

VIOLIN BEGINNINGS CLASSES AT POTOMAC ARTS ACADEMY!

Welcome to Violin Beginnings! We are so excited that you've chosen to begin your violin journey with us at Potomac Arts Academy. So we can get started right away, ***please bring your child's violin with you to the first class!***



Violins come in all different sizes, from a full-size (adult size) violin, to a 1/32 size for the tiniest beginner. Having the right size violin is crucial for the development of violin technique. It's important to ***take your child to the violin shop with you*** so that they can measure your child and ensure the right size. Do not rent or purchase a violin without having it sized to your child!

We understand that families are looking for an affordable way for their child to explore violin, and therefore ***we recommend renting rather than purchasing an instrument.*** Our recommended vendors all have affordable rental programs that will include basic maintenance of the instrument and allow you to earn rental credits to apply toward the next size of violin or toward the purchase of an instrument down the road. You should expect to pay \$15 - \$40 a month for a good rental violin.

DO NOT PURCHASE A VIOLIN FROM THE INTERNET!! It can be tempting to purchase an inexpensive violin from the internet, but these violins are not good quality instruments and will end up costing you much more money in repairs to get them playable. A well-made violin in good repair will help your child create a beautiful sound and will be a wonderful companion on their musical journey. A badly made violin will go out of tune easily, be impossible to create a good tone on, and create a very frustrating experience for your child. In order for your child to have the best experience, we ask that you rent or purchase an appropriately sized violin from our trusted vendors.

RECOMMENDED VENDORS: The following are recommended violin shops in the Northern Virginia and Washington, DC areas which have rental programs for student violins.

Gary Frisch Violins

3008 Westcott Street
Falls Church, VA 22042
(703) 533-5883
www.garyfrischviolins.com

Brobst Violin Shop

5584 General Washington Drive
Alexandria, VA 22312
(703) 256-0566
www.brobstviolins.com

Foxes Music Company

416 South Washington Street
Falls Church, VA 22046
(703) 533-7393
www.foxesmusic.com

The Potter Violin Company

7711 Eastern Ave
Takoma Park, MD 20912
(301) 652-7070
www.pottersviolins.com

Day Violins

14221A Willard Rd #500,
Chantilly, VA 20151
703-391-9444
dayviolins.com

A word of warning: It can be very tempting for parents and children to open the violin case at home and try to play from the first day they get it. To ensure the development of excellent violin technique, we ask that you leave the case closed so that the first time they hold the instrument can be under professional guidance. Allowing them to play with it at home before classes start is actually detrimental to the learning process.

If you have any questions/ concerns, please contact the Potomac Arts Academy office at 703-993-9889.