

Dear string parents,

July 31, 2023

Welcome again to String Orchestra class! Many of you have joined the orchestra in the past week. This is our second class newsletter; you can find the first at <https://www.string-samurai.com/newsletters>.



### Instruments and supplies

Please make sure you have an instrument for class. There are a number of stores in the area you might choose from – Andrew’s Fine Violins, Milano Music, Music and Arts, to name a few.

If you wish to request a school instrument, please turn in that form by Tuesday, August 1st to have the best chance of reserving one. Our district string teachers will be meeting to assign instruments on Thursday night, and I’ll need to size your child before then. Email me if you need the paperwork.

The orchestra supply list can be found at <https://www.string-samurai.com/supply-list>.

Some of our violinists & violists may need an accessory for their shoulder rest. They should be available at retail stores, but stocks may vary. Here are some links to Shar Music (an online orchestra vendor) in case you need them:

- [shoulder rest pouch](#)
- [long foot for Everest brand](#)
- [long foot for Kun brand](#)

### 1<sup>st</sup>-year students: our first assignments

Our first homework assignment was due last week, but if you’ve just signed up to the class (or forgot to do it), please turn them in this week. Our initial assignments will be in a flipped model, where students watch the lesson at home and we practice together in class. All videos can be accessed at <https://www.string-samurai.com/video-lessons>.

- due July 27: watch Introduction video series and turn in half sheet of paper

String Orchestra Introduction  
*\*click here to download the first orchestra assignment of the year, due the first week of class*  
(The answer to question #1 is either Violin, Viola, Cello, or Bass.)  
[Supplies](#)  
[How NOT To Break Your Instrument](#)  
[Case Setup](#)

- due August 4: watch The Basics video series

Unit 1 - The Basics (White Belt)  
[Holding Your Instrument](#)  
[Making a Sound \(Pizzicato\)](#)  
[Changing Pitch / The White Finger Pattern](#)

- due August 11: watch The Bow video series

Unit 2 - The Bow (White Belt, 2nd degree)  
[The Parts of the Bow](#)  
[Do You Have the Right Bow?](#)  
[Rosin](#)  
[Caring for Your Bow](#)  
[Holding the Bow](#)



Best regards,

*Mr. Steven Lambert*  
*Orchestra Director*  
*Chaparral, Gateway Pointe, and Higley Traditional Academy*  
*Higley Unified School District*  
[Mr. Lambert’s class website](#)