

# TRUMAN MIDDLE SCHOOL ORCHESTRA SYLLABUS Lindbergh School District 2021-22

## **Our Philosophy:**

It is the philosophy of the TMS Orchestra staff that all students continue their musical development in a positive environment. Those involved with the arts can carry this skill and appreciation throughout their life. A school music program helps young people to develop heightened self esteem, self-discipline, dexterity, creativity, self-expression, cooperative learning skills and knowledge of a variety of music styles. The ability to read music enables students to continue their exploration of the infinite styles of music.

## **Basic Class Rules:**

1. **Read daily announcements/objectives on board** and follow daily class routine.
2. No gum, candy, beverage or food is permitted in TMS Orchestra Rm. (Water is permitted in a closed container. Students are asked to exit room when drinking their water.) \*Please respect the custodial staff and keep our carpet clean. After school activities are designed to give students time to finish a snack outside of the classroom! Please, do not store food in Orchestra room or in any lockers.
3. Students are expected to wear their face coverings/masks correctly at all times.
4. Students are expected to enter the classroom prepared with their instrument/accessories (ex.- rosin for bow, pencil to mark music), and their practice copies in a folder.
5. Students will be considered tardy if not in seat prepared to tune 2 minutes after bell. (Instrument out of case, bow rosined and music on stand.)
6. Show respect to yourself, others and all equipment. Please do NOT leave instrument unattended! (Students using school Cello or Bass may not share use of instrument with classmates)
7. Students must have permission from Orchestra director to use a practice room facility.
8. PLEASE keep locker organized. Please keep orchestra lockers closed/latched when not in use.

**Required Materials:** Instrument/accessories (see list on page 4), practice/performance copies in folder, pencil(s), notebook/composition book (to record daily Orchestra assignments, practice ideas and lecture notes), as well as the required method book(s) listed below.

**Books available for purchase from Nottlemann Music Co- 314.631.1486**

- **GRADE 6**
  - ***Rhythm Basics* by Wendy Barden (Kjos Publication)-approx. \$6.95**
- **GRADES 7-8**
  - ***Essential Technique for Strings* (Book 3 for your instrument, includes EEI; Hal Leonard Publication)-approx. \$9.99**
  - ***Rhythm Basics* by Wendy Barden (Kjos Publication)-approx. \$6.95**

In addition, students will need a white collared, button-down shirt, solid black pants/skirt and black shoes for the December, March and May concerts. See *Concert Dress* (page 3) for details.

**Instrument Storage:** All students will be assigned a locker for their instruments. All lockers have a combination lock and students may opt to use lock. Students are asked to keep their lockers organized and latched at all times. **PLEASE- Absolutely no food/drink in instrument lockers.** Music should be kept neatly in a folder. Violin/Viola cases should be closed and latched when not in use. There is a \$5 replacement fee for any lost locks.

**PLEASE DO NOT LEAVE CASE, INSTRUMENT, OR MUSIC ON FLOOR!!!!**

Orchestra students have access to their MS Orchestra Room at the beginning and end of school days to drop-off/pick-up their instrument for daily home practice. Please note that Orchestra room will not remain unlocked during school hours when class is not in session. Students must plan accordingly to pick-up their instruments at the end of the school day. In the event of an emergency, student may go to office to request a custodian to give them access to room.

**Practice Requirements:** An outstanding orchestra is a team. During daily rehearsal we will strive to produce a united and balanced sound between the five orchestral sections. Therefore, students are expected to practice their individual parts at home to prepare for class rehearsal. Individual home practice on the drills/passages from rehearsal will advance a student technique to prepare for concerts. Practice minutes are achieved by students working alone to master musical selections/technique.

**Students will be required to complete the online practice form weekly for full practice credit.** This data will be averaged and used to assign end of term EFFORT score.

*See the Practice Requirements for additional details on page 6.*

**Grading:** Students must check SIS portal for current term grade! Canvas is only used as an assignment delivery/submission platform.

Term grades are based upon a weighted graded scale. *Please note that participation is the bulk of a student's term grade.* Students are graded upon participation, effort and improvement. Assignments will include playing assessments, written quizzes, rhythm worksheets, written theory worksheets, and various projects (composition, creative writing, a solo/ensemble performance, "personal practice idea papers").

*See Objectives on pg5 for detailed grade level technical and curricular goals.*

**60% Participation, Musicianship and weekly online Practice form completed (EFFORT)**

**10% Performance/Extra Rehearsal attendance** (*noted on page 3*)

**30% Playing assessments, projects and class-assignments**

*Participation/Musicianship:* Students are expected to show a high level of citizenship at all times. All students are responsible to bring their practice copies, method book(s), pencil and notebook daily. In addition, students are expected to be on time and prepared for rehearsals (class). Students are to respect self, others, director, guests, instruments and music. (2 participation points are awarded per day!)

*Participation in class rehearsals is vital for the success of our Orchestras. Please do not leave instrument at shop for a broken string. Bring the new replacement string to school and WE will replace old string quickly and for free. ☺*

*Practice Form Entry:* For full practice credit, students are required to complete the weekly online practice form. Students should complete the form at the beginning of each week that school is in session. Students will not be graded upon the amount of time practiced per week. However, the average weekly practice will determine student's EFFORT score at the end of each term.

*Performance:* There are 5 required concerts (listed on page 3). A concert is similar to a "final exam" of the music studied during a term. In addition, the Gr7-8 Orchestra members (TMSO) have one required afterschool rehearsal for each of the concerts listed. Participating in required concert and additional combined (group) rehearsals comprises 10% of the term grade.

If a concert is missed for any reason, the student is expected to contact director PRIOR to the performance to make-up the missed Performance points. A Concert make-up appointment will be scheduled within five days of missed concert before/after school at director discretion. During appointment, students will play all concert selections for full credit.

*Concert make-up MUST be scheduled PRIOR to event missed.*

*Playing assessments, Projects and class-assignments:* Please see *Objectives* (pg5) for a detailed list. Additional information will be located on Canvas.

**Disciplinary actions:**

The following steps will be used when minor misbehavior persists and disrupts rehearsal

1. First warning- verbal
2. Second warning- telephone parents
3. Third warning- Conference with teacher and student
4. Fourth warning- Conference with teacher, (student) and parents
5. Fifth warning- Written request to confer with teacher/parents and principal.

**Concerts: Reminder, concert (rehearsal) participation is 10% of term grade.**

We are hopeful to have an audience, even if limited, at our LIVE performances this year!  
Stay tuned for logistics and protocol.

**MEANWHILE- Please mark ALL 2021-22 concert dates on your calendars immediately.**

The importance of concert attendance is as follows: All class members work as a team toward performing challenging repertoire for an audience of peers, parents and the community. Every student's individual musical contribution is essential for a successful performance. The daily rehearsal is designed to continue technical and musical development as an ensemble. Cello and Bass students are expected to use their instruments from home for concerts and may need to bring their instruments for combined rehearsals and extracurricular activities. Cello/Bass students MUST have a rock stop for ALL concerts!

**Concert Dress:** *Is required for Winter, Night of Orchestra, Festival and Spring concerts*

**Girls:** White collared blouse, black skirt or slacks and black dress shoes.

**Boys:** White collared shirt, black slacks and black dress shoes.

*7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade TMS students perform together as one ensemble. Therefore, one afterschool rehearsal per concert has been added to the schedule below.*

Additional Fiddlers, ADV Fiddlers and EHO rehearsal/concert dates can be found on the TMS Orchestra/Fiddler website: <https://www.msorch-fiddlers.org/>

Activity Bus will provide transportation home from after-school events.

NEW- Students must sign-up for activity bus by 10AM on the day they would like to ride. Bus leaves at 4:30PM.

**2021-22 TMS Required Rehearsals/Concerts**

Tues. Oct. 19<sup>th</sup>, Truman gr7/8 combined rehearsal; Truman Orchestra Rm; 2:50-4:15pm

**Tues. Oct. 26<sup>th</sup>, TMS/SMS & HS Fall String Concerts, Lindbergh Auditorium, 6:00pm**

\*Students may dress in costume; concert dress is NOT required. Costumes must follow school dress codes.

Fall BOO-tique from 5:15-9pm to purchase Music related gifts.

**\*\*\*5:40pm- MS FIDDLERS- Special Pre-Concert Performance**

**6PM MS Fall Concert:** SMS gr6, TMS gr6, SMS gr7, TMSO (gr7-8), SMS gr8

**7:30PM HS Fall Concert** (featuring the LHS Strolling Strings, Symphony, Chamber, and Freshman ensembles)

Tues. Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>, Truman gr7/8 combined rehearsal; Truman Orchestra Rm.; 2:50-4:15pm

**Tues. Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>, TMS Winter Concert-Lindbergh Auditorium, 6:00pm**

**6PM TMS Orchestra Concert:** TMS composition recital, TMS gr6, TMSO (gr7-8)

**7PM SMS/TMS Fiddlers**

**7:30 SMS Orchestra Concert**

Wed. Mar. 2, Truman gr7/8 combined rehearsal; Truman Orchestra Rm.; 2:50-4:15pm

**Tues. Mar. 8<sup>th</sup>, SMS/TMS Night of Orchestra, Lindbergh Auditorium 7:00PM**

Concert order: SMS gr6, TMS gr6, SMS gr7, TMSO (gr7-8), SMS gr8

**TBD- MS Orchestra Festival, Lindbergh Auditorium, - during school day**

\*TMSO will have an additional combined rehearsal during school-day before festival.

Tues. May 10<sup>th</sup>, SMS/TMS 8<sup>th</sup> (8<sup>th</sup> gr piece rehearsal)- Truman Orchestra Rm.423; 3-4:15pm

Wed. May 11<sup>th</sup>, Truman gr7/8 combined rehearsal; Truman Orchestra Rm; 2:50-4:15pm

**Tues. May 17<sup>th</sup>, TMS Spring Concert, Lindbergh Auditorium, 7:30pm** (\*7pm Fiddlers!)

**6PM SMS Orchestra Concert**

**7PM SMS/TMS Fiddlers**

**7:30 TMS Orchestra concert:** TMS gr6, TMSO (gr7-8), and TMS/SMS 8<sup>th</sup> grade piece

## **Recommended Accessories:**

Shoulder rest (violin/viola only)

Rock stop (cello/bass only) **REQUIRED FOR AUDITORIUM PERFORMANCES**

Music stand (home practice)

Additional set of strings/ rosin

Nail clippers

Mute (2-hole mute recommended; Glaesel for violin/viola and Tourte for Cello/Bass)

Practice mute (heavy metal or hard rubber)

Soft cloth/ instrument polish (NOT furniture polish)

Chromatic tuner and/or metronome (great gift suggestion)

**Free Apps recommended:** InsTuner, Pano Tuner, Pro Metronome, ludwig metronome, imetronome,

**Apps (\$):** TE Tuner, istrobosoft, Cleartune, Tempo advance, strobe tuner pro

*Let me know if you find additional apps to include within next year's syllabus ☺*

**Please visit the TMS Orchestra Website often!**

<https://www.msorch-fiddlers.org/>- for current calendar, handouts, metronome click tracks, help-with-tuning tracks, Fiddler PDFs and MP3s, links, and more!

**Contacts: 314.729.2400**

### ***The String Staff***

Ms L. Michelle Howard ext.1401, [mhoward@lindberghschools.ws](mailto:mhoward@lindberghschools.ws)

TMS Orchestras, Fiddlers, ADV Fiddlers, Colonial Fiddlers, Long Elementary Strings and EHO

Mrs. Shay Morgan ext.2162, [shaylynnisienkiewicz@lindberghschools.ws](mailto:shaylynnisienkiewicz@lindberghschools.ws)

SMS Orchestras, Assist Crestwood 5<sup>th</sup> grade, Assist LHS Orchestras

Mrs. Angela Dunsford ext.1464, [adunsford@lindberghschools.ws](mailto:adunsford@lindberghschools.ws)

Concord, Crestwood, Sappington Elementary Strings, Adv.4<sup>th</sup>, TMS gr8 Technique Enrichment

Ms. Tara Kizer ext.1402, [tarakizer@lindberghschools.ws](mailto:tarakizer@lindberghschools.ws)

HS Symphonic, Chamber, and Freshman Orchestras, Strolling Strings Director, Dressel Elementary Strings, and SMS gr8 Technique Enrichment

Mr. Stephen Ahrens ext.2160, [stephenahrens@lindberghschools.ws](mailto:stephenahrens@lindberghschools.ws)

6<sup>th</sup> grade String Techniques, 7<sup>th</sup> grade Technique Enrichment, Kennerly Elementary Strings

**Request: Please have your class materials (instrument) for each day class meets. We will begin playing on the second day of school.**

☺

*Reminder: Students should always have their pencil and notebook for Orchestra assignments*

# Goals and Objectives

## 1. Scales and Key Signatures

- 6<sup>th</sup>: C, G,D,A,F Major Scales and begin G,D Minor modes
- 7<sup>th</sup>: *add* E, Bb, Eb Major Scales and continue Minor modes
- 8<sup>th</sup>: *add* B, Ab, Db -Major Scales and Minor modes

## 2. Music terminology and Music Theory

- 6<sup>th</sup>: Basic terminology, notation definitions, begin music theory
- 7<sup>th</sup>: Begin to infer meaning of words located in music. Music theory (intervals)
- 8<sup>th</sup>: Infer and demonstrate music terms. Music theory will advance to chord structure and function

## 3. Rhythm

- 6<sup>th</sup>: Basic Rhythmic patterns using quarter, half, whole and eighth notes/rest
- 7<sup>th</sup>: *add* triplets, eighths and sixteenths. Write/demonstrate subdivisions and dotted rhythms
- 8<sup>th</sup>: *add* Advanced syncopations and complex rhythmic sight-reading

## 4. Sight-Reading Music level

- 6<sup>th</sup>: Gr4-5 (up to level 1.5)
- 7<sup>th</sup>: Gr5-6 (up to level 2)
- 8<sup>th</sup>: Gr6-7 (up to level 2.5-3)

## 5. Bowing styles

- 6<sup>th</sup>: Legato, Detaché, Slurs, Ties and Hooked Bowings (Begin Spiccato)
- 7<sup>th</sup>: Marcato, Martelé, Spiccato, Staccato, Advanced slurs (string crossings)
- 8<sup>th</sup>: Adding expression to above bowing styles, as well as string crossing double stops

## 6. Aural Skills

- 6<sup>th</sup>: Pitch discrimination for stronger intonation. Semester 2, begin basic tuning of instrument.
- 7<sup>th</sup>: Begin removing fingering tapes. Tune instrument by listening to an 'A440'. Learn cross-tuning and using pegs in addition to fine tuners.
- 8<sup>th</sup>: Complete independence tuning instrument. Adjusting intervallic spacing in upper positions.

## 7. Concert Repertoire

- 6<sup>th</sup>: Perform five concerts of music containing 1.5-2 level literature.
- 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup>: Perform five concerts of music containing 2.5-3 level literature.

## 8. Additional Projects (Grades 6-8)

- Compose a short work of music in a small group (2-3 students) to be performed in front of the class. (Semester 1- Fall)
- Complete a reflection/resolution at the end of Semester 1.
- Write a creative essay (250 words) inspired by a selected piece of music. (Term 3)
- Perform a director approved Ensemble in front of class. (Term3)

## 9. Optional (Grades 6-8)

- Students may opt to submit Essay to the St. Louis Symphony *Express the Music Essay* contest.
- Students may participate in the SLSMEA District Solo/Ensemble Festival in the Spring.

# 2021-22 Truman Orchestra

## Online PRACTICE FORM Info

The EFFORT SCORE (4-1) found on your string student's report card is based upon their weekly practice amount (in minutes) that is entered in the online Practice Form.

- Submitting weekly form is part of the 60% Participation grade. Form is to be completed at the beginning of each school week for full credit. This is strictly a responsibility grade.
- Students will not be graded upon the amount of time practiced per week. However, the average weekly practice will determine student's EFFORT score at the end of each term.
- Parents are invited to inquire via email about student practice form entry.
- Recording a weekly practice survey is a means for self- evaluation. Each student is expected to practice a minimum of 150 minutes per week to MEET expectations. (Such as...30 minutes/5 days a week).
- **Practice minutes are achieved by working alone to master musical selections/technique.** Students may not use rehearsal/instruction minutes as practice time.

*\*For students needing to develop a practice routing OR planning to have a period of time with low/little home practice, I encourage that they use the Practice-program (page 7.) This program may be utilized ONCE per semester.*

### **Effort Grades are based upon the following:**

**“4”- effort exceeds expectations:** Consistently achieves over 200 minutes of practice time per week (and maintains excellence during routine playing assessments.)

**“3”- effort meets expectations:** Consistently achieves a minimum of 150 practice minutes per week. The minimum number of minutes per week is 150 minutes (i.e. 30 minutes, five times per week.) \*PRACTICE PROGRAM GOAL MET- details on page 10.

**“2” - effort needs improvement:** Student has a minimum number 75 minutes minutes per week, allowing a maximum of two weeks of less than 75. (i.e. 15 minutes, five times per week.)

**“1” - effort unacceptable:** Student does not meet the minimum requirements mentioned above and/or practices consistently less than 75 minutes a week.

#### \*\*\*\*\*ADDITIONAL NOTES\*\*\*\*\*

\*Students are expected to practice a **minimum** of 150 minutes per week and complete the weekly practice form at the beginning of each week that school is in session. [If a student is excused from school there will not be a penalty for recording the practice minutes late. However, student may need to provide explanation in the comment section of the online form.]

\*Students are encouraged keep a “bank” of excess minutes to use for future weeks. *For example, if you practice 250 minutes, save the additional minutes for a week that may be short.* ☺ Practice a little extra when you have time and add those minutes to your bank.

\*Some “weeks” will be more than 7 days. The minimum # of minutes will not change. (i.e. Spring Break or Winter Break.) This is a great way to accumulate minutes for your bank!!

\*The online practice form is on your Canvas homepage.

**Example of Practice Program that can be used ONCE per semester.**

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Gr \_\_\_\_\_

Date to begin 4-week Practice Program: \_\_\_\_\_

*PLEASE NOTE: Students may use this program ONCE per semester.*

**See Ms Howard to begin program.** \_\_\_\_\_ *Return form upon completion.*

Students are required to practice a minimum of 150 minutes per week in order to ‘MEET EXPECTATIONS’ as a Middle School string student. This program is assigned to students that are not fulfilling this requirement. The goal of this FOUR-week program is to ease your string student into a stronger practice routine and therefore become a stronger musician. The goal by the end of the 4-week program is to practice 150 minutes (minimum) per week. Below is the Effort grade breakdown from the MS Orchestra Syllabus.

**Effort Grades are based upon the following:**

**“4”- effort exceeds expectations:** Must log in a practice time every week. The minimum number of minutes per week is well exceeded (Consistently above 200 minutes and prepared for daily rehearsals.)

**“3”- effort meets expectations:** Must consistently log in a minimum of 150 practice minutes per week. The minimum number of minutes per week is 150 minutes (i.e. 30 minutes, five times per week.)

**“2” - effort needs improvement:** Student has a minimum number 75 minutes minutes per week and has no more than two weeks of missed practice entries (i.e. 15 minutes, five times per week.)

**“1” - effort unacceptable:** Student does not meet the minimum requirements mentioned above and/or practices less than 75 minutes a week. The quality of the practice is actually more important than the quantity of minutes. However, during the early development of muscle memory for a musician, students need to follow the weekly practice minute expectation. Below is a chart outlining the recommended practice minutes expectations of string student from grades 4-12.

**Daily Practice Expectations**

**Grade 4:** 10-15 minutes, five days a week (50-75 minutes per week)

**Grade 5:** 15-20 minutes, five days a week (75-100 minutes per week)

**Middle School (gr6-8):** 30 minutes, five-seven days (150-210 minutes per week)

**HS+:** 30-60 minutes daily of high quality practice

**Students will receive “meets expectations” for each week goal is met AND entered into Practice Chart in Room.**

**Week 1 Goal of 50 minutes per week.** Write the number of minutes that you practice in the box.

Please include parent initials and total minutes practiced at the end of each week.

								Parent initial _____
								Total minutes: _____

**Week 2 Goal of 75 minutes per week.** Write the number of minutes that you practice in the box.

Please include parent initials and total minutes practiced at the end of each week.

								Parent initial _____
								Total minutes: _____

**Week 3 Goal of 100 minutes per week.** Write the number of minutes that you practice in the box.

Please include parent initials and total minutes practiced at the end of each week.

								Parent initial _____
								Total minutes: _____

**Week 4 Goal of 125 minutes per week.** Write the number of minutes that you practice in the box.

Please include parent initials and total minutes practiced at the end of each week.

								Parent initial _____
								Total minutes: _____

# Set-up for successful practice by...

## **Daily Practice Time**

- Schedule practice in daily routine
- Aim for 30 minutes (May be divided into two 15-minute practice sessions.)
- Be consistent!
- Better to practice a little everyday rather than a lot on one day!!!!

## **Environment**

- No distractions (TV, pets, etc.)
- Good lighting
- Quiet
- Music stand for correct posture
- Pencil to mark music
- Violin/Viola should stand
- Cello use armless chair, straight back

## **Parental Practice Assistance**

- Practice with child!
- Ask to see/hear new skill/song- Family performance!
- Quiz your child on concert music
- Help organize practice time
- Show interest in daily lesson
- Praise your child on their musical improvements/progress. Reserve criticism.

## **Practice “Games”**

- Practice party with a friend. (End with a special snack)
- Find opportunities for child to perform (for family/friends, etc.)
- Make flashcards with new notes or symbols
- Keep track of daily practice (have a reward system)

## **Motivation**

- If at first you don't succeed, try, try again.
- Think of something that you can do today that you couldn't do two weeks ago.
- Do not be so critical.
- Practice slowly!
- Be positive.
- The hard stuff will become easier if you keep working!
- The greatest rewards take the most work!
- CAN! (better than cannot)
- Be creative :)
- Set goals!
- Play music for your family!
- Practice with friends!
- Realize that a mistake is not a big deal.
- All music is worth learning!
- Make up your own songs!
- The greatest musicians in the world were beginners, too!
- Practice WILL make perfect.
- When the tough gets going, the tough GO PRACTICE!
- Only practice on the days that you eat. ☺

# Practice Tips

1. **Setting** – It is important to practice in an environment that is quiet and without distractions. It is also helpful to practice in front of a mirror so you can check your bow hold, your left hand, and your overall posture.
2. **Stretch** – Playing a string instrument is very physical and requires you to be physically fit and stretch beforehand. In order to get your muscles loose and your body ready to play, it is always a good idea to move around before you practice.
3. **Warm-up** – You should warm up every time you practice. This can include playing scales, arpeggios, thirds, technique exercises, or various etudes.
4. **Practice makes permanent** – How you practice is how you play. If you play something wrong and do not go back to fix it diligently, you simply learn to play it wrong. Go back and fix mistakes immediately and repeat it several times correctly so you learn the correct habit.
5. **Practice with a metronome** – This is very important in order to play correctly and to develop an internal sense of pulse.
6. **Practice slowly** – If something is too fast, slow it down (on the metronome, of course!). Find the speed at which you can play every note perfectly and with beautiful tone, no matter how slow it is. Once you play it perfectly a few times, push the tempo up a little. Once you play it perfectly and with beautiful tone at that speed, push it up more. Continue this process slowly and over a few days of practice until you get to the proper speed. It is best to move up in tempo only a few times each day.
7. **Break down a tough section** – When a section is too difficult to play as a whole, take one or two notes at a time, or even a measure at a time. Once you play this correctly 3-5 times, gradually add in notes before and after this section.
8. **Practice in different rhythms** – Especially for fast sixteenth-note passages, change the rhythms. Play in dotted rhythms, triplets, etc. in order to give your brain time to think faster and your fingers to develop better muscle memory.
9. **Do not just play through your music** – Work on the hard parts and break them down, practicing very slowly and gradually increasing the speed. Once you have these difficult sections down, then you can play through your whole piece.
10. **Do not get frustrated** – Practicing is not easy and it does not take much to get frustrated. But practicing diligently and with determination is extremely rewarding. If you find yourself getting frustrated, take a break and come back later.
11. **Perform for someone** – In order to overcome the nervousness that is usually felt when performing, it is essential that you play for someone occasionally. The more you play for people, whether it is for your parents, grandparents, friends, etc., the less nerve-racking performing will be in general and the more confidence you will have when you play in front of people in class or at a performance.

Nottelmann Music Company 1590 Lemay Ferry Rd St. Louis, MO 63125 314 631-1486	Geoffrey Seitz Violin Shop 4171 Loughborough Blvd. St. Louis, MO 63116 314 353.1312 *Purchase only	Top Notch Violin Shop 3109 Sutton Ave Maplewood, MO 63143 314 696.2172
Music Folk 8015 Big Bend Webster, MO 63119 314 961-2838	St. Louis Strings Violin Shop 6331 Clayton Ave. St. Louis, MO 63139 314 644-6999	City Music 9299 Watson Rd. Crestwood, MO 63126
Clemens Violins, Violas and Violoncellos L.C. 6353 Clayton Road, Saint Louis, Missouri 63117 314 727- 4787	Bearden Violin Shop 8787 Lackland St. Louis, MO 63114 314 427-7570 *please call ahead	<i>Additional Music Dealers are listed in the Yellow Pages of your telephone directory.</i>

## **BASIC Instrument maintenance**

*In order to keep your string student's instrument in the best playing condition, we recommend the following:*

- Remind your student to remove the rosin from strings, instrument and stick of bow by using a clean, soft, dry cloth. (Build-up can cause poor string sound quality and will gradually deteriorate the varnish of the instrument and stick of bow.)
- Remind your student to loosen their bow hair when not playing. (Not doing so may cause a wooden stick to warp.)
- Remind your student to never touch the horse hair on the bow. (The oils from skin react to the rosin and cause a gummy substance to build on bow hair.)
- STRINGS- New strings and upgrading your strings will make an instrument play with a whole new voice. Along with the retailers and luthiers listed above, SHAR and SOUTHWEST STRINGS (online) offer great deals. Please email me for further advice if needed.
- BOW HAIR- The hair of the bow will gradually wear down and your student will need to have fresh hair placed on the bow.
- As your student advances, we recommend an instrument upgrade. Let us know if and when you're ready and we will advise you. 😊