

# COMMUNITY MUSIC SCHOOL

## Musicianship Guide 2024-25

Learning an instrument is very individualized, depending on the type of music you want to play. This guide is a sampling of things you will encounter over time depending on your age and experience. Your teacher will work with you to choose the appropriate topics for practice & skills, performing opportunities and make suggestions for participation based on your musical goals. Parent involvement in the early years is highly recommended and beneficial for a young musician's musical development.

### PRACTICE & SKILLS

#### HOW TO PRACTICE

- Developing A Practice Routine
- Setting Short And Long Term Goals
- Recording A Practice Session
- Mock Performance/Audition Prep
- Practicing With Accompaniment
- Setting Up An Appropriate Practice Space
- Ensemble Rehearsal
- Preparation for Graded Performance Programs

#### MUSICAL SKILLS

- Sound Production, Listening Technique,
- Sight Reading, Phrasing & Expression
- Rhythmic Awareness

#### MATERIALS

- Metronome, Tuner, Music Stand
- Music, Music Notebooks & Pencils
- Instrument Care

### PERFORMING

#### PERFORMANCE + AUDITION

- Visualization & Mental Preparation
- Memorization Techniques
- Positive Mindset

#### STAGE PRESENCE

- Acknowledgement of the Audience
- Communication with Collaborators
- Enjoyment & Confidence In Performing

#### CONCERT ETIQUETTE

- Timely Attendance
- Ready With Your Instrument & Music
- Appropriate Performing Attire

#### BODY AWARENESS

- Posture
- Stamina
- Relaxation

### PARTICIPATION

#### PERFORMANCE OPPORTUNITIES

- Masterclass & Feedback Sessions
- Recitals & Music Shares
- Community Events
- Studio Class

#### ENSEMBLES & CLASSES

- Instrumental Ensemble
- Vocal Ensemble
- Chamber Music
- Jazz Program

#### COLLABORATIONS

- Reading Session
- Warmup Session
- Audition Preparation
- Practice Challenge
- Listening Session
- Duets, Trios and Bands

# Strings Musicianship Guide

VIOLIN, VIOLA, CELLO, BASS, HARP

Under the guidance of experienced teachers whose expertise ranges from classical to bluegrass to jazz, our teachers take a gentle approach to the fundamentals of string playing, such as bow technique, posture and body awareness so that students may achieve excellence in pitch and tone. In the early years, teachers and caregivers work together to assure that the proper technique is being practiced at home and that a suitable practice routine is established.

## TECHNIQUE

- Posture and Holding the Instrument
- Bowhold & Left Hand Frame
- Shifting & String Crossings
- Awareness of Tension & Balance
- Bow Weight, Bow Placement and Bow Speed
- Bow Division and Articulation
- Tone Production
- Arco (Bowing) & Pizzicato (Plucking)
- Listening Skills
- Intonation & Ear Training
- Alternative String Techniques
- Vibrato

## EXPRESSION

- Articulations & Dynamics
- Listening within an ensemble
- Lyrical Phrasing & Breathing
- Vibrato Speed

## READING & THEORY

- Note Names & Musical Terms
- Intervals
- Clefs
- Rhythmic Values & Steady Beat
- Time Signatures
- Key Signatures
- Scales & Arpeggios
- Hearing Chord
- Sight Reading

## REPERTOIRE

- Scale Book
- Method Books (Partial List)
  - Suzuki
  - Essential Elements
  - Fiddle Time Starters
  - Magic Carpet
  - Mark O'Connor
- Etudes
- Duets & Ensemble Pieces
- Sonatas & Concertos
- Lead Sheets & Chord Symbols