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Jeeyeon Ryu

THAWZEN Moments

Autoethnographic piano teaching and learning stories

SERIES IN MUSIC

This anthology of autoethnographic stories is an extraordinary collection of creative stories showcasing the 'epiphanies' that come from the depth and richness of storytelling. And yet there is more. It is also a collection of 'epiphonies' as music itself tells stories that rivet us to new levels of insight. It is an astounding collection to those of us who remember learning to play piano in quite different ways. What is shared here is a creative world of the rich potential of learning to play with children while also learning alongside children. It is an absolute delight to the senses and to the imagination! While focusing on music, it is feast for the senses as poetry, visual art and sound come together, teaching the reader of the importance for all the arts as a support to learning music. This is a remarkable contribution to a field that needs to embrace the importance of learning through play, even in music!

Rita L. Irwin, Ed.D.

Distinguished University Scholar
Professor, Art Education
The University of British Columbia

Summary

THAWZEN Moments: Autoethnographic Piano Teaching and Learning Stories is a collection of 46 vignettes, digitally edited photographs, poems, and reflective-reflexive narratives about children's imaginative, creative, and magical lifeworlds of exploring music and piano playing.

There are many ways of learning to play the piano, THAWZEN different ways of re/imagining music. There are many stories to share with you, never-ending questions to explore together. The stories included in this book are our happy piano play, our shared musical journeys in re/creating more meaningful and joyful piano teaching and learning experiences.

About the author

Jeeyeon Ryu, Ph.D., is a pianist, teacher, and researcher who has been deeply dedicated to the arts and education for more than 20 years. She loves all things creative, including piano improvisation, photography, poetry, storytelling, and videography. Inspired by a variety of artistic genres, she enjoys using autoethnography, a/r/tography, and poetic inquiry to explore artful, reflexive ways of teaching, learning, research, and writing. Jeeyeon's scholarly interests and publications include themes and variations related to arts-informed pedagogies, praxis and teacher education, music education, and lived/living curricular practice. Currently, she is appointed as Interim Associate Dean (General Education) at Yorkville University.

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