

PLEASE PRINT THIS FOR QUICK REFERENCE!

2020-2021 TG and VCAM Welcome Letter

Hello Everyone!

Welcome back to another exciting year of **SIUE Suzuki Tour Group and Viola Camerata!!**

Congratulations to our new members of Level 1 and 2 of Tour Group, and Viola Camerata! Please welcome our newest members and their families: Abby Leatherman (Lisa and Ryan), Darian Hawkins (Sheila and Darrin), Emmy Larrew (Trudy and Larry), Maya Lueking (Andrea and Keith) and Jaiden Zook (Janice and Jereme) to level 1. Congratulations to Nicholas Monahan, Anna Singh, and MaryAnn Rainey for advancing to Level 2 of Tour Group. And finally, Congratulations and welcome to Peter Valkov (Reneta and Krum) and Derek Marcus (Diana and Don) into Viola Camerata.

First Rehearsal: Our **First Rehearsal** will be at 10:00 AM on September 12th. Please sign in to your Zoom meeting room before 10:00 AM as we will begin rehearsal promptly at 10. Please note that these start times are 15 minutes earlier than other group classes in our program.

Level 1 and 2 is directed by Allison Woerner, and rehearse together in Allison's Zoom meeting room. The link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6393483543>.

Viola Camerata is directed by Erika Lord-Castillo, and rehearses in Erika's Zoom meeting room. The link is <https://siue.zoom.us/j/7470322267>.

EVERYONE Please have a **STAND**, your tour group **MUSIC** from last year (in a black three-ring binder with page protectors!), and a **PENCIL**.

Saturday Rehearsal Times: In addition to the 10:00 rehearsal each Saturday, Tour Group level 2 rehearses at 11:00 AM in Allison's Zoom meeting room.

Tour Group Level 1 and Viola Camerata rehearse as part of EYO in Room 0101. Tour Group Level 1 and Viola Camerata students should BOTH make sure they have completed their EYO audition!

Tour Group and Viola Camera Uniforms: Ordering Information

- How to Measure for fit- see links on this page:
<https://tuxedowholesaler.com/howtoorder>
- Once you know your sizes, go to these pages, enter the appropriate info, put the uniform in your cart, and buy it!
- Girls: Caitlen dress, black, preferred fabric, \$56.50,
<https://tuxedowholesaler.com/concert-attire/index.php/women-s-wear/gowns/caitlen.html>

- Boys (order both a tie and a shirt): Skinny Windsor Tie, black, \$8, <https://tuxedowholesaler.com/concert-attire/index.php/shirts-accessories/skinny-windsor-tie.html>; Dress Shirt, black, \$14, <https://tuxedowholesaler.com/concert-attire/index.php/redi-ship-program/men-s-wear/dress-shirt-in-black.html>

Fundraisers:

- Scrip: Sharon Voss is the organizer of this. Orders occur usually monthly, throughout the year. Buy scrip for places you will shop at anyways, and get a percentage back toward your trip fundraising.
- Information for other fundraisers will be sent out soon. Please let us know if you have ideas!

Rehearsal Attendance:

It may seem like there are a lot of rules on this page, but they are there to promote clarity of expectations, fairness, and especially, to support us in reaching our musical goals. Although we do spend time in rehearsals learning notes, that is not the reason we rehearse together.

During this challenging time, we are more committed than ever to providing a nurturing, and unified educational experience. We rehearse together to present a musically, emotionally, and technically unified, refined and expressive performance. It is impossible to practice for this alone. Although there are many good, and worthy reasons to miss rehearsal, a player is either there, or not. When it comes to striving for a meaningful, expressive performance, all that matters is whether you were there, engaged and practicing with the team.

We also recognize that real life for our multi-tasking players means that, regrettably but understandably, almost everyone is going to miss an occasional rehearsal. We can balance and respect the needs of responsible young adults with our commitment to the music, the ensemble, and our audience.

—Allison and Erika

Tour Group & Viola Camerata Attendance Policy 2020-2021

- Players are expected to attend all rehearsals and concerts during a year.
- Each player is asked to complete a commitment form listing all planned absences at the beginning of the Fall and Spring semesters each year.
- If a player must miss a rehearsal that was not accounted for on his/her commitment form, s/he should email Allison (violinallison@charter.net) if s/he is in Tour Group and Erika (elordca@siue.edu) if s/he is in Viola Camerata preferably before the rehearsal, or if that is not possible, as soon as possible afterward. Please DO NOT text message or call.
- Lateness: Saturday Rehearsals are considered to begin at 10:00 AM.
- If a player misses a rehearsal, they should make up for that rehearsal by playing the rehearsed material for their private teacher at their next lesson. The student is responsible for finding out what material they missed in the rehearsal.
- The Director will determine whether each player is adequately prepared to play the concert. Lateness or absence from rehearsals may contribute to a player not being prepared to play.
- Illness: This is up to each player's discretion, but as a guide: if a player is well enough to be up and about during the day and is not contagious s/he should usually attend rehearsal.
- Acquiring vital information from missed rehearsals: Players will take notes in their music as to what was rehearsed, as well as additions and changes in dates and times of rehearsals. It is each player's responsibility to obtain these notes from a colleague, write them into his/her music, and learn the new material prior to the start of the next rehearsal.

Rehearsal attendance for Tour Group and Viola Camerata is REQUIRED. It is an honor to be part of these prestigious groups, and we expect our members to take it seriously and make it a priority. In the event of an unavoidable conflict, please notify **Allison (for Tour Group)** or **Erika (for Viola Camerata)**. Put our concerts on your calendar NOW so that you can plan ahead and make sure you will be available. In addition, we will often use email to communicate with our members and their families, so please let us know your preferred email address.

As always, thank you for continuing to support your child's musical development, and the mission of the SIUE Suzuki Program! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us with any inquiries, concerns or ideas. We value your feedback!

We will see you all September 12!

Warmest Regards,

Allison Huebner-Woerner
Director, SIUE Suzuki Tour Group
ViolinAllison@charter.net

Erika Lord-Castillo
Director, SIUE Viola Camerata
elordca@siue.edu
Erika Text and Voicemail: 314.910.0687

Tour Group & Viola Camerata Commitment Form

Please list your planned absences (if any) here and turn it in to your Director at or before the first rehearsal.

Fall 2020: (due Saturday, September 12)

Name:

Date of Planned Absence	Reason for Absence

Spring 2021: (due Saturday, January 23)

Name:

Date of Planned Absence	Reason for Absence