

Winspiration Studio Lesson Information:

Rates:

Des Moines: I charge \$1 per minute for lessons. Beginner students will need 30 minute lessons. Intermediate will need 45 minute lessons. Advanced students will need 60 minute or longer lessons.

Bettendorf: Rates are set by the Quad Cities Symphony Orchestra Private Lesson Program (QCSO PLP.) \$35 for 30 minutes, \$50 for 45 minutes, and \$65 for 60 minutes. Sign up available here:

<https://qcsso.org/education/private-lesson-program/>

Location Information:

Des Moines: Lessons occur in my home office. At the moment, I can travel to a student's home within 5 miles of my own home. Add \$5 for locations over 5 miles from my home. Address will be given for the first scheduled lesson.

Bettendorf: Lessons take place in the basement of St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 2400 Middle Road

Virtual Lessons: Available for any student. Platforms are Zoom, and Skype. Recommended: External microphone, high speed broadband internet, wide-angle camera lens (most web cams will do.) Try to avoid lessons from a phone.

Are you brand new? What do you need to begin?

- A) Violin
- B) Violin Bow
- C) Carrying Case
- D) Rosin
- E) Shoulder Rest
- F) Essential Elements for Strings
- G) Suzuki Violin Method book 1
- H) A Pencil
- I) Enthusiasm
- J) Patience

About my teaching style:

I learned violin in the traditional method which focuses on learning to read music concurrently with learning an instrument. From a very early age, I embraced repetition and high volume practicing to make my early progress. As I have become a better violinist, I endorse quality practice over quantity practice. That isn't an excuse not to practice! I encourage my students to become very curious about how they play their instruments, including noticing their mistakes without judgement.

I am also a Suzuki Method registered violin instructor. The methodology has helped me to further understand that my role as an instructor is to help my students develop the various skills necessary to become successful adults in whatever field they choose; I teach patience, control, focus, planning, etc. Because music is its own language, we know now to expect students to learn that language much like they did as a young child; children first learn by listening, then speaking, and eventually reading. As a result, I work with the parents to ensure the child grows up in a musical household and has regular practice times with their parents. Because many students who begin violin aren't good readers yet, my students learn the first book by memory. The pieces are securely learned through regular listening, weekly repetition, and a slow introduction of new skills and concepts.

Missed Lessons:

Life happens to everyone and lessons will occasionally be missed. Make-up lessons will be scheduled virtually if I am notified at least the day before the lesson. A missed lesson or cancellation the day of will be charged the full lesson rate. The only exception to my cancellation policy is when the child or parent(s) is sick; I must still be notified at least 1 hour before the lesson.

Covid Procedures:

I am concerned of the well being of all of my students. As the virus has been mutated, I am remaining vigilant and adapting my own personal procedures both in and out of lessons when required. I keep updated and follow federal CDC guidelines to the best of my ability and I ask the same of my students and their families. Here is how I follow and adapt the CDC guidelines to my lessons:

Masks: I will wear a mask when recommended. I will also likely wear a mask if the CDC says they are no longer required until I am assured that virus transmission in Iowa is minimal to none. Students must wear a mask to their lesson if the CDC, State, or School district require them *and* the lesson occurs in my home or St. Peter's Episcopal. Students do not need to wear a mask if I travel to and am teaching in their home, though I will remain masked. Unmasked lessons at all locations will occur when neither CDC, State, nor School district require masks AND the student and parents are vaccinated.

6 foot spacing: I generally maintain at least 6 feet from my students while teaching. However, I find it occasionally necessary to come to a student to help them best improve the mechanical functions of their playing techniques. This includes helping: shape fingers, move the bow, improve posture, and monitor tension. I will use strictly verbal coaching when requested.

Virus exposure/symptoms: Thanks to the virus, virtual lessons are easy now! It's much better to be safe than sorry. If anyone (myself included) believes they may have been exposed, has symptoms, or has a positive covid test, then the lessons will be virtual until 10 days of symptom free or a negative covid test. If the student feels too ill to have a virtual lesson, then I request to be notified ASAP before the lesson time.