

Middle School Orchestra Rehearsal Lab

Engaging students in active listening and musicality

Wednesday, December 21, 2022, 4:15-5:15

Scullen Middle School Chamber Orchestra Naperville, Illinois

Matthew White, Director

Michael Tompkins, Clinician

Warm-up and rehearsal techniques used during this session:

Drills and Thrills with movement-Mark Wood (Movement Exercise)

4-3-2-1 Scale Adapted from Angela Woo

- Divide the orchestra into 2 sections ex. (Upper strings/Lower strings)
- The orchestra will play a 2-octave scale 4 times starting together.
- 1 Section will go up and down the scale starting with 4 quarter notes per note, then 3, then 2, then 1.
- 2nd Section will go up and down the scale 4 times starting with 1, then 2, then 3, then 4.

Active Listening

- Let your orchestra play and just listen.
- Record your orchestra
- Teach them how to listen

Live Orchestra Metronome

- Have the orchestra play a passage/piece making everything 8th notes.
- Allow students to hear and feel subdivision.
- Clapping and Counting still work!

Theme Sheets

- Create theme sheets using music notation software. (doesn't take much time)
- Select excerpts from a piece in which one voice needs extra attention.
- Copy and paste for other sections to play in unison.
- Allows for repetition while keeping the entire orchestra engaged.



Repertoire:

Someday by Perry Holbrook-Will be available in April 2023! Wingert-Jones Publications

The melody from *Someday* emerged from an incomplete string quartet written at a time when the composer was experiencing grief and loss, universal themes in the human experience. The title reflects a faith found in dark times that someday things will eventually get better.

Someday is an accessible lyric piece featuring a melancholy melody ripe with expressive possibilities. Pedagogically, *Someday* was written to provide an opportunity to teach phrasing, rubato, vibrato, and bow control.

Colors of Home by Alan Lee Silva, Excelcia Music Publishing 2019

Dance of Iscariot by Kirt Mosier, Neil A. KJos Music Company 1997

Thundersnow! by Katie O'Hara Labrie, Excelcia Music Publishing, LLC @2022

Score

Teach by ear not with notation

Drills and Thrills with Movement

Everyone stand except the cellos, no music stands

Mark Wood

4 different tempos Moving back and forth on half notes

D major RT LT
V

Violin

4 different tempos

D major RT LT
V

Viola

4 different tempos

D major RT LT
V

Cello

7

Vln.

RT LT
V

Vla.

RT LT
V

Vc.

RT LT
V

12

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

17

RT LT

V

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

21

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

Moving back and forth on quarter notes

26

RT LT RT LT

V

Vln.

RT LT RT LT

V

Vla.

RT LT RT LT

V

Vc.

30

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

This system contains measures 30 through 33. It features three staves: Violin (Vln.) in treble clef, Viola (Vla.) in alto clef, and Violoncello (Vc.) in bass clef. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#). The music consists of rhythmic patterns of eighth and sixteenth notes with stems pointing up and down, and rests.

34

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

This system contains measures 34 through 37. It features three staves: Violin (Vln.) in treble clef, Viola (Vla.) in alto clef, and Violoncello (Vc.) in bass clef. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#). The music consists of rhythmic patterns of eighth and sixteenth notes with stems pointing up and down, and rests.

38

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

This system contains measures 38 through 41. It features three staves: Violin (Vln.) in treble clef, Viola (Vla.) in alto clef, and Violoncello (Vc.) in bass clef. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#). The music consists of rhythmic patterns of eighth and sixteenth notes with stems pointing up and down, and rests.

EXTRAS: play with movement and variations with loops and drones.

Drills and Thrills

4

Dorian mode

RT LT

□ V

42

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

Dorian mode

RT LT

□ V

Dorian mode

RT LT

□ V

Phrygian Mode

50

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

Phrygian Mode

Phrygian Mode

Phrygian Mode

Move RT FT in 1/4 notes

D major
Sim.

58

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

Move RT FT in 1/4 notes

p *f*

Sim.

Sim.

Sim.

p *f*

62

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

This system contains measures 62 through 66. It features three staves: Violin (Vln.) in treble clef, Viola (Vla.) in alto clef, and Violoncello (Vc.) in bass clef. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The music consists of rhythmic patterns of eighth and sixteenth notes with accents (>) and slurs. The patterns are consistent across all three staves.

67

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

This system contains measures 67 through 70. It features three staves: Violin (Vln.) in treble clef, Viola (Vla.) in alto clef, and Violoncello (Vc.) in bass clef. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The music continues with rhythmic patterns of eighth and sixteenth notes with accents (>) and slurs. The patterns are consistent across all three staves.

71

Call and Response

Vln.

Vla.

Vc.

This system contains measures 71 through 74. It features three staves: Violin (Vln.) in treble clef, Viola (Vla.) in alto clef, and Violoncello (Vc.) in bass clef. The key signature is one sharp (F#). Measures 71 and 72 contain rhythmic patterns with accents (>) and slurs. Measures 73 and 74 are marked "Call and Response" and contain rests for all instruments.

Colors Of Home

Theme Sheet

Alan Lee Silva

Michael Tompkins

① ♩ = 116

Musical score for measures 1-4 of section 1. The score is for Violin, Viola, Cello, and Double Bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked as ♩ = 116. The music consists of a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes and quarter notes. The first three measures are marked with a 'V' above the notes. The fourth measure is marked with 'sim.' (sforzando) above the notes. The notes are: Measure 1: G4, A4, B4, C5; Measure 2: G4, A4, B4, C5; Measure 3: G4, A4, B4, C5; Measure 4: G4, A4, B4, C5.

②

Musical score for measures 5-8 of section 2. The score is for Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), Cello (Vc.), and Double Bass (D.B.). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The music consists of a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes and quarter notes. The first and third measures are marked with 'mp' (mezzo-piano) and the second and fourth measures are marked with 'mf' (mezzo-forte). The notes are: Measure 5: G4, A4, B4, C5; Measure 6: G4, A4, B4, C5; Measure 7: G4, A4, B4, C5; Measure 8: G4, A4, B4, C5.

Colors Of Home

2
3

Musical score for measures 2 and 3. The score is for four instruments: Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Double Bass (D.B.). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 2/4. The music consists of a single melodic line in each part, with a *cresc.* (crescendo) marking at the beginning of each staff. A fermata is placed over the final note of each staff in measure 3. A 'V' marking is present above the first staff in measure 3.

4

Musical score for measure 4. The score is for four instruments: Violin (Vln.), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Double Bass (D.B.). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 2/4. The music consists of a single melodic line in each part. The dynamic marking *f* (forte) is present at the beginning of each staff. Accents (^) are placed over the notes in the second, third, and fourth measures of each staff. A 'V' marking is present above the first staff at the beginning of the measure.