Taking Care of your Instrument

Part of being in orchestra is learning the correct way to handle your instrument. Handling your instrument incorrectly can cause you to damage and break your instrument. So let’s review what to do and what not to do:

\*Keep an eye on your instrument, don’t leave it unattended because it could get stolen or damaged. You are responsible for the safety of your instrument.

\*Open your case correctly so the instrument does not fall out. If you don’t remember how to open the case, ask the teacher to show you. Be careful that the instrument doesn’t fall on the floor. If it lands on its face, the bridge could break. When you put your instrument away, make sure the zipper or latches are fastened all the way so it doesn’t fall open while you are carrying it.

\*Hold the instrument by the neck or shoulder. Don’t grab the pegs and don’t turn the pegs until you have been taught how to tune them. Don’t let your family tune your instrument because they could break a string if they make a mistake.

\*Cellos and Basses- don’t let the endpin get stuck inside the instrument. Always leave an inch sticking out. Keep the screw tight so it doesn’t fall out and get lost. If it falls out, immediately screw it back in.

\*Bows-Handle your bow by the stick and frog. Do not touch the bow hair with your hands or skin. Put a dozen or less rosin strokes on the bow. It is possible to over do it, so don’t put more than that on your bow at a time. Don’t tighten the screw all the way. Most students only need to tighten the screw a few times. When you are done playing, remember to loosen your bow. Leaving your bow tight for too long can cause it to break.



Scroll

Pegs

Neck

Fingerboard

Shoulder

Hair Tip

Frog Stick

Screw

Strings

Bridge

Tailpiece

Finetuner

Chinrest

Endbutton Endpin

Endpin screw