

# Eden Prairie String Academy



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October Issue

## Welcome to the year 15 of the Academy!

This year, we will be providing students and parents with newsletters as often as we can to keep everyone up to date with the latest news from rehearsals. Please stay tuned for more details about the Anniversary Concert!



### New Procedures

Please make sure parents and students are aware of these new procedures in rehearsals! To start a rehearsal, the whole

orchestra needs to be present! It's almost impossible to start a rehearsal without an oboe section in a professional orchestra! So, with that being said, make sure you are on time to rehearsal! This means coming at least 15 minutes early there is time to set up stands, tune instruments, warm up and make sure passages that were tricky in practice are fine tuned! Michelle's famous quote is always, "If you're early you're on time. If you're on time you're late. If you're late...well we don't want to go there!". After arriving early to rehearsal, make sure you always have a pencil! This means two pencils per stand. For all Sunday night students, if you forget your pencil, there will be a penalty of 10 pushups. This penalty will apply to missing stands and unwanted voices or noise as well!

Something new in the folders this year is rhythm sheets! Every week, we will be assigning new rhythm exercises that are expected to be learned and ready to perform by the next rehearsal. Last, but certainly not least, students will be performing solos this year! This will happen during rehearsal time, once in the fall and once in the spring. If students need help outside of rehearsal to prepare for this please let Michelle or April know!



### The Extras

There is a snack sign up available during rehearsals for Intermezzo - Concertino students. If you are interested in bringing snacks for the group, please let

Michelle know. You are responsible for remembering to bring snacks on the designated day you signed up for!

# Giving back to EPSA

Running an organization such as EPSA can be expensive! Help us out by giving back to the group! Below, are fun and easy ways to help us make the organization possible and keep it up and running! Our goal is to reach \$15,000 this year!

## Give to the Max Day - November 16

This one is simple! Here's how it works. Go to the website <http://givemn.razoo.com/p/gtmd> and search for Eden Prairie String Academy or you can go to the page directly at <http://givemn.razoo.com/story/Eden-Prairie-String-Academy>. Choose the amount you would like to donate to the group. You can even choose to donate anonymously! Once you have donated, GiveMN will send you a tax receipt. Easy!



## Shop with Scrip



Shop with Scrip is a great program that gives back to the group while you do your daily shopping. Here's how it works. You log onto [www.ShopWithScrip.com](http://www.ShopWithScrip.com) and sign up for a new account. At the end of the registration it will ask you to enter in EPSA's enrollment code A6CLCCC728373. Your friends and family may also sign up and use this code to support the group. Once you have successfully created your account you are ready to shop! Add the gift cards into your cart that you wish to buy. All gift cards will also have the contribution percentage listed. Do your final check out and the contributions will be distributed to EPSA! Simple!

## Poinsettia Sales



Believe it or not, the holidays are coming up faster than we think! Just as always, we will be selling Poinsettia plants of all different varieties. We hope to hand out the order sheets to the students in the upcoming weeks. Delivery will be some time in late November, early December. There will be more information on what colors and sizes will be available when we hand out the order sheets.

## April Wickland



Hello! I hope you have enjoyed our first issue of many newsletters to come! I am the editor of the newsletters and the assistant director of Eden Prairie String Academy. I started playing violin with Michelle back in 1996. Since then, I have had the opportunity to travel the US with EPSA and other musical groups. I have also had the opportunity to travel internationally with EPSA to places like London and Austria.

### Newsletter Ideas?

Please let us know if you have any newsletter ideas and/or comments! Feedback or suggestions can be emailed to [april.wickland@gmail.com](mailto:april.wickland@gmail.com)

### Fall Festival Dates

The Fall Festival Concert is just around the corner! Don't forget these important dates as they are mandatory for all students! Monday, November 14 will be the dress rehearsal. Time and duration will be determined. The Concert is the following Sunday, November 20. Concert starts at 4PM. Call times for students will be announced closer to the concert date.

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## About EPSA

### Our Mission Statement



The Eden Prairie String Academy is a non-profit organization that provides quality string education for students to explore and expand their orchestral experience through lessons and ensemble opportunities.

### EPSA Orchestras Provides:

- Beginning lessons and ensembles for students with no prior experience on violin, viola, cello, and bass
  - Challenging literature for the experienced string student
  - A nurturing atmosphere for each student to explore their individual creative talents
  - A fun time with other students with the same level of experience to develop friendships along with the listening skills and discipline for music making
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