



Vista Grande String Ensemble

Week of 4/13/2020

Hello, my wonderful young musicians! I have certainly missed our time working together, and I wish we were back in the classroom like normal. But I hope we can still make music together!

Since I came into this class later in the year, I do not have any contact information for you all. It's time to remedy that!

- **Assignment #1** is to email me at leppardh@pvpusd.net to say Hi! Make sure you include your first and last name, your regular classroom teacher's name, and an email address where I can contact you. I will be setting up a Team for us to be able to interact together.
- **Assignment #2-** Check out my [website](#). On it you will find all of our music (with fingerings- because I am super nice like that!), including a new simplified version of Star Wars, as well as links to my YouTube channel so you can listen to our music and play along. I'm still working on some of our content, so be patient and check back often!

Now to actually make some music!

- **Practice, Practice, Practice!**
 - Aim to spend 15-20 minutes at least 3 days a week practicing your String Ensemble music.
 - There is an old joke that goes: "How do you get to Carnegie Hall?" Answer: "Practice!" (And if you don't know about Carnegie Hall, you should look it up- it is the most famous concert hall in the US.)
- **Start with Scales!**
 - The first 5-10 minutes of every practice session should start with scales.
 - You can print out our scale sheet from my [website](#) and practice along with me on YouTube.
 - Every time I practice, I start with scales, and you should, too. Here is why:
 - It warms up our muscles and our ears.
 - It helps to develop muscle memory- so your fingers know what to do without you even having to think about it.

- They develop our ears and help us to have good intonation. (Play in tune!)
 - Scales are the building blocks of most music- if you look closely at many of your pieces you will see passages full of scales and arpeggio.
 - Can you think of any other reasons?
- **Repertoire (That's fancy for "our music!")**
 - *Gavotte*
 - This piece was in pretty good shape. Just make sure you are confident with your part- try playing along with the other part on YouTube to see how it sounds. (There is a cleaner copy of it on the [website](#) if you would like to use that.)
 - *Canon in D*
 - Make sure you can play A, B, C, D, E, and H fluently. If you need more of a challenge, look at the Advanced Violin part and try out some of the trickier variations. Play along with the videos (maybe start on a different letter to see how it sounds.)
 - *Star Wars*
 - I have a simplified version on the [website](#) now. Print it out and work on each section independently.
 - *Mickey Mouse March*
 - This is also in good shape- don't forget about the low 1st and 2nd fingers and the high 3rd fingers. For Part 1, see if you can get the hooked bowings (down-down, up-up) starting on the second line. Try playing along with the video and see how it sounds!
 - **Need a challenge?**
 - I will be adding some fun solos and duets to the website. Get "together" with a friend to play them together!

All the best!

Mrs. Leppard

Email: leppardh@pvpusd.net

Website: <https://mrsleppardmusic.weebly.com/string-ensemble.html>

My YouTube Channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCL6RAVz3SShv-nzOWv4408A?view_as=subscriber