

OHMI Intermediate Orchestra Syllabus

Week 1: Introduction, Go over classroom procedures, behavioral expectations and goals; discuss elements of being a good string player; elements of ensemble playing. Playing together and individual assessment.

Week 2: Hand out Parent Letter; Introduction on Practice Records; Review of elements of playing and the ensemble; posture exercises. Warm-ups: D and G major scales. Essential Elements book (EE pp. 2-3)

Week 3: Scale warm-ups: rhythmic variations; hand out a teaching piece (non-concert) and discuss elements (time signature; key signature, dynamics, etc.). Harmony, intervals, finger patterns. EE pp. 4-5.

Week 4: Scale warm-ups; Introduction to upper octave G major scale (violins) and C major (viola and cello). Finger patterns. Playing together using teaching piece. Attention to tuning and blending. EE pp.5-6

Week 5: scale warm-ups; scale evaluation; teaching piece evaluation; C major scale and arpeggio; EE pp. 6-7. Hand out Concert piece #1.

Week 6: Warm-ups: bow hand strengthening exercises; posture exercises; Review of C major scale. Two-octave scales; Teaching piece review; Concert piece #1; EE pp. 7-8.

Week 7: Scale warm-ups, Dotted quarter note/quarter note rhythm pattern. “Long/short” bowings. EE pp.8-9. Play O Susannah together- attention to balance and rhythmic precision. Concert piece #1. Hand out Concert piece #2.

Week 8: Warm-ups- varied bowings on all scales learned so far. Long/short and short/long rhythms; Listening exercise- echo of 4-note tonal patterns; Review O Susannah. EE pp. 8-9. Christmas piece # 1 and #2.

Week 9: D, G, C major scales- slurred notes, playing in a round. Bow hand exercises; Legato and staccato playing. Teaching piece review. Concert pieces # 1 and #2.

Week 10: D,G, C major scale warm-ups in a round while moving around the room. Hooked bowings. Theme from New World Symphony. EE pp. 10-11

Week 11: Scales with dynamic contrasts and varied bowings; review of legato and staccato; review of hooked bowings. Introduction to A major scale. Playing G#. Concentration on ensemble playing of Concert pieces.

Week 12: Warm-ups with scale work and bowing review. A major scale. Concert pieces- with concentration on ensemble playing and rhythmic precision.

Week 13: Scale warm-ups. Work to solidify concert pieces.

Week 14: December Concert

Week 15: Review of all scales. Identification of various beats via conducting patterns. Tempo changes and dynamic interpretation. Forward extensions (cello) for G# and C#. EE pp. 13-14. Low octave D major scale (cello & viola).

Week 16: MYAC Solo & Ensemble information and explanation. Scales with varied rhythms and introduction to playing triplets. Bowings to create accents and stresses on notes. Review of slurs and hooked bowings. EE pp. 13, 14-15.

Week 17: Two octave scales (G and C). Review of A major scale. Cello- forward extension review. "Run Daddy, run Mommy" rhythm pattern. Introduction to MYAC Orchestra piece. Preparation for individual evaluation next week. EE pp. 16-17.

Week 18: Scale warm-ups. Posture review. Bowing exercises. Eighth note/ sixteenth note rhythm pattern review. Vary speed and concentrate on short bows. MYAC piece- discuss elements of piece and listen to recording. EE p. 18.

Week 19: Review of rhythm patterns. Review of scales; paying attention to finger patterns. MYAC piece. EE p. 19.

Week 20: Warm-ups: "Watch the Conductor" game. Scales in a round. 2-octave scales. Introduction to syncopation. MYAC piece. EE. p. 19.

Week 21: Warm-ups: play all scales slowly with concentration on bowing hand and being attentive to getting maximum sound volume and quality. Bowings to control volume and quality of sound. EE p. 20. MYAC piece.

Week 22: Parent Observation Day.

Week 23: Warm-ups: Student-led scales. Learning to play Bb. Introduction to F major scale. Playing in F major. EE pp. 20-21.

Week 24: C, A, and F major scales. Review of Eb and Bb. Teaching piece in the key of F major. EE pp. 22-23.

Week 25: Warm-ups: Student-led scales. Old MacDonald- playing unison and parts. Teaching piece in F major. Review of finger patters and whole/half steps. 4-tone echo exercise. EE pp. 24-25.

Week 26: Rhythm review. Dotted quarter/eight note rhythm pattern. Review of slurs and hooked bowings. Introduction to double-stops. Concert piece #1. EE pp. 25.

Week 27: Warm-ups: Moving to different spots and separating sections. Play scales in a round. Listening exercises for rhythmic precision, balance and tone. Review of whole/half steps and finger patterns. Introduction to Bb major scale. Concert piece #1.

Week 28: Review of syncopation and rhythm patterns. Concert piece #1. Introduce Concert piece #2 and discuss elements of piece.

Week 29: Scale review: F major and Bb major. Playing in 6/8 time. EE p. 26. Concert pieces # 1 and #2.

Week 32: F major scale and Bb major scale. Review of whole/half steps and elements of a scale. Introduction to minor scales. Play D (natural) minor scale and F major scale. Concert pieces. EE. p. 28.

Week 33: Review of minor and major scales. Playing together D and G (natural) minor scales. EE p. 29-30. Concert Pieces.

Week 34: Final Concert