



May 21, 2020

Dear Parents,

We had a good year until the Covid-19 shutdown. Both our Beginning Strings and String Orchestra students had made huge progress and had a successful concert back in December. Most of the students were almost ready for the Spring concert before the shutdown with some who were excited to perform solos. We are sad that it had to be cancelled.

It is important to continue your students' musical education over the summer and hold them responsible for practicing their instrument. For students who don't already own an instrument, we strongly encourage you to buy one now or rent one until September. Three months is too long for the Music students to go without practice. We find that students that have not practiced during that break struggle with getting up to speed when classes resume in the fall. Please help your student to continue to progress by providing them with an instrument. We have a lot of students who have already purchased fairly good violins for around \$150. If you need that merchant's contact info or need any kind of help finding an instrument, please contact us. If you prefer renting, there are music stores who would rent for \$25-\$30 a month. Here is a link to a list of stores on the ALF website <https://alflintridge.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/Music-Stores.pdf>

For a productive practice it's great to have a general plan, like setting aside a certain time every day that your child will practice. The summer assignment for the beginning students will be to practice from the Essential Elements Book 1 starting at page 27. We would like them to practice two pages per week. Along with the new songs, they should also practice songs they have previously played.

The orchestra students should practice from the Essential Elements Book 2 starting at page 20. We would like them to practice two pages per week. In addition to Essential Elements, they should also practice Hunters Chorus by Weber, which is attached.

While the children love to play fast since it is more fun, practicing slowly will make them better musicians quicker. It's also the most important practice habit they will ever form so please remind them to practice slow. If you need any help or would be interested in private lessons please let us know. We have been teaching virtually because of Covid-19 restrictions.

For any questions please feel free to e-mail me at [karapetyans\\_music@alflintridge.org](mailto:karapetyans_music@alflintridge.org) or call or text me at 818.549.4139.

Stay safe,  
Sahak Karapetyan  
Ripsi Yepremyan