

Aleksey Shenker Violin  
Student Information Sheet

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## **The Lesson**

### ***Beginners 3 – 5 years old:***

**The student** will begin with a ‘box violin,’ and a bow shaped dowel. These will be used to learn holding the violin and bow as well as proper treatment of the instrument. This stage will typically last 4 – 6 weeks, depending on the child.

**The parent** will need an instrument of his/her own to learn alongside. A portion of the lesson will be taken by the student, while the rest will be for the parent. This will typically last 6 – 8 weeks and/or until the child is ready to participate through an entire 30 minute lesson. The parent will also be taking notes as well as recording needed videos during the lesson as specified by the teacher

### ***Beginners 6 – 10 years old:***

**The student:** A child aged 6 – 7 will begin a ‘box violin,’ and a bow shaped dowel to prepare a proper bow and violin hold as well as posture. This will typically last 2 – 5 weeks, depending on the child.

A child aged 8 – 10 depending on the child, may or may not be advised to begin with a box violin and bow shaped dowel.

**The parent’s** attendance is required during the lesson in order to be an active yet silent observer, while taking notes and videos during the lesson as specified by the teacher.

### **Student Responsibilities**

- Showing respect to the teacher and parent.
- Reviewing class notes at home during practice time.
- Forming a daily (If possible) practice routine; preparing for the next lesson.  
*\*Home practice can be the greatest determinant for the student's progress on the instrument.\**
- Write down any questions that may arise and bring them up during the lesson.

### **Parent Responsibilities**

- Showing respect to the teacher and child.
- Actively observing and commenting only when truly necessary; if a question or request comes to mind.  
*\*Parents who observe their children during lessons are often tempted to comment when they see their child either struggling to answer a question or play through a phrase of music. Parents are strongly encouraged to avoid commentary or criticism during the lesson unless as it may interrupt the student-teacher atmosphere and in some cases discourage the child.\**
- Helping the child create a special practice area at home and forming a practice routine.
- Actively participating in the child's daily practice, especially for children aged 3 – 8.
- Avoid using technology (Unless it is necessary for the lesson) during the lesson and avoid other means of distraction. Children need to know that their parents are interested in what they are doing.

### **Teacher Responsibilities**

- Showing respect to the parent and child.
- Providing excellent, informative, and productive weekly lessons.
- Providing sufficient and clear information for the parent and student to enhance the formation of productive and successful home practice.
- Creating and sustaining a highly motivating, lively, and delightful environment suitable for learning the violin and creating beautiful music.

**Tuition**

**30** minute lesson - **\$40**

**45** minute lesson - **\$60**

**60** minute lesson - **\$75**

Payable by cash or check written out to Aleksey Shenker.

\*An invoice will be provided on the last lesson of each month containing the lesson dates agreed upon by the parent/student and teacher, as well as the tuition for that month. **Tuition for the new month is due by or on the first lesson of said month.\***

**Attendance Policy**

Lesson dates and times are scheduled before the beginning of a month. If a student plans to be absent on a certain day the payment for the month will be adjusted, or the lesson can be scheduled for another day.

Unplanned cancellations with less than a 24 hour notice will not be provided with a make-up lesson or refund. *\*I am keen on doing my best to make up lessons if time permits and if there is a reasonable cause for an unplanned absence with less than a 24 hour notice\**

On the rare and unlikely occasion that the teacher will be absence, the student or parent will be notified by phone and email. In this case, the lesson will be rescheduled or refunded.

**\*For lesson cancellations please call and leave a voicemail\***

**Contact Information**

Email: [AlekseyShenker@gmail.com](mailto:AlekseyShenker@gmail.com)

Phone: 917-589-0279

**\*For lesson cancellations please call and leave a voicemail\***

**Recourses**

**Violin Purchase and Rental:**

<http://www.sharmusic.com>

<https://www.johnsonstring.com/>

[www.Amazon.com](http://www.Amazon.com)

**Violin and Bow Repair (As well as Violin purchase)**

***Strings and Other Things:***

1995 Broadway Floor 6 New York, NY 10023 (67<sup>th</sup> street)

(212) 362-0857

***Matthias Lehner Violins:***

46 West 65<sup>th</sup> Street Garden Floor

(212) 580-2158

***David Segal Violins:***

74 West 68<sup>th</sup> Street Suite #1C New York, NY 10023

(212) 769-4559

***Yung Chin:***

250 West 54<sup>th</sup> street Room 708

(212) 582-3626

**Sheet Music Sources (Suzuki Books and Other)**

[Www.Amazon.com](http://www.Amazon.com)

[Www.IMSLP.Org](http://www.IMSLP.Org) (Free downloadable sheet music)

The Juilliard Book Store: <http://www.thejuilliardstore.com/> (144 West 66<sup>th</sup> Street)

### **Box Violin Recipe**

#### Supplies:

- Small square cardboard box; **Hight:** about 2 inches, **Length of sides:** 6 – 7 inches. (Cracker boxes, macaroni and cheese boxes, etc...)
- Ruler (12 inches in length should suffice)
- Glue/tape/decorative material

#### Instructions:

- The box should not be empty as it will collapse; it may be stuffed with crumpled paper
- Place Ruler onto the center of the box making sure about 6 inches of the ruler reaches beyond the box
- Firmly glue and/or tape the ruler
- Decorate as you like; Coloring, stickers, wrapping/contact paper, etc.

*\*For taller and older children slightly larger dimensions can be used; 8 inch box, 7-8 inches of ruler extending beyond the box\**

### **Bow Recipe**

#### Supplies:

- One dowel stick; **Diameter:** no more than 1/4<sup>th</sup> of an inch. **Length:** 12 Inches, for taller/older children it can be up to 18 inches. (Diameter should be the same for either child)
- Small wooden block or eraser: 1 – 1.5 inches in length, 1 inch in height (Ideally not much more)
- Glue and rubber bands

#### Instructions:

- Place wooden block or eraser about an inch from the dowels bottom
- Make sure it is secure by gluing it and firmly wrapping rubber bands around the box/eraser and dowel.
- Decorate as you like.

