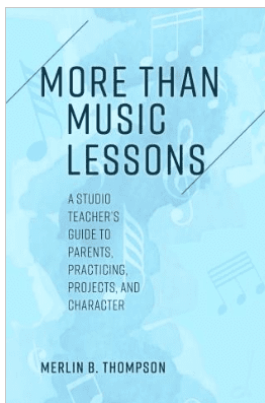
## Must-Have Phrases

Have you ever found yourself in the situation where your student asks a question that catches you **off-guard or unprepared to answer**?

What do you say? Here are three must-have phrases for those moments when students show up with unexpected questions:

1. That's a **great question** (Confirmation that you recognize the validity of students' inquiry).
2. Give me a week to **think about it** and I'll see what I can come up with (Good questions may take some time to find meaningful answers).
3. Let's **brainstorm** and see what we can create between the two of us (Students may already have ideas so let's include them in the process).

# More Than Music Lessons



Students naturally come with their **own individual character** imprinted from birth. They have their own blending of personal essence, inner voice, life force, destiny, soul, authenticity, sense of self. Students' **well-being, thought processes, and integrity** are all reflections of the very core of their being. The challenge for teachers is to take the time to recognize each student's character. Available on [Amazon](#) or from [Rowman & Littlefield](#).

## Food for Thought

The best way to achieve high standards  
is to make sure they fit with  
what students are looking for.

## Planning for 2025 - Schedule NOW



Why should you put your trust in Teach Music 21C Certification? Because we've got **forty years** of continuous research and development as our backdrop. We're not just passing on the latest gimmick or trend. We're sharing **tools and strategies** that you can depend on to empower your students every lesson. We're excited about **changing the tone** of music lessons with 21st century tools and strategies you won't find anywhere else. Day after day and week after week.

Our next Certification cohorts have start dates in **January and February 2025**.

[Click here to Register NOW!](#)

## Music Teacher Wellbeing

Have you noticed the connection between music **teacher wellbeing and student progress**? That when things go well for our students, we naturally feel confident in our teaching abilities. And conversely, when things aren't going well, we may experience **self-doubt** and question **our expertise** as teachers. Here are two ways to ensure teacher wellbeing and suppress unnecessary self-doubt -

1. Remember music teaching is a **shared journey**. It's important to involve students in planning ahead, solving problems, and providing inspiration. After all, it's their journey.
2. Keep in mind not all student problems need immediate solutions. There are **advantages to waiting**. And some challenges are beyond teacher scope of influence.

## Upcoming Dates

### **November 21: 10-11 a.m. Calgary time**

Idea of the Month Webinar

Register [HERE](#) and submit your suggestions for topics to explore.

### **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

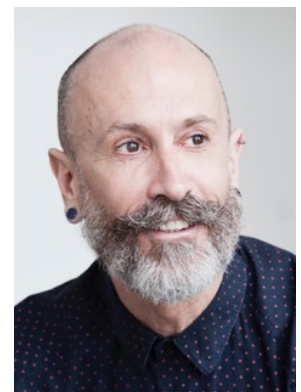
Do you have questions?

Would you like more info?

How about chatting with Merlin Thompson?

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

It's 100% FREE.



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