

Mateja Tomac Calligaris has been involved in teaching since she was very young, although she initially studied medicine. Her unexpected participation in a seminar for Willems teachers led her to reorient her career towards music education. In 1994, she obtained the Willems teaching diploma in Italy, and the following year she began working in Ljubljana with her first small group of three-year-olds.



In 2002, she graduated from the Faculty of Education in Trieste. That same year, she founded the Edgar Willems Music Centre in Ljubljana, which over time became a high-quality music school, recognised and supported by the Republic of Slovenia and the City of Ljubljana. She still runs the centre today, collaborating with numerous Slovenian and international teachers and artists.

In July 2018, she became the first Slovenian to obtain the Willems® Teaching Diploma in Lyon, which enables her to train teachers according to the pedagogical principles of the Willems® method.

She leads music education seminars in Slovenia and also contributes to training in other European countries (Italy, France, Spain, Switzerland).

In 2024, she enrolled in a two-year specialisation programme in speech therapy at Alma Mater Europaea University in Maribor (Slovenia), inspired by the principles of Viktor Frankl.

She is also an active member of the Slovenian Society for Willems® Music Pedagogy and vice-president of the International Willems® Federation.