

Windsor Academy Violin Program

Jade Drewes – Violin Teacher



Elementary School Violin Program – Children attending Windsor Academy in the elementary program (Kindergartner's and older) are eligible for free violin lessons.

Pre-K Violin Program – Students enrolled in Pre-K at Windsor Academy who will be 4 years of age by September 1, 2010 may enroll in violin lessons for a fee. Lessons are \$20 per 30 minutes.

Violin Lessons for children not attending Windsor Academy – Violin lessons can be arranged for children not attending Windsor Academy. The cost is \$25 per 30 minutes.

All Violin Students – Parents are responsible for renting or purchasing a violin. I will measure your child to determine the size of violin they will need. Violins can be rented for as little as \$10/month at a store I highly recommend and I will gladly assist with this process.

I will also require that all students purchase a shoulder rest (this will help the child hold the violin properly). Shoulder rests are \$14 and can be purchased at the same time the violin is rented/purchased.

Lessons are 30 minutes each week.

** All potential students will be evaluated to determine if this program is appropriate for them at this stage of their development. I reserve the right at any point during the school year to discontinue lessons with a child if it is determined that the child is not ready for formal lessons.*

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Frequently Asked Questions

Can my 5 year old son really learn to play the violin?

Absolutely! Not only will your son learn to play the violin but he will learn rhythm, learn to read music, practice counting, improve his fine motor skills, gain listening skills and have fun while doing it.

I don't know anything about music, how will I help my daughter practice?

I will send home materials each week explaining what your daughter is learning and how to help her practice. And you are always welcome to sit in on a lesson!

How often will my son be required to practice?

There is no specific requirement. A child between the ages of 4 and 7 only needs to "practice" a few minutes at a time. At this age, I like the practice sessions to be more of a "show-and-tell" where the student shows the parents or other family members what he has learned.

I can't imagine that my young daughter will be able to take care of a delicate violin.

I will teach your daughter how to care for her violin. And for the first few months I recommend that the violin only be taken out of the case when supervised by an adult.

Where do I get a violin and how much does it cost?

I recommend using Shar Music, an on-line company that will ship the instrument directly to your home. I will measure your child to ensure the proper size and can walk you through the renting or purchasing process. Instruments can be rented (Shar has a rent to own program) for as little as \$10/month or purchased for as little as \$150. Please DO NOT proceed with a rental or purchase before speaking with me!!

Do you think my 5 year old daughter has the attention span to sit still for a 30 minute violin lesson?

While there will be times when your daughter will need to sit still and listen, we will also be marching around the room to practice rhythm and counting, then sitting on the floor learning a song that helps her remember how to hold her bow, then we will be standing to practice proper violin posture and then we will sit side by side playing "repeat after me" games with the violin. I will keep her busy!

About Me

I have played and studied the violin and viola for 25 years. My teaching experience includes private violin and viola instruction, chamber ensembles, music theory and beginning piano. Before settling in New York, I worked as a teacher and freelance musician in the Boston, St. Louis, and Washington DC areas. Since arriving in New York, about a year and a half ago, I have performed with the Albany Symphony, the Greater Newburgh Symphony Orchestra, the Camerata Chorale Society of Poughkeepsie, and also provided musical entertainment for various functions and weddings. My educational background includes studies at the University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music and George Mason University.

Violin Program – Interest Form

If you are interested in enrolling your son or daughter in the violin program (or *think* you may be interested) please complete this form.

I will contact all interested families to answer any questions about the program, to learn a little about your child and to arrange a time for me to meet your son or daughter.

Student Name _____ Age/DOB _____

____ Elementary Student

____ Pre- K Student

____ Non – Windsor Academy Student

Parent Name _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

I am looking forward to a year of beautiful music at Windsor Academy!

*Thank you,
Jade Drewes*

