

AUTOMATE AND MOTIVATE 21ST CENTURY STRING PLAYERS

DR. CHARLES LAUX

ALPHARETTA HIGH SCHOOL, FULTON COUNTY SCHOOLS

HAL LEONARD CORPORATION

D'ADDARIO BOWED STRINGS

EASTMAN STRINGED INSTRUMENTS



charleslaux1@gmail.com
www.OrchestraTeacher.net

Why?

- * Today's students are *different*.
- * “Digital Natives”
- * Book: “Grown Up Digital” by Don Tapscott
- * So many negative views of current generation
- * Resources are changing; technology evolves
- * Don't blame the kids!

Today's student are (not):

Lazy

Awkward

Distracted

Violent

Dumb

Reckless

shallow

Unrealistic

Thieves

Poor Communicators

Slackers

Without Shame

Spoiled

Today's student **are:**

Creative

Collaborative

Technical

Hands-on

innovative

Social

Literate

Communicators

CRITICAL THINKERS

Problem Solvers

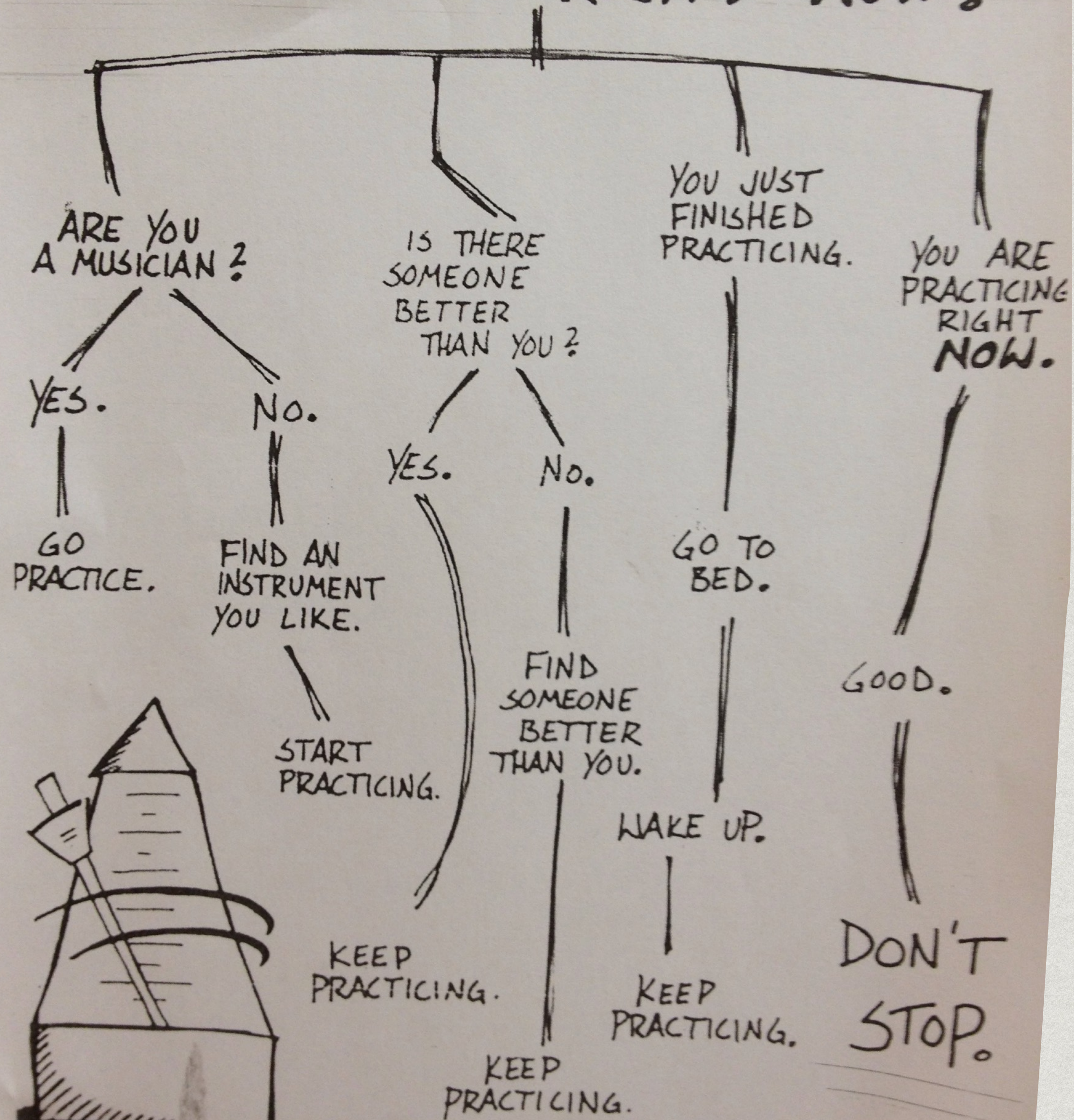
How can I be effective?

- * Try to see things from the student's perspective
- * Bond with students -- really get to know them
- * Embrace their learning style
- * Embrace their culture
- * Combine aural and visual stimulation
- * *Be willing to **continuously adapt** to our student's changing needs and **customize** the curriculum*

**You want to know the
difference between a
master and a beginner?
The master has failed
more times than the
beginner has ever tried.**



SHOULD YOU BE PRACTICING RIGHT NOW?



BEFORE AND AFTER...



DRUGS



ALCOHOL



CHOCOLATE



ORCHESTRA

MAKE WISE CHOICES
JOIN ORCHESTRA

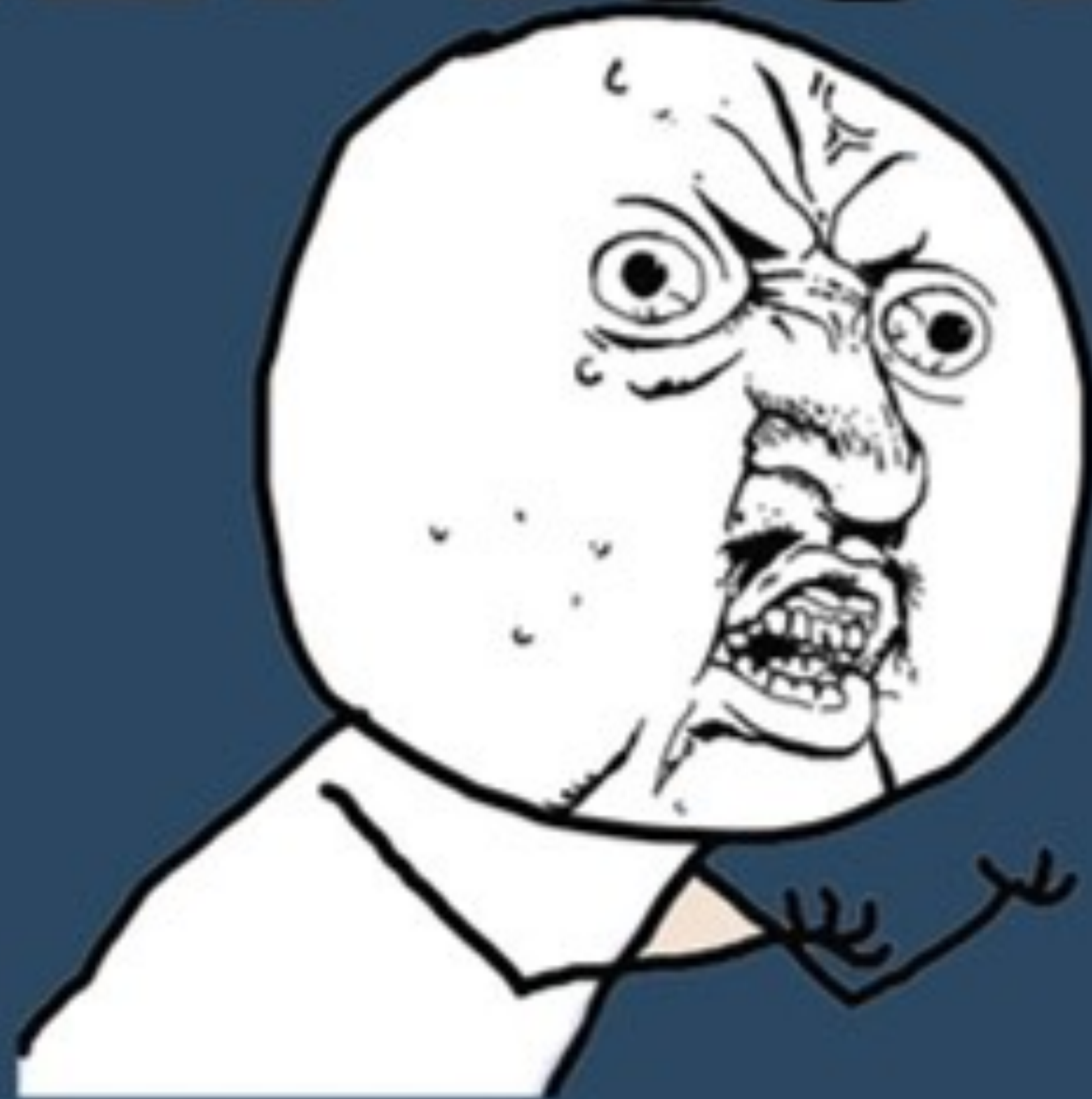
**HEY, I JUST SIGNED UP FOR
BAND...**



ORCHESTRA!

BATMANCOMIC.MEMEGENERATOR.NET

WHY YOU NO



CHOOSE ORCHESTRA?

memegenerator.net

HAD A CHOICE...



DIDN'T CHOOSE ORCHESTRA

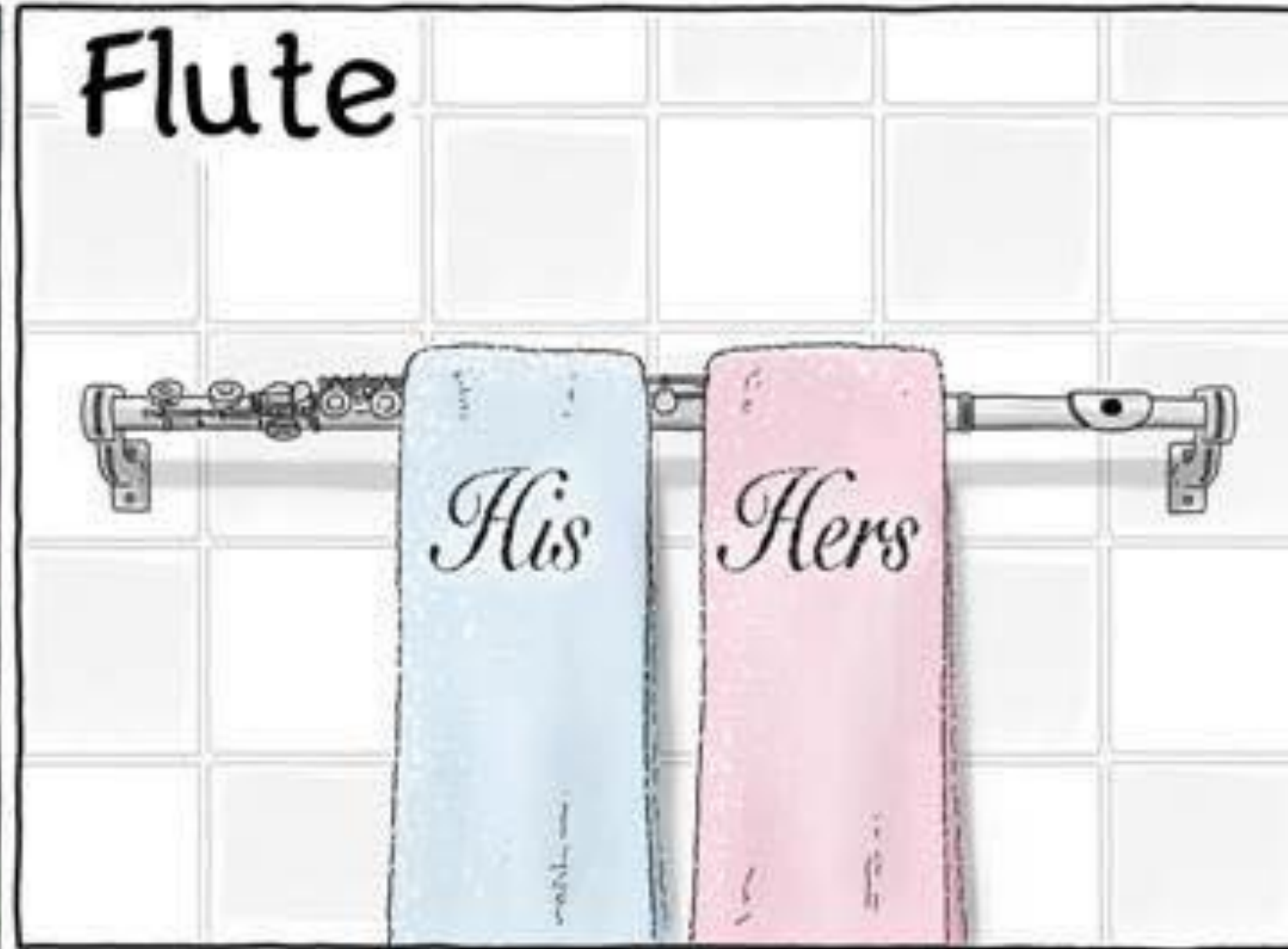
meme-generator.net

Recycled Instruments

Tuba



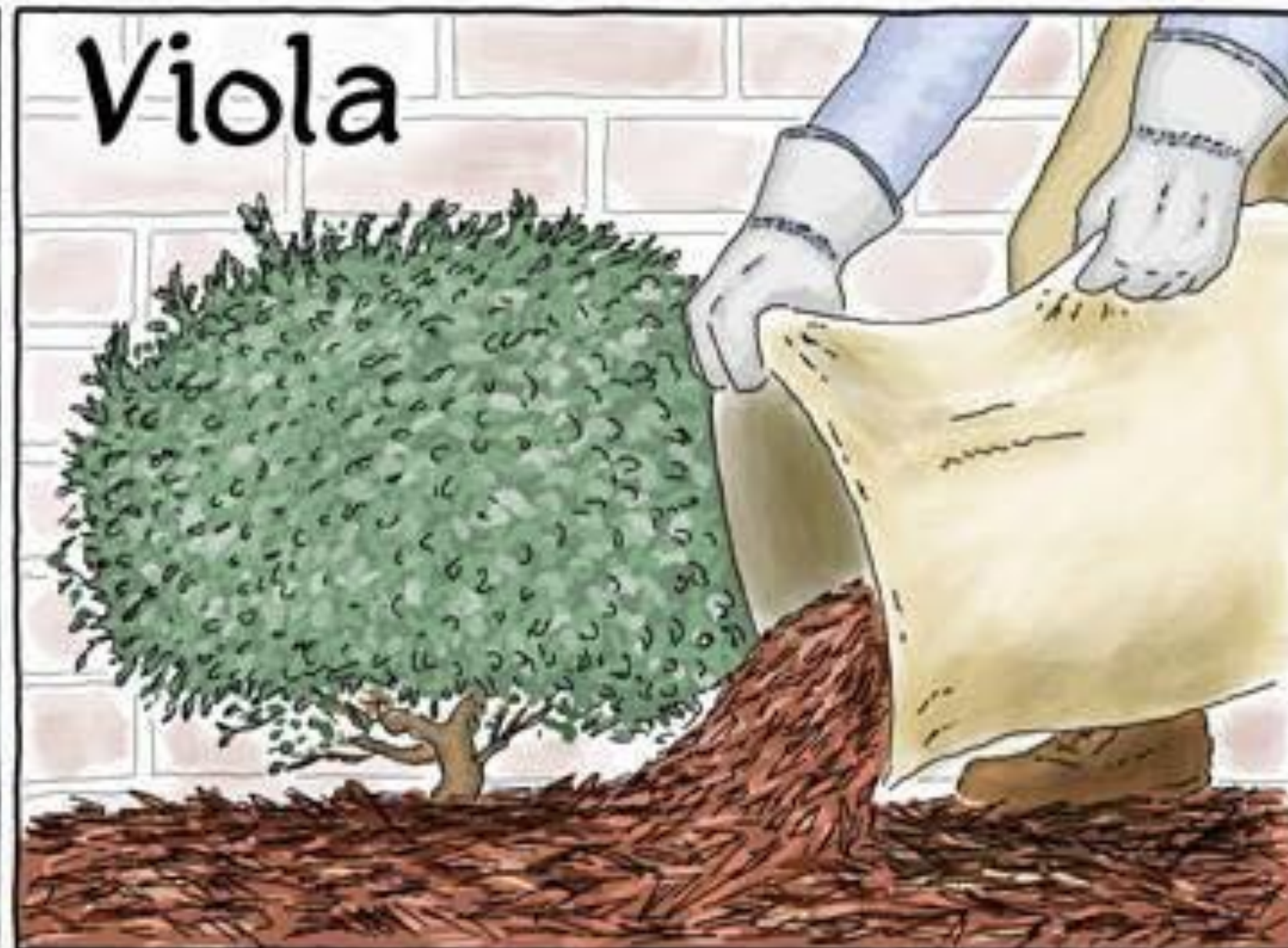
Flute



Double bass



Viola



#bowholdthumbproblems

- * If the thumb is not bent, the rest of the fingers will usually not bend!
- * Bumpy thumbs
- * “Alpharetta A” Thumb
- * Texting thumbs



* ***No Banana Thumbs***

* ***No Hitchhiker thumbs - illegal in every state!***

In Rehearsal

- * Classroom automation
- * Tuning procedures
- * Warm-ups (scales, exercises, echoes, etc.)
- * Increase proximity to individuals
- * Rehearsal enhancement
- * Adjust for your situation (small or big classes, student/teacher's tech knowledge)

Audio & Tracks Demo

A laptop computer is positioned in the upper right corner of the slide, partially obscured by a 25-key MIDI controller keyboard. The keyboard is black with white keys and is placed on a light-colored surface. The background of the slide is a light, neutral color.

1. Tuning Sequences

2. Scales & Warm-ups

3. Enhancement of simple tunes

4. Play-along tracks for Solos/Ensembles

5. PLAY ALONG TRACKS for Orchestra

1. Tuning Sequence

- * Automates the tuning process
- * Gets students focused
- * Eliminates wasted time during tuning
- * Different lengths/versions
 - * Caters to students tuning ability level

<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLkgRWVInwSZByW-Q5vwN8h6zrYyK4go2n>

Pre-Bow Warm Ups

CATERS TO ABILITY LEVEL

- * Helps shape and strengthen the hand
- * Reinforces bow hold check points
- * Uses fun music to get kids exercising
- * Two versions (original and 2.0)

Original: https://youtu.be/5bNnWG-3_us
Version 2.0: <https://youtu.be/fi6KG71pupg>

Scales with Drones or Accompaniment

CATERS TO ABILITY LEVEL

- * Harmonic background helps students adjust and tune
- * 1 Octave with Drone and metronome accompaniment
- * C Major Example:

Scales with Drones or Accompaniment

CATERERS TO ABILITY LEVEL

- * Harmonic background helps students adjust and tune
- * Rhythm track makes it more interesting and keeps students together
- * 2 Octave Scale, Arpeggio, and broken 3rds with bass line, drums, and metronome accompaniment
- * D Major Example:

Simple Tunes

“D STRING ROCK”

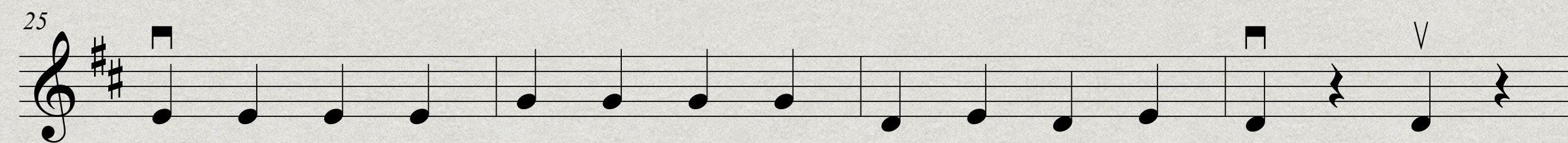
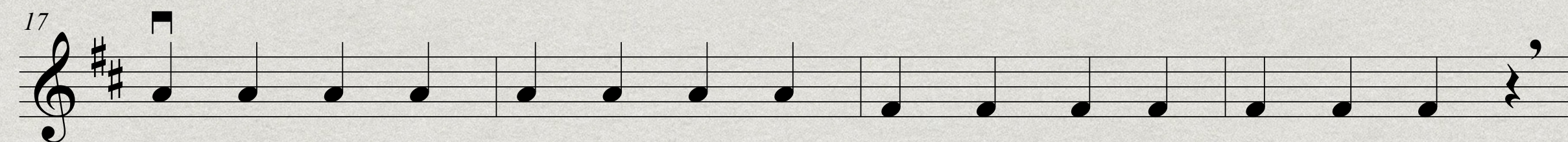
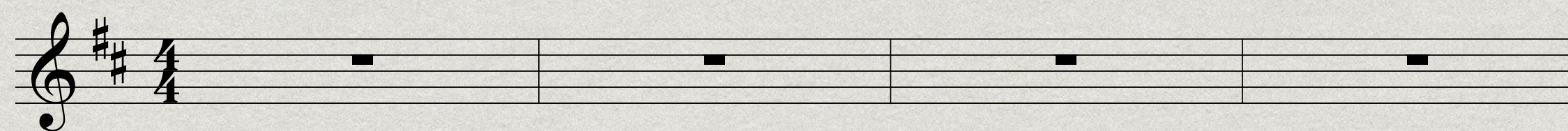
“Tunes & Tracks”

[https://
www.orchestrateacher.net/
tunes-tracks/](https://www.orchestrateacher.net/tunes-tracks/)

Violin

D String Rock

Erin Broadhurst
accompaniment by C. Laux



Audio accompaniments in rehearsal

- * Essential in my hybrid teaching
- * Can use publisher's audio track
 - * Add introduction, and metronome click in an audio program
- * Record your own tracks, isolate individual instruments for practice tracks

- * Use software to slow down or speed up recordings
- * Anytune Pro+ for iPad (app)

YouTube Channel

The screenshot shows the YouTube channel page for 'Alpharetta HS Orchestras'. The channel has 91 subscribers and a profile picture featuring a stylized 'A' with a violin. The main video is titled 'Practice Video - VIOLA - Pirates of the Carib...' with 366 views and posted 9 months ago. The video thumbnail shows students playing violas in an orchestra. The channel navigation menu includes Home, Trending, Subscriptions, History, Watch later, and a list of playlists such as 'Symphony Listen...', 'Concert Orch Lis...', 'Sinfonia Listening', 'Philharmonia Lis...', 'Philharmonia Tut...', 'Guitar 1', 'Graduation Music', and 'Spring concert 2...'. The right sidebar shows 'POPULAR CHANNELS' with entries for RiceGum, WORLDSTARHIPHOP, Ed Sheeran - Topic, and Erika Costell, each with a 'SUBSCRIBE' button. The channel name 'Alpharetta HS Orchestras' is prominently displayed, along with buttons for 'CUSTOMIZE CHANNEL' and 'CREATOR STUDIO'.

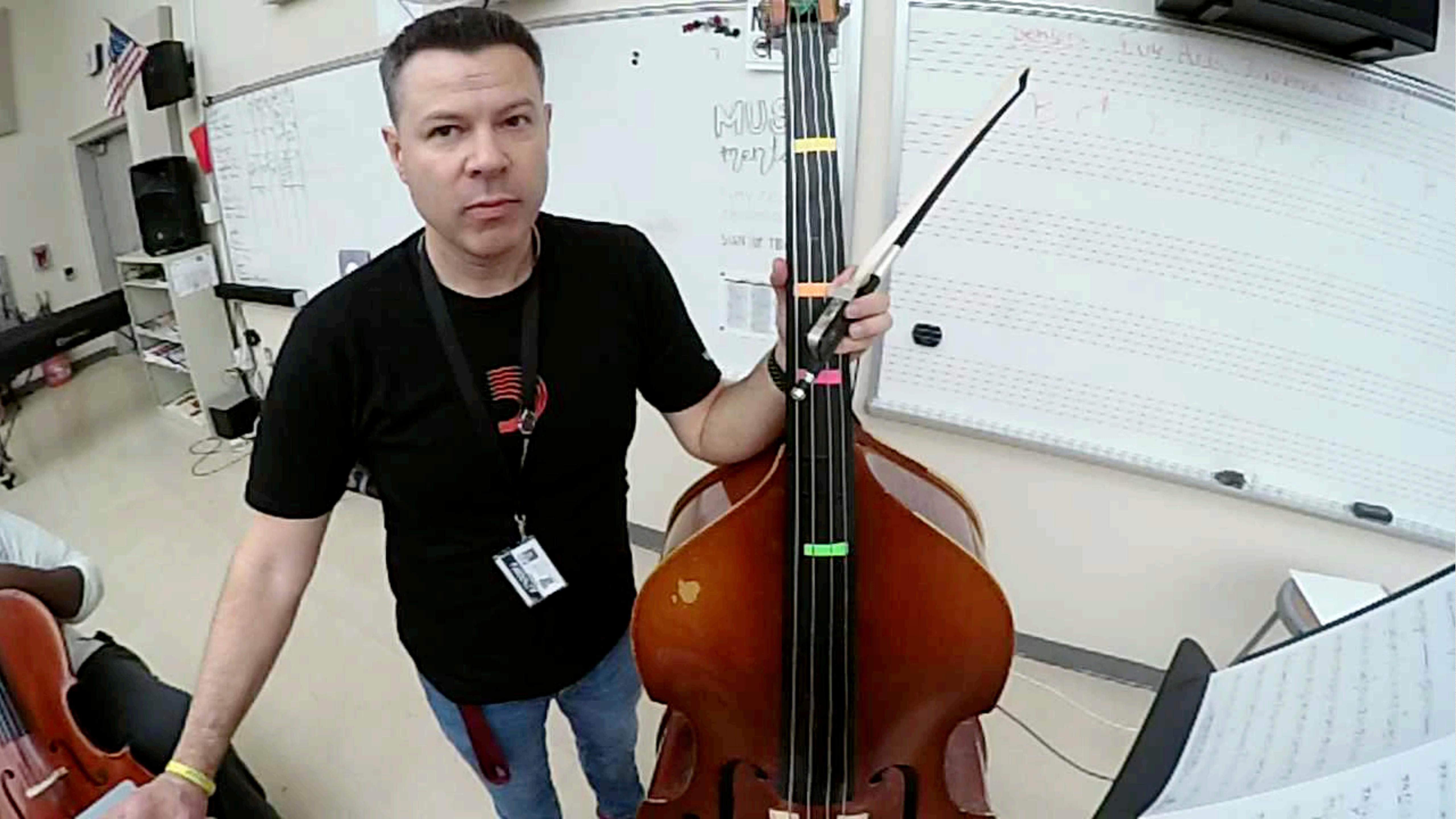
PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH VALUABLE RESOURCES...

[LINK](#)

Video practice tracks

- * Isolate individual instruments for practice tracks
- * Record your own tracks during class on phone, upload to YouTube.
- * Don't have to be polished, just something students can practice with!

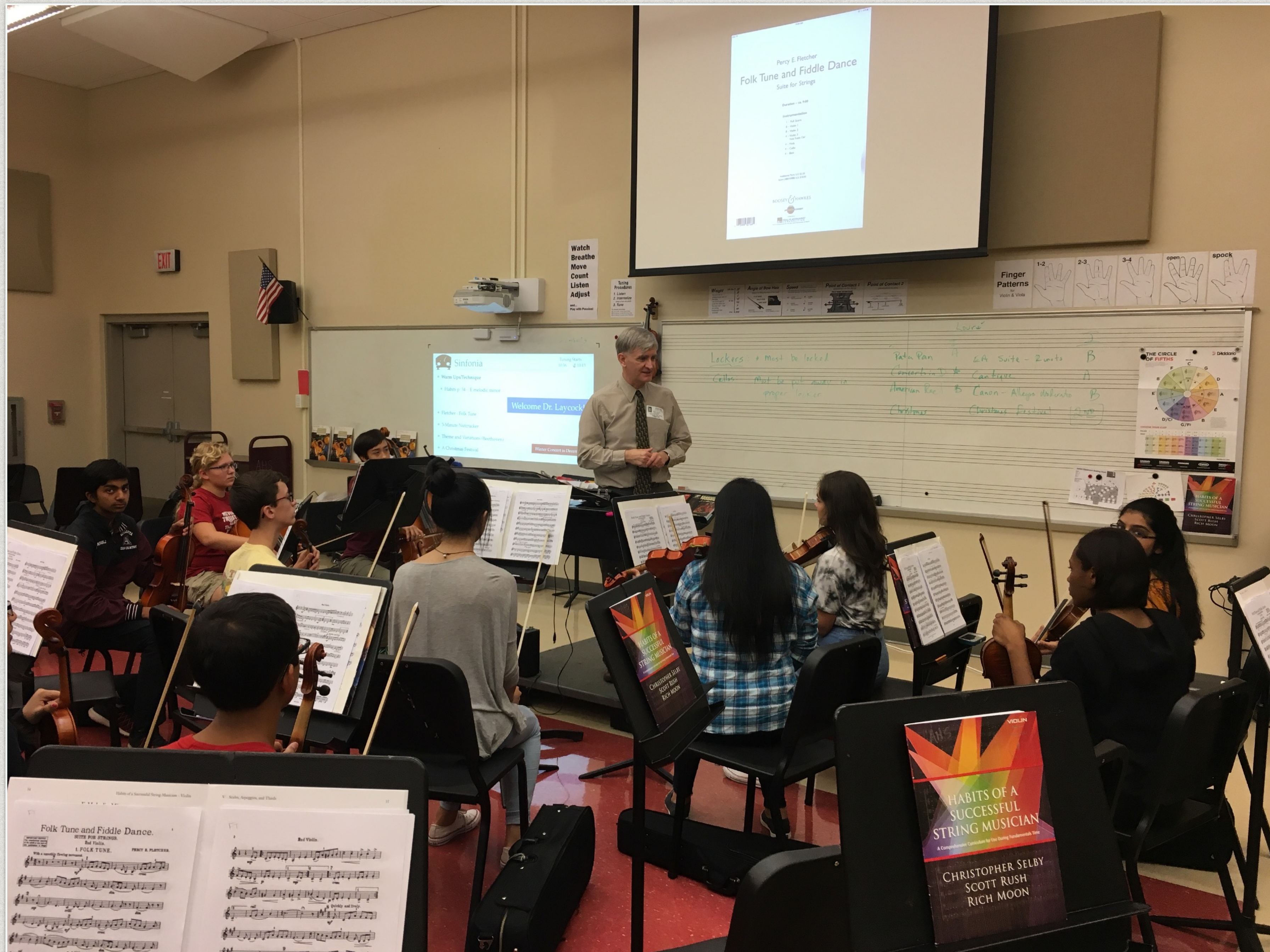
- * Example: “*Forever Joyful!*” by Brian Balmages, Double Bass part



Let students see the big picture: YOUR FULL SCORE!

- * Digitizing music
- * Scanner Pro
- * Mirror display of iPad/Table
- * See what's really going on!
- * Annotation
- * Share scores





Percy E. Fletcher
Folk Tune and Fiddle Dance
Suite for Strings

Sinfonia
Welcome Dr. Laycock

Lockers: must be locked
Cello: must be put away in proper locker

Pata Pan	A	LA Suite - Zortz	B
Concertino	A	Canique	A
American Ec	B	Canon - Allegro Moderato	B
Christmas		Christmas Festival	(2nd)

THE CIRCLE OF FIFTHS

Folk Tune and Fiddle Dance.
SUITE FOR STRINGS.
Red Viola.
1. FOLK TUNE.

HABITS OF A SUCCESSFUL STRING MUSICIAN
CHRISTOPHER SELBY
SCOTT RUSH
RICH MOON

HABITS OF A SUCCESSFUL STRING MUSICIAN
CHRISTOPHER SELBY
SCOTT RUSH
RICH MOON

FORSCORE DEMO

For Home Practice

- * Online learning 24/7
- * Post full recordings or just parts
- * Audio on computer or iPod for listening/practice
- * Post rehearsal recordings on a blog, assign student commenting as homework (reflection)
- * Technique videos - Reinforce classroom instruction
- * Make your own YouTube Channel - showcase students!

[MrOrchestraDirector](#)
[YouTube Channel](#)

[Alpharetta High School Orchestra](#)
[YouTube Channel](#)

Critical Listening: Students Reflect on a Rehearsal

- * Record a rehearsal and post the audio online
- * Students visit the website, listen, and provide commentary
- * Create specific guidelines for feedback, questions/prompts, or a rubric for students to submit
- * Ask students to compare recordings from two different rehearsals, highlighting areas of improvement

Critical Listening: Students Reflect on a Rehearsal

- * HOW TO:

- * Record rehearsal with your phone, computer, etc.
- * Upload audio to Dropbox, OneDrive, Google Drive, SoundCloud or other cloud service
- * Share link or embed audio on your website with SoundCloud and provide directions
- * Notify students via email or text where to go
- * Students respond via an online form or using Padlet

Critical Listening: Students Reflect on a Rehearsal



Alpharetta High School Orchestra

Philharmonia Listening 10/20/17

Directions:

Please comment below with 2 positive comments and 3 constructive comments FROM EACH PIECE. (Kassation in D, Reverie, and Legend). Be sure that your name is on the comment.



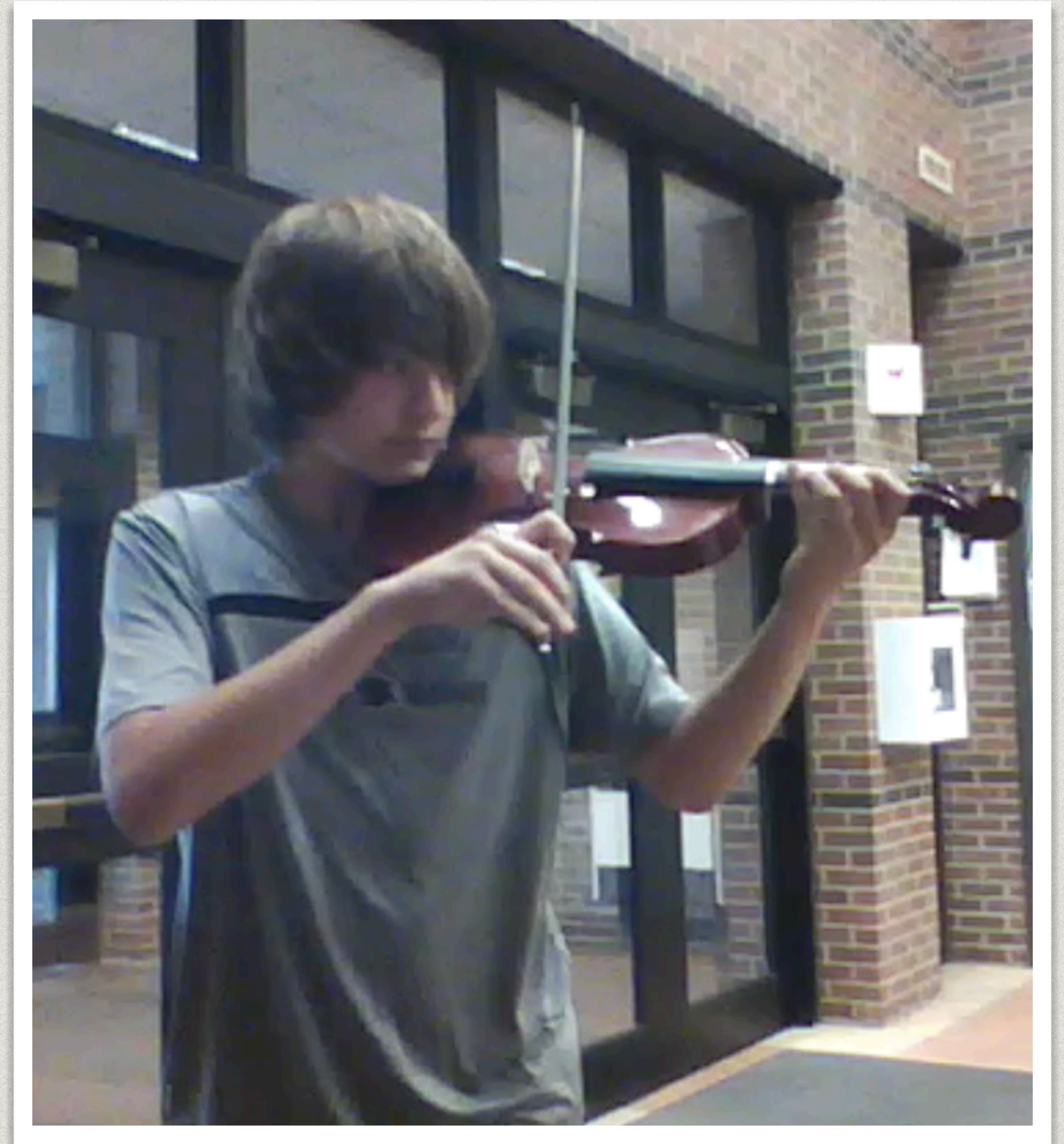
Subscribe to our newsletters

SUBSCRIBE

[LINK](#)

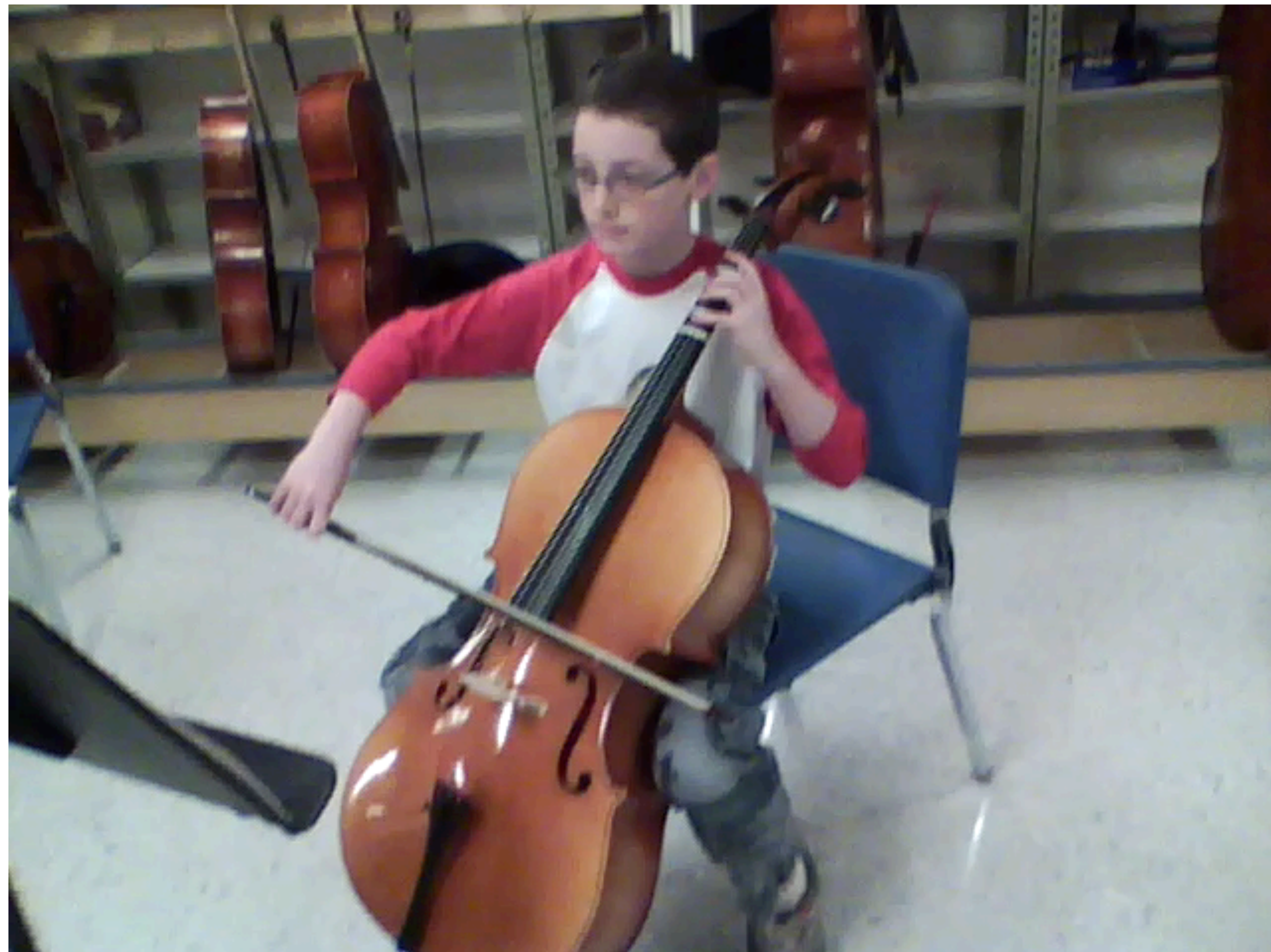
Assessment e-Portfolios

- * Keep track record of performance
- * Store videos online or on local storage like external drive
- * Great to show parents or administration
- * “Evidence of learning”
- * Parent/Teacher conferences
- * Build student confidence and help retention



Cellist

6th grade, mid-year 2



Cellist

7th grade, mid-year 3



Cellist

8th grade, fall, year 4



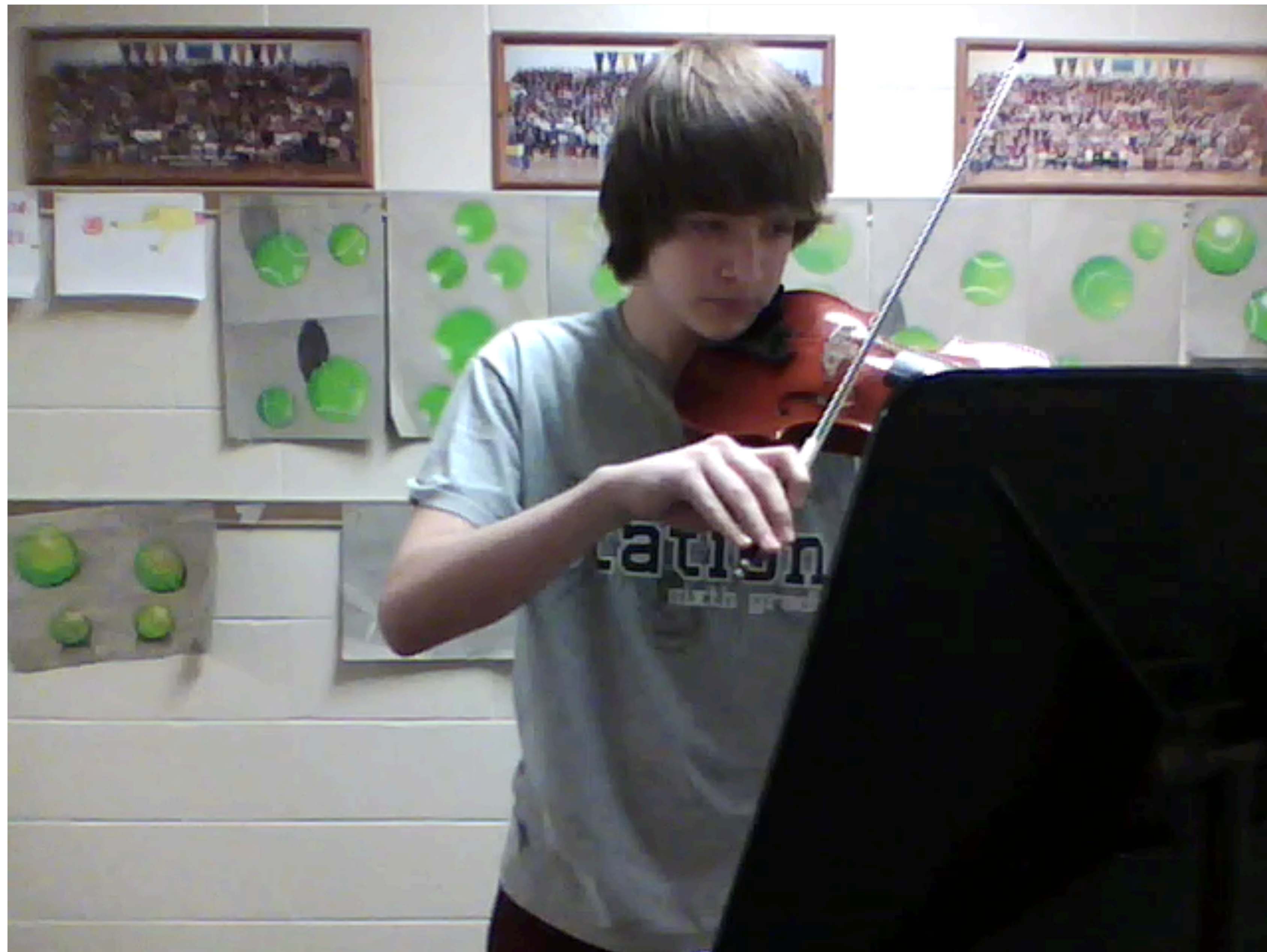
Cellist

8th grade, spring, year 4



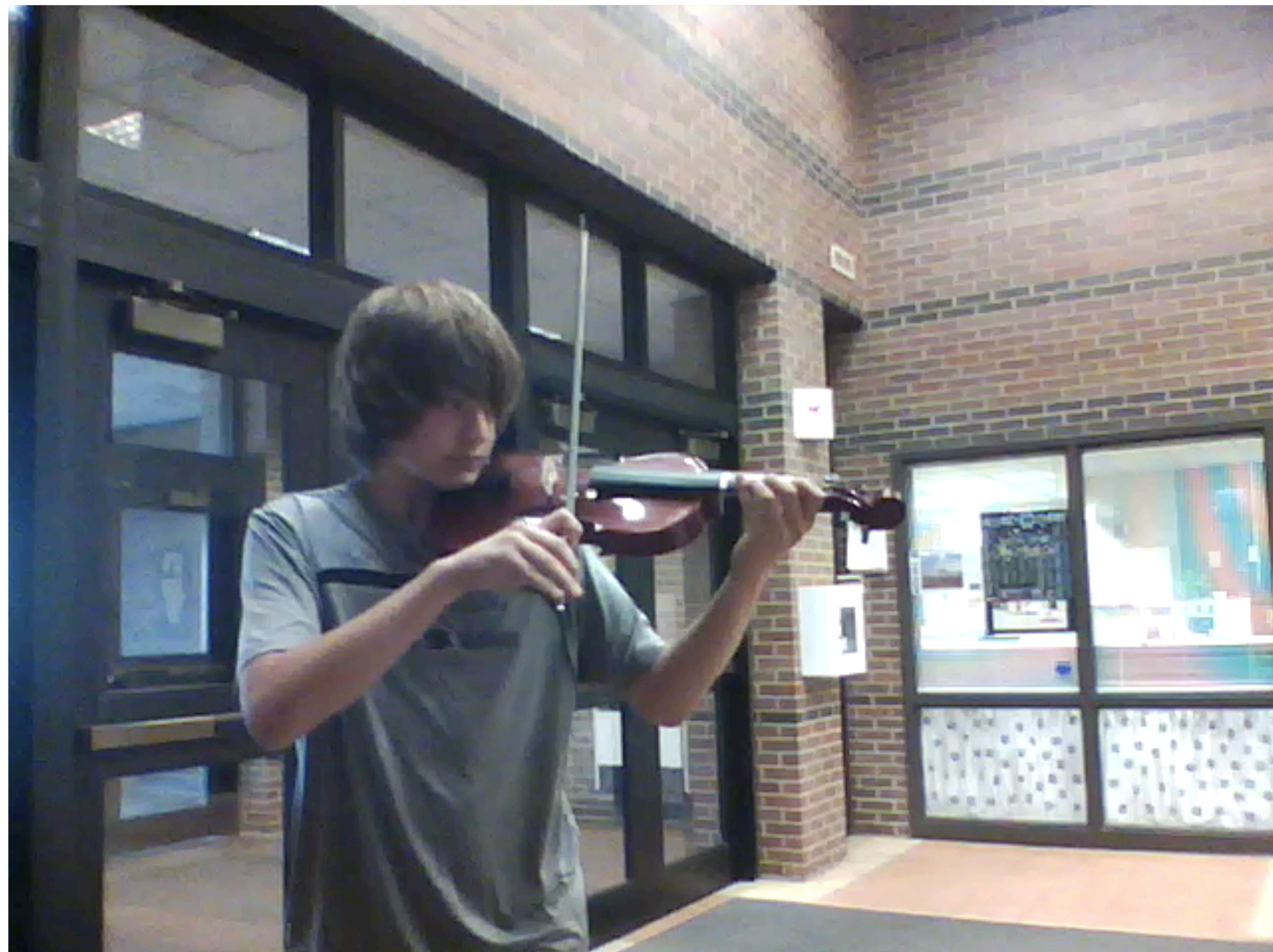
Violinist

7th grade, fall, year 3



Violinist

7th grade,
spring, year 3



~~Violinist~~

BASSIST!

8th grade, fall, year 1!



~~Violinist~~

BASSIST!

8th grade, mid-year 1!



Special thanks...



Questions? Tech Talk?



charleslaux1@gmail.com



/charleslaux



@charleslaux

Slides, links, etc. available at:

www.orchestrateacher.net

