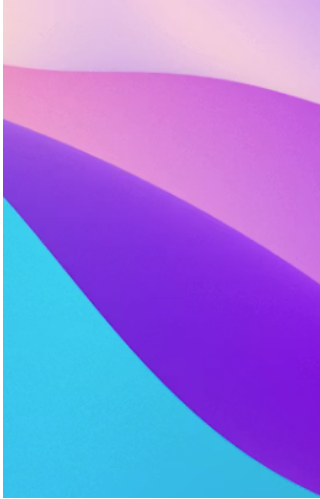




Music Teaching Matters

March 24, 2026 - No. 93

Your source for inspirational music teaching.



Have you ever noticed how certain questions just never go away? Uncomfortable questions like - Why do so many students drop out of music lessons? Why do so few students participate in recreational music making as adults? What's going on? Who's at fault? What are we doing wrong? [Click HERE](#) to continue reading.

Wishing you the best in inspiring your students,
Merlin Thompson

Creator & Founder of Teach Music 21C

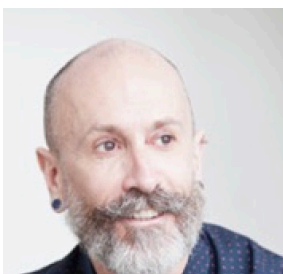
Podcast Recommendation



#83: Lifelong Music Making: What, Why, How

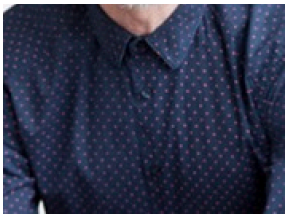
Lots of music teachers talk about lifelong music making. But what exactly is that? Why is it important? And how can music teachers be intentional about it? This episode is an informative session from Connie Bell and Merlin Thompson. [Listen HERE.](#)

Meet With Merlin - March 26



There are moments when it's beneficial for music teachers to step into the bigger questions about music teaching.

Meet with Merlin is a space for music teachers to explore the deeper layers of our work. If you've



been craving meaningful dialogue about teaching, this is your invitation. Come with your questions. Leave with perspective.

When: Thursday, March 26, 10-11 a.m. MST

Where: Online

[Click HERE to save your spot.](#)

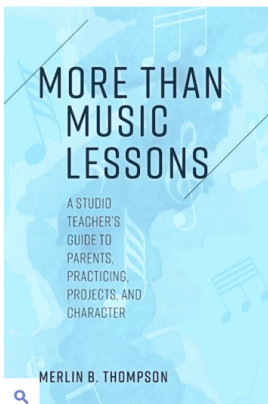
Insights from Paul McGlinchey

Are you looking for a fresh perspective on practicing?

Paul McGlinchey has practical ideas to share on this topic. He asks - What if the problem isn't motivation—but the way we think about practice? Drawing on insights from Seth Godin and parallels with meditation, Paul invites a deeper, more meaningful approach to growth. If you've ever felt stuck in "practice limbo,"

[click HERE to read.](#)

More than Music Lessons



Take a look at the following ways to "challenge" your students this week -

- Play with colors: red, blue, pink, black...
- Play with emotions: happy, sad, frustrated...
- Play with your imagination, care.
- Play with beauty - delight, curiosity, wonder.
- Play the teacher's favorite way, the composer's favorite way.
- Put "heart and soul" into your playing

Order your copy [HERE](#).

Spending a few moments reading this book is a great way to refresh your teaching.

Wellbeing & Self-Care

What strategies can music teachers use to maintain our passion, reduce stress, and support our wellness when situations may not be going all that well?

[CLICK THIS LINK](#)

to download six strategies to put into place that promote music teacher's personal and professional wellness.

Upcoming Dates

March 26: Meet With Merlin webinar. Save your spot [HERE](#).

March 28: "The 20-year Question". Presentation for Lethbridge Branch of ARMTA. Register [HERE](#).

April 9: "Inspiring Today's Music Students." Presentation sponsored by Long & McQuade. [Click HERE](#) to save your spot.

April 23: Start date for the Teach Music 21C Spring Cohort. [Click HERE](#) for more information.

Recommended ReVisiting

There are many layers to effective music teaching. Figuring out which layers to pay attention to can take some time. Here are two explorations that hopefully provide a few shortcuts for music teachers:

- What I Wish I'd Known From The Start. Click [HERE](#).
- How to Integrate Student Peer Teaching in Music Lessons. Click [HERE](#).



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