



4th and 5th Grade Strings Club

March, 2024

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. SSA Strings Club is geared toward beginners who are **not** currently taking private lessons. 4th and 5th graders who take private lessons for violin, viola, cello, or bass should check out SSA's Summer Music Camp (info at www.superiorstringalliance.org). There is financial assistance available for all SSA programs!

When and where? SSA Strings Club classes will meet on Tuesday evenings from 6 - 7 PM from April 9th through May 28th, 2024. Classes will be held at Bothwell Middle School in the orchestra room and will include 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!

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 U.P. also has a thriving community of string players, from the Marquette public school system, to university orchestras and the Marquette Symphony.

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, in addition to SSA's Strings Club. We are both professional musicians based in Marquette.

How much? Strings Club tuition is \$175 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 April 9th. 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.

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

Please contact us with any questions!

Sincerely,
the SSA Strings Club Team!

Adam Hall, SSA Strings Club Director
adamdhall0@gmail.com

Danielle Simandl, SSA Executive Director
admin@superiorstringalliance.org

Founded in 1984, the Superior String Alliance (SSA) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that supports the art of learning and performing music on the violin, viola, cello, and bass throughout Michigan's Upper Peninsula. SSA teaches the U.P.'s next generation of string players, connects musicians from all over the U.P. and beyond, and grows young musicians' artistry by fostering a community built on curiosity and kindness.