

Ideas that work for all String Teachers

ORCHESTRA SET UP: 2 different set ups depending on sound. Stand partners.

POSTURE : tell and show; demand and remind

POSITION : Thumb pointing toward the ceiling; 4 points of contact violin and viola "knuckle, thumb, jaw, shoulder; Circle thumb and second finger for cello; bass the pointer finger is pointing on an angle. BOTH FEET ON THE FLOOR

BOW HOLD: relaxed hand; bow exercises; violin/viola/cello basically the same; bass different sort of. French vs German hold

HOW TO PUT ON A STRING: Only put one string on at a time! Sound post can fall if all strings are off. Pencil is needed. Get string on to hold in place and tune later.

TUNING: ear training; sing pitch from piano or teacher tuner; using pizzicato as instrument is facing them

PLAYING IN TUNE: ear training; sing pitch; spacial distance; beginners use stickers or pencil markings; sympathetic vibration and open strings; chords with open strings

SOUND PRODUCTION: good sound in 10 minutes or less; if mechanics are right then the sound will be right (shoulder, wrist; lead with your wrist)

STRING SPECIFIC MARKINGS: detache; trill; tremolo; sordini; arco; loure; spiccato; staccato; col legno; + left hand pizzicato; harmonic sign; sul tasto (fingerboard); ponticello (bridge); ricochet; martele; glissando; colle; more?

FINGER EXERCISES TO BREAK UP TIME: Stretches

TIPS: slow down to work out problems; show them how to practice

TEACHER ATTITUDE TOWARDS STUDENT is very important, as with all music students.

Be picky!!

POSITIVE ATTITUDE: "Something that they can say about their stand partner that they admire."

Lauren Flygare: L_Flygare@yahoo.com

Nora Godin: Noray@01@comcast.net