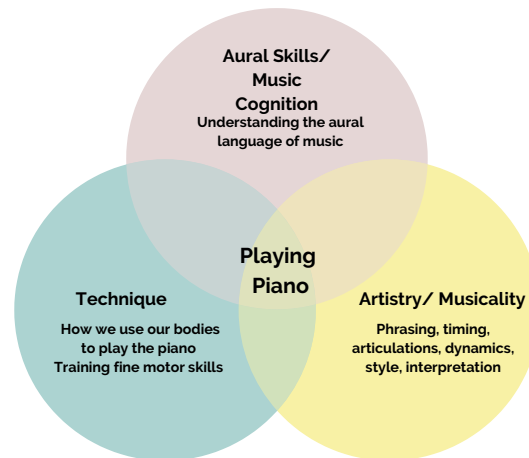


# From Overwhelmed to Fluent: Pedagogical Practices to Promote Student Learning, Engagement, and Retention

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## Barriers to Effective Learning

- Cognitive Overload
  - The brain becomes overwhelmed when it is learning too many new elements at one time
  - Multitasking during a learning experience may actually hinder a student's ability to retain and reproduce skills in the long term
  - Teachers should avoid overloading the brain because our brains retain information best when the information is given to us one piece at a time— Mindtools.com

**Aural Skills** Teaching, recognizing, and using tonal patterns and rhythm patterns before introducing notation

### Research, Curriculums, and Methodologies

- Music Learning Theory (Edwin Gordon)
  - *Jump Right In*
  - *Music Moves for Piano* by Marilyn Lowe (used in teaching demonstrations)
- Feierabend
  - *First Steps in Music* (used in teaching demonstrations)
  - *Conversational Solfège*
- Orff
- Kodaly
- Suzuki

### Resources

- Gordon Institute for Music Learning— [giml.org](http://giml.org)
- *Music Moves for Piano* by Marilyn Lowe
- Feierabend Association of Music Educators — [feierabendmusic.org](http://feierabendmusic.org)
- *Keeping the Beat*- CD by John Feierabend

## Technique

How we use our body to accomplish a musical result

### Research, Curriculums, and Methodologies

- The Lister-Sink Method (used in teaching demonstrations)
- Taubman Method/ Golandsky Institute
- Fred Karpoff/ Entrada Series
- Seymour Fink
- Alan Fraser

### Resources

- *Freeing the Caged Bird*- DVD by Barbara Lister-Sink
- *What Every Pianist Needs to Know About the Body* by Thomas Mark
- *Elements of Skill* by Theodore Dimon, Jr.
- *Somatics* by Thomas Hanna
- *Famous Pianists and Their Technique* by Reginald Gerig
- Alexander Technique— alexandertechnique.com
- Feldenkrais Method— feldenkrais.com
- Pianists for Alternatively Sized Keyboards— paskpiano.org

## Artistry

Creating musical ideas, interpreting music of others and creating new music

### Resources

- Laban Movement Analysis— labaninstitute.org
- *The Book of Children's Songtales* by John Feierabend
- *The Book Movement Exploration* by John Feierabend
- *Move it!*- DVD by John Feierabend

## Effective Learning

- Breaks the job into smaller parts! (Isolated Interacting Elements Effect)
- Includes intentional sequencing (Tools given before execution is required)
- Prioritizes a Process-Oriented Mentality

## General Resources

- *Everyday Musicality Podcast* by Heather Nelson Shouldice
- *The Tuneful, Beatful, Artful Music Teacher Podcast* by The Feierabend Association of Music Educators
- "Cognitive Overload"- [www.mindtools.com/pages/article/cognitive-load-theory.htm](http://www.mindtools.com/pages/article/cognitive-load-theory.htm)
- Learning Sequences in Music by Edwin Gordon
- *The Ways Children Learn Music* by Eric Bluestine
- *Readings in Music Learning Theory* edited by Darrel L. Walters and Cynthia Crump Taggart
- *Feierabend Fundamentals: History, Philosophy, and Practice* by Missy Strong

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