

Fred Fox School of Music



UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA STRING PROJECT PARENT HANDBOOK

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Fred Fox School of Music
1017 N. Olive Rd.
Tucson, AZ 85721
stringproject.music.arizona.edu

Mission Statement: The String Project is dedicated to the partnership of teaching and learning in music. This outreach program is designed to inspire and foster creativity among young musicians and cultivate a learning environment that enables the development of future string teachers. While future teachers gain experience, students in the Tucson community have access to affordable music education.

Director: The String Project is directed and coordinated by Dr. Theodore Buchholz, head of strings and cello professor at the University of Arizona. The program is assisted by masters and doctoral teaching assistants, and music education students. Juan Mejia serves as String Project Coordinator.

String Project Faculty:

Dr. Theodore Buchholz

Juan Mejia, Coordinator

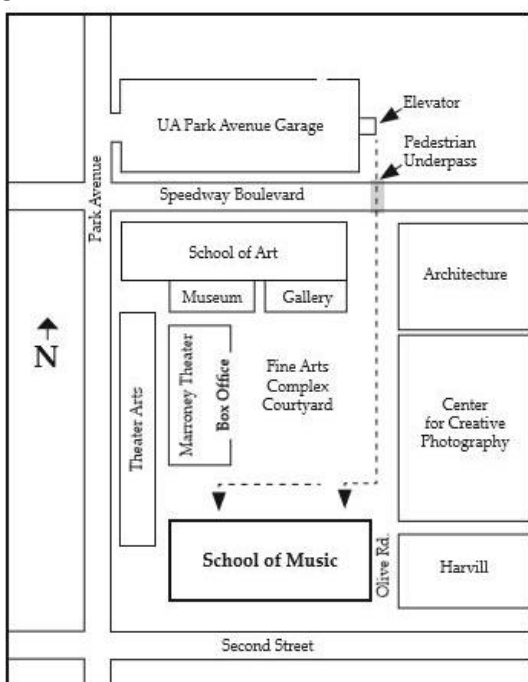
UA Graduate String Quintet

UA Graduate Students

UA Music Education Upper Level Student Conductor

The String Project is a teacher-training program, and the teaching faculty is comprised of graduate and undergraduate students from The University of Arizona. Our teachers have a variety of backgrounds and experience levels, but share a commitment to strengthening all aspects of their teaching. The Director's primary responsibility is to supervise teachers' work and facilitate progress.

Location: University of Arizona: Fred Fox School of Music. 1017 N. Olive Rd., Tucson, AZ. Parking is available in the Park Avenue Street Garage. Most Saturdays this garage is free, except when there is a large event such as football, basketball, or fairs on campus.



Schedule:

The String Project meets on Saturdays between 1:00 to 3:00 depending on which level you are in. Students must be on time at the start time.

- 1:00 Primo Ensemble Rehearsal
- Intermezzo Ensemble Rehearsal
- 2:00 Concertante Ensemble Rehearsal
- 2:00 Avanzate Ensemble Rehearsal

Private lessons are scheduled between the teacher and you. Private lesson teachers schedule an end of semester solo recital for students. Once you have established a lesson schedule there is a no make-up policy if a private lesson is cancelled.

Student Eligibility: String Project is open to students ages five through fourteen. Younger or older students may be accepted if the families understand that they will be in a class with variously aged students. Students can learn violin, viola, cello, or bass. Primo students are encouraged to start with violin.

Instruments: The String Project does not provide students with instruments. We expect all of our students to rent or purchase their own instruments. Students are expected to take care of their instruments and keep them in optimal performing condition. Stringed instruments are very sensitive to heat, cold, humidity, and atmospheric changes.

The University does not endorse any music vendor in particular. Tucson has many music stores that rent or sell string instruments including but not limited to:

- Music and Arts
- Instrumental Music Company
- Metrognome Music
- Southwest Strings
- Bookmans

Students may be asked to purchase a music book, such as Essential Elements or others.

Semester Tuition:

\$200: Weekly Half Hour Private Lessons, and Ensemble

Sibling Discount:

2 Siblings	3 Siblings	4 Siblings
\$300	\$350	\$400

If necessary a payment plan may be available.

Payment can only be paid with a check or money order (payable to the University of Arizona). Cash is not accepted. Send forms and payment to:

Dr. Buchholz, String Project

Fred Fox School of Music
P.O. Box 210004
1017 N. Olive Rd.
Tucson, AZ 85721-0004

Scholarships: String Project promotes an inclusive learning environment, and we will not turn any student away. We offer half and full scholarships; however, our scholarship fund is limited. Scholarships are awarded based on financial need. Please inquire with Dr. Buchholz to apply.

Student and Parent Expectations:

Please attend private lessons with your child, and be present for the beginning and end of ensemble rehearsals.

If your school offers an orchestra, we require students participate in their school orchestra. Students do not need to be able to read music in the beginning level. Students are expected to respect instructors. Discipline issues will not be tolerated. Required materials include instrument and bow, shoulder rest or rock stop, rosin, suggested books, notebook, pencil, and String Project music. Students must commit to practicing at home daily for at least 15 minutes per day. Older students will need to practice more per day. Parents are encouraged to help the student practice, and ensure that practice is not viewed as a chore but rather a joy. Other parent responsibilities include ensuring the student attends all String Project meetings, rehearsals, lessons, and events. Ensure the student practices daily, and is prepared for String Project meetings.

Practice Charts:

- Practice charts are checked EVERY week at the end of the ENSEMBLE REHEARSAL.
- Stickers will be given to students with full practice chart.
- Students are expected to practice at least 15 minutes every day (excluding SP rehearsal days), but most importantly students must love to practice and to develop a sense of accomplishment for practicing regularly.
- At a minimum students should repeat each item (exercise, song, etc.) three times per day slowly. As students progress, practice strategies will deepen.

String Project Parent Tips for Success

- **Be involved**
Students who succeed have parents who are involved. Attend rehearsals and lessons. Learn the fingerings for songs, taking notes on goals and expectations, and learning how to practice so that you can guide your child's practice at home.
- **Behavior expectations**
Ensure your child is well-rested, focused, and eager for String Project lessons and rehearsals. If your child is acting out, remove the child from the room until they calm down and are ready to learn.

- **No cell phones**

If you need to use your phone, please leave the room so that the focused atmosphere is not broken by distracted parents.

- **Keep your child in sight**

Walk your child to the School of Music. Walk your child from room to room. If you see any inappropriate behavior immediately report it to Dr. Buchholz.

Performances:

Each ensemble will perform a selection of pieces at the end of the semester concert in Crowder Hall.

All three levels will play one piece together each semester. All levels will learn one piece (i.e. Jingle Bells). Primo accompanies, while the melody rotates among other ensembles, etc. Rehearsal for this piece starts the month before the concert.

Private lesson faculty will schedule an end of semester solo recital.

Concert Dress Code:

Black pants or dress, white shirt, black socks, black shoes
(no shorts, flip flops, or t-shirts)

Ensembles:

1. Primo: Pre-Suzuki Book 1, no experience, usually ages 5-8.
2. Intermezzo: Suzuki Book 1 or first half of Book 2, 1-2 years of experience, usually ages 8-11.
3. Concertante: Suzuki Book 2+, 2 years of experience, usually ages 10+.

Registration: Registration can be done online at stringproject.music.arizona.edu

If your child has an allergy or medical issue, make a note on the registration form in the appropriate place. Please do not bring peanut products to String Project.

Contact Theodore Buchholz at buchholz@email.arizona.edu with any questions.