



# SAN TAN CHARTER ORCHESTRA

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Dear Parent/Guardian of \_\_\_\_\_,

Your student is very excited about joining Orchestra this year (and we are thrilled to have them with us)! They are even more excited about their instrument selection and having an instrument at home to start practicing!

Your student selected two instruments they were interested in learning:

\_\_\_\_\_

**After learning more about the instruments and conferencing with their orchestra teacher, your student musician will play the:**

**VIOLIN**



**VIOLA**



**CELLO**



**BASS**



**Our first day of playing orchestra instruments in class will be  
September 2<sup>nd</sup> 2025**

**Instrument Rental Night: August 28<sup>th</sup>, 5 pm**

Please review the other side of this handout for information on:

- How to obtain a good quality instrument
- A list of local, credible orchestra instrument stores
- What accessories you need along with your instrument
- Quick Do's and Don'ts to keep your instrument safe

**VIOLINS AND VIOLAS** will go back and forth to school every day your student has orchestra class.

**CELLOS AND BASSES** will be brought to school during the first week so your teacher can check, tune then, and add finger tapes. Then they will stay at home for practicing except for performances, and when they are out of tune.

## HOW TO FIND A GOOD ORCHESTRA INSTRUMENT

1. **Rule of Thumb:** A credible music shop that properly “set up” their instruments will have a luthier (instrument repair person) on staff.
2. Watch out for **deals that are “too good to be true”** (some of these instruments are in need of expensive repair costs).
3. **Painted instruments** are not of adequate quality for orchestra.
4. If you are still growing, **renting your first instrument is recommended.**
5. Your teacher is happy to assist you with finding a quality instrument!

*Please contact your teacher as soon as possible if it is not financially possible for your family to rent an instrument.*

### IF YOU ALREADY HAVE AN INSTRUMENT...

please bring it to class as soon as possible your teacher can make sure it is in good repair and correct for your current height.

## CREDIBLE LOCAL ORCHESTRA INSTRUMENT STORES THAT YOUR TEACHER REGULARLY WORKS WITH INCLUDE:

- Milano Music Center 38 W Main St, Mesa, AZ 8520
- Andrew's Fine Violins 1930 S Dobson Rd #2, Mesa, AZ 85202
- Music and Arts 7040 E Hampton Ave, Mesa, AZ 85209

*There are other credible music stores out there.*

*Be sure to consult the Rule of Thumb. Contact your teacher if you are not sure.*

## VIOLIN/VIOLA CHECKLIST (ALL ITEMS CAN BE FOUND AT THE MUSIC STORE)

- ☐ Correctly sized (the shop can help you)  
Violin/Viola with a bow and case
- ☐ REAL (not foam) shoulder rest
- ☐ Rosin
- ☐ Cleaning cloth
- ☐ Violin or Viola String Explorer Book Volume 1

## CELLO/BASS CHECKLIST (ALL ITEMS CAN BE FOUND AT THE MUSIC STORE)

- ☐ Correctly sized (the shop can help you)  
Cello/Bass with a bow and case
- ☐ Rockstop
- ☐ Rosin
- ☐ Cleaning cloth
- ☐ Cello or Bass String Explorer Book Volume 1

## DO'S AND DON'TS WHEN YOU FIRST BRING YOUR INSTRUMENT HOME

DO store your instrument in a safe place where it won't get bumped or dropped

DO open the case and admire your beautiful new instrument

DO contact your teacher with ANY questions about your instrument

DON'T take your instrument out of the case until after our first day of playing

DON'T leave your instrument in the car, outside, in sunlight, or near vents/windows

DON'T let anyone but your teacher or a luthier play or “fix” your instrument