

Wish List for String Students

Highly Recommended Accessories:

Chromatic Tuner (Korg, Snark) and Metronome (Korg, Quartz), or Combination Metronome & Tuner (Korg)
Rosin - Kolstein, Hill, Hidersine or Pirastro for Violin & Viola, Kolstein, Pirastro, Kaplan & Andrea for Cello, POPS, Kolstein, Hidersine or Carlsson for Bass.
Shoulder Rest for Violin and Viola (KUN or Artino Wood Collapsible shoulder rests)
Rock Stops or Xeros Strap Stops (for cello and bass)

Optional Accessories:

Mute (Tourte Two-Strings)
Upgraded bows are recommended for advancing players. Playing a bow in person before you buy is wise, it is a very personal choice. String shop specialists can help you select an appropriate bow.

Strings: Many musicians and students are amazed and sometimes bewildered by the large number of strings available for the violin, viola, cello, and bass. Your instrument's strings are extremely influential in your student's ability to produce a clear, even tone with a more steady and consistent pitch. Each type of string has its own special characteristics, which can change the sound of your instrument. These characteristics can make subtle changes in the quality, playability, volume and responsiveness of the instrument.

A general rule for string players is to always have a set of backup strings that you keep in your case. This is important because a string can break at any time, and if you don't have an extra set on hand, you simply cannot play until you get another. Try to always have another set with you whenever you have your instrument.

In order to ***drastically improve*** the overall quality of our ensembles here at the Reagan Educational Center, we have our string shop use carefully selected, higher grade strings whenever our instruments get maintained as well as purchasing higher grade instruments moving forward. We are recommending that the Reyburn Advanced Chamber and CEHS Advanced Orchestras students use the higher quality strings on their own personal instruments for uniformity of tone and a better overall sound. We have specifically selected strings are known for having a full, warm sound, and are some of the most popular brands of strings in the world because of their benefits: to reproduce the great sound and feel of gut strings but have a more stable pitch. Reyburn Beginning String Orchestra students can use these advanced model strings, however, the cheaper strings will be sufficient for Beginning Orchestra only and will provide the ensemble with a dramatically improved sound and experience. Please note, there are some string models not included that would be appropriately suited for personally owned instruments of very advanced students. Please consult your local string technician for advice.

We purchase instruments and have service performed at **Gottschalk Music Center** in Old Town Clovis. This specific store has a large selection of new and vintage instruments, and will also restring and inspect the instrument at no extra charge when the strings are purchased. They also price their strings and supplies very competitively and are almost always less expensive than online retailers. Prices will vary at other stores, but all of our local music stores do wonderful work and do their best to keep costs at a minimum to help young musicians. Some online recommendations include www.swstring.com and www.sharmusic.com. Purchasing your student higher quality strings and accessories will make a huge impact on his/her musical experience, and help the student feel a pride of ownership and investment in their musical goals even if playing on a borrowed instrument. Through our fundraising efforts, we will be able to provide a few sets of strings to students that are unable to purchase their own strings.

Beginning String Orchestra

- Violin (Price Ranges \$20-45)
 - o Thomastik Alphayue
 - o D'Addario Ascente
 - o Warchal Amethyst
- Viola (Price Ranges \$30-65)
 - o D'Addario Helicore
 - o D'addario Pro Arte
 - o Warchal Karneol
- Cello (Price Ranges \$75-150)
 - o D'Addario Helicore

Advanced Chamber and Clovis East Orchestras

- Violin (Price Ranges \$35-85)
 - o Thomastik Dominant
 - o Pirastro Tonica
 - o Warchal Amber
- Viola (Price Ranges \$45-95)
 - o D'Addario Kaplan
 - o Warchal Amber
- Cello (Price Ranges \$110-280)
 - o D'Addario Kaplan
 - o Jargar Superior

Please feel free to contact your student's main director with any questions or concerns - aligolden@cusd.com