

THE RIVERS SCHOOL CONSERVATORY

Violin Curriculum Guide (Classical)

LEVEL ONE

Skills & Goals:

- x Comfortable body position and proper instrument placement
- x Ability to play in tune in one position, recognizing basic finger patterns
- x Developing basic bow grip, straight bow, and variety of bow strokes

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LEVEL TWO

- Skills & Goals:
- x Secure and flexible body position (standing and sitting)
 - x Mastering positions 1 through 3 and proper shifting
 - x Vibrato on long notes, simple double stops and chords
 - x Consistent bow grip, comfortable string crossing and bow distribution
 - x Variety of phrasing and dynamics
- Sample Repertoire:
- x Two octave scales and arpeggios
 - x Studies by Mazas, Wohlfahrt, Kayser
 - x Pieces by Bohm, Dala, Mollenhauer
 - x Concertos by Accolay, Vivaldi, Komarovsky
 - x Sonatas by Haendel, Vivaldi, Locatelli
- End of Year Evaluation:
- x Six two octave scales and arpeggios
 - x One study
 - x Two contrasting pieces, one of which needs to be memorized
- Additional Requirements for Young Artist Diploma Candidates Only:
- x Average score of "high pass" for evaluation
 - x Three performances per year
 - x Three yearlong electives in total, suggestions include: Theory Class, Chamber Music, Youth Orchestra

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LEVEL THREE

- Skills & Goals:
- x Balanced body position, ability to recognize and avoid tension
 - x Ability to shift to higher positions
 - x Consistent vibrato, comfortable double stops and chords
 - x Variety of bowings, including off the string
 - x Playing with more expression and making more stylistic choices

- Sample Repertoire:
- x Three octave scales
 - x Studies by Kayser, Kreutzer, Mazas, Sitt, Dont op 37
 - x Pieces by Kreisler, Monti, deBeriot, Bartok
 - x Concertos by Bach (E major), Haydn (C major), Mozart, Viotti
 - x Sonatas by Leclair, Tartini, Veracini

- End of Year Evaluation:
- x Six three octave scales and arpeggios
 - x One study
 - x Two contrasting pieces, one of which should be memorized

- Additional Requirements for Young Artist Diploma Candidates Only:
- x Average score of “high pass” for evaluation
 - x Three performances per year
 - x Three yearlong electives in total, suggestions include: Theory Class, Chamber Music, Youth Orchestra

