

Why Learn a String Instrument?

You can play ANY style of music on a string instrument. This can include classical, jazz, country, bluegrass, pop, hip-hop, rock, mariachi, and others. String players can participate in many different types of live concert performances as well as on recordings of all different types of music.

Every culture in the world has string instruments and values the art of string instrument playing. The violin family of instruments has not changed in design in hundreds of years. You can be a part of a centuries-old tradition.

If you keep playing all the way through high school you could be skilled enough to study music as a major in college, get a scholarship to college, or become a professional musician or professional music teacher.

Professional musicians can play in full-time or part-time orchestras or be hired for weddings, parties and other special events. Many people who have careers in other areas perform as a professional musicians part-time and on weekends.

Learning to play an instrument will give you something you can enjoy doing forever!

Check out your orchestra website for links to videos of people playing string instruments.



These famous people played a string instrument:

Albert Einstein (1879-1955) Physicist who won a Nobel Prize in 1921, known for his theories of relativity and gravitation. He played the piano and the violin. Einstein said that it was during his violin playing that he came up with the ideas for some of his most famous discoveries.



Jimi Hendrix (1942-1970) Famous rock star, pioneer of the electric guitar. He played the viola.

Woodrow Wilson (1856-1924) 28th President of the United States. Played the violin.

Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790) Helped draft the Declaration of Independence. Also played guitar and violin.

Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826) Third President of the United States. Played the cello and violin.

Paula Zahn (b.1956) Newscaster and journalist. Plays the cello.

Meryl Streep (b.1949) Most Academy Award nominations for an actress. Plays the violin.

Charles, Prince of Wales (b. 1948) Heir to the throne of England. Plays the cello.

Tony Hawk (b. 1968) Skateboarding pioneer who plays the violin.



Sherlock Holmes One of literature's most famous fictional characters to play a string instrument. He owns and plays a priceless Stradivarius violin.