SUPERIOR String Alliance

4th and 5th Grade Strings Club

April, 2022

Dear Families,

SSA Strings Club is a program open to current 4th and 5th graders in the Upper Peninsula who are interested in learning violin, viola, or cello. This year, we have prepared a course which runs in May and June, finishing with an intensive day-camp week just after the end of the school year. Strings Club is geared toward beginners, but students of all experience levels are welcome. There is financial assistance available.

So why learn a stringed instrument? Learning any instrument is of great benefit to mental health and brain development, and studying music is valuable in broadening one's mind and education at any stage in life. The UP also has a thriving community of string players, from the Marquette public school system, to university orchestras and the Marquette Symphony.

We have three scheduled Tuesday evening classes from 6 - 7:30PM on May 17th, May 31st, June 7th. These will be held at Bothwell Middle School in the orchestra room, as creative and laidback explorations of a number of topics and skills such as music reading, theory, history, and thoughtful listening. We'll also get started on learning the basics of the instruments and how to play together as a group. There will be ample games, projects, and chances to share ideas while getting to know students from other schools!

Our intensive week runs from Monday, June 13th to Friday, June 17th. We will meet 9 - 11:30AM each day at the Senior Pavilion at Presque Isle, and have our final performance Friday, June 17th, at 11AM. This fun and eclectic week will reinforce the basics of how to play, perform, and practice, so that after the concert students can take what they've learned and keep learning!

Who is teaching SSA Strings Club? Our names are Adam Hall and Danielle Simandl, and we have extensive experience teaching music to all age groups, and many years of experience teaching kids at the SSA Summer Music Camps, including at SSA's Strings Club last year. We are both professional musicians based in Marquette.

Strings Club tuition is $195 and financial assistance is available; you can apply for financial assistance in the registration form. Additionally, families will be responsible for procuring their own instrument, which will be needed for the first evening class on May 17th. We recommend renting an instrument through a local music shop, details can be found in the SSA Strings Club Handbook, available on the SSA website.

We will be hosting an informal Zoom meeting for parents of interested students to meet us and ask any questions:

SSA Strings Club Parent Meeting
May 10, 2022, 7PM Meeting ID: 883 6432 9646 Passcode: 685559

Meeting Link
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88364329646?pwd=LzJZWWhlM2duaThtdDgzbVk4cmtWZz09

Registration and more information can be found on the SSA website at www.superiorstringalliance.org!

Sincerely,
the SSA Strings Club Team!

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