

Deerlake Orchestra Suggested Practice Strategies

Fingerings/Notes: isolate the problem, slow it down, start slow and speed up, play it five times in a row with no mistakes, start in different spots, change the rhythm

Rhythms: count and clap, play it on an open string, take out the slurs, use a metronome, say Froeth rhythms, play it pizzicato, chunk it, isolate the problem

Notes & Rhythms Together: play it pizzicato, air bow, slow it down, chunk it

Bowing: rocket bow, air bow with fingerings, slow it down, bow in front of a mirror, chunk it, play it on an open string, isolate the problem, start slow and speed up

Tone Quality: practice fundamental 2 (straight bow, into the string, Kreisler Highway, elbow level, correct amount of bow), vibrato, experiment with bow speed, weight, angle, point of contact to achieve the sound you want, advanced – use the most appropriate fingering

Intonation: sing it, use a drone note, test with open strings, use a tuner, record your playing, listen for overtones

Tempo: use a metronome (Start slowly, play it five times correctly, then speed it up a little at a time.)

Dynamics: use your bow (weight, point of contact, angle) to achieve various dynamic levels

Phrasing: make “musical sentences” (You may mark these in your music.), mark cadences, use correct bow speed to make a natural shape, use correct bow speed for forward flow, work on timing between the sections

Expression/Musicality: play with sensitivity, put all of these elements together to express an idea