

3



Mentorship/Job-Shadowing/Practica

by Brian Lillos

Mentorship and job-shadowing are the oral tradition components of teaching. Mentorship is role modelling. It is the equivalent of parenting in jazz education and it is an essential experience for the developing teacher. I cannot emphasize this enough. We tend to teach the way we've been taught. We tend to teach the way we've been shown to teach. A great deal of what you do in your teaching career will come from the impact your mentor has on you. (We are privileged at Humber College to have 55 "world class" mentors and multiple sections of a very broad jazz studies curriculum for students to access. Some of the best teaching in the world takes place in our jazz studies program. Hence, the possibility for great mentorship is likely. We are indeed privileged.)