

Preparing for your Online Lesson

Although this is probably a new experience for many of us, it can work. We can work together to have a great interactive and enjoyable musical experience. The lessons will be designed to be engaging and educational at all levels.

A few suggestions to get started. First rule is do what works best for you and your family. Try to make a comfortable space that you can set up and play your instrument with little distraction. If you are a younger student, leave room for a parent or family member to sit in on the lesson if you would like. Leave younger siblings and pets out of the lesson, let them wait for the performance.

SET UP YOUR SPACE – *a few suggestions for comfort and maximum playing experience.*

- A sturdy and steady chair. One without wheels or arms is best (avoid plush furniture, like a couch or bed)
- A music stand or something to prop up your music at a good level for easy reading. (A folding music stand works well. If without a music stand, tabletops can work with something like a clarinet case to hold your music)
- Plenty of good lighting. A well-lit room for easy reading and better video communication. A light on your music, in the room and on yourself.

EQUIPMENT IDEAS – *a few suggestions for your set up.*

- A desk top computer or laptop will allow for better viewing. (the larger the screen the better)
- A video camera on your computer or an external camera connected.
- Microphone - built in works fine. An external add on mic may pick up better. (for good sound quality and pick up, a simple usb plug in/ desk top mic can help)
- Internet connection (with little interruption) A computer hooked directly to the internet is best. Wi-Fi connection and email is necessary for set up of zoom session.
- Don't forget to warm up, sound check and video check before each lesson. (then when there ARE problems, we'll figure it out)
- Phone/text ready if problems arise.

PRACTICE SCHEDULE – *off lesson time is a good time to prepare.*

- A time tracker is useful in keeping a practice schedule written down.
- A consistent schedule daily is best. A good routine will help with retention and consistency.
- Suggested amounts of time for practice will be made with each student's individual curriculum.
- Preparing for a lesson should include, set up and warm up time prior the lesson day and practice of the material assigned throughout the week.

LESSON CHECKLIST

- Instrument, Music, Video and Audio set up, Wi-Fi/Email connection.
- Payment schedule in good standing.
- Good reed and Good attitude.