

## Meet Jake The Road Dawg

Award-winning, Singer-Songwriters *Tia McGraff and Tommy Parham*

are *'paws-atively'* excited to be a part of the OMEA/CMIEC Conference this year. In celebration, they are launching their new, *Jake The Road Dawg: Find The Song In Your Heart Kid Vid Series* this weekend, and invite you to watch and enjoy the first two videos.

Inspired by Tia's MG children's book, *Jake The Road Dawg*, each twenty minute video in the nine part series, includes a chapter reading, and an insight into the songwriting and recording process. Over nine weeks students and teachers will explore various aspects of songwriting: including structure, melody, lyric, rhyme scheme etc., and be inspired to craft their own song based on the theme, who's your super hero. Other subjects touched on during the course are friendship building, local history, geography, movement, art, and Jake's favorite, confidence and character building. Filmed on location in their virtual/recording studio on Lake Erie, ON, Tia and Tommy share their original songs and how they wrote them. From Abigail Becker (based on the heroine of Long Point) to their fans' favorite, Two Wolves, (based on the Indigenous legend of a grandfather and grandson discussing the growing pains of adolescence). Tommy's Native American heritage (Shoshone and Ute) is celebrated here as he teaches and invites the class to join him in singing an engaging and inspiring Indigenous vocable/chant. There is even the option of scheduling Tia and Tommy for an added virtual concert after your class has completed the course giving your students the opportunity to present their 'hit songs' in front of professional songwriters.

Available this weekend at a special introductory rate, the Kid Vid series will be delivered directly and securely to your e-mail through a set of unpublished YouTube streaming links. This gives you, the teacher, the flexibility and freedom to choose the scheduling that fits your itinerary best. Stop and start the videos as you need. Discuss and create with your students or allow them to work on their own. **It's your classroom. Be crazy beautiful!**

So kick back, relax, and enjoy the first two videos. Then reach out to learn more about how you and your brilliant students can *'EmBark'* on your nine week journey with *Jake The Road Dawg*.

For pricing/information: [www.tiamcgraff.com](http://www.tiamcgraff.com)

E-mail: [tmcgraff@msn.com](mailto:tmcgraff@msn.com)

Find Tia:

FB: <https://www.facebook.com/tiamcgraff/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/tiamcgraff/>





“Tia worked with me at a Magnet School for the Arts in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. This school attracted 625 kids each week, who travelled from their home schools, for ½ day every week, for an entire year. Tia was an invaluable member to our Arts Team, where I was the Arts Coordinator and Manager of the program. I could always depend on Tia to be quick to get a rousing sing along happening; be open to improvising on her guitar or keyboard to get everyone in the groove; and to offer new ideas when celebrating the skills, the kids were excited to demonstrate, when performing on Hamilton Place Stage.” Patricia Gough



## Jake The Road Dawg



by Tia McGraff

Children - Animals

Kindle Edition

Reviewed on 06/23/2021

### Book Review

#### Reviewed by Emily-Jane Hills Orford for Readers' Favorite

*Jake the Road Dawg shows responsibility, looking for all that is beautiful and magical even in what might otherwise be scary, sharing music to make people happy, but most importantly, learning that life is about friendship and family. Tia McGraff's story, Jake the Road Dawg, is a sweet, true story about an amazing shelter puppy and his new friends at his forever home. Told in the third person narrative, the plot follows Jake's story from an abusive first home to a shelter puppy to a loving, musical forever family. He finds his sense of place among the love and music that surround him in his new home, and he even finds his tail, something that hadn't wagged once until he first met his forever family (it was a shocking revelation when it wagged for the first time). Jake's story is touching and heartwarming and will be enjoyed by dog lovers of all ages. The added bonus to Jake's story is the photo album at the end that honors this charming little man, as his new forever mom keeps calling him. What a beautiful story! Loved it!*