

Alternative Styles Syllabus rev. 2014:
String Orchestra, Ensembles and solo instruments

ALTERNATIVE STYLES STRING ORCHESTRA

Improvisation Level: Please note that the improvisation levels refer to the skills needed to perform an improvised solo within the piece. The scale(s) required for a particular improvisation level correspond with the grade headings.

Level 1: One scale works on all chords.

Level 2: Two closely related scales are needed. Chord tracking is easy.

Level 3: Three scales are needed. Chord tracking is of medium difficulty.

Level 4: Chord blocks such ii-V-I appear in various keys.

Level 5: Knowledge of individual chord scale relationships necessary.

STRING ORCHESTRA GRADE 1

Beeman, John Irish Fiddles Grand Mesa Music
The traditional Irish melody "Dennis Murphy" is used as the basis for this rollicking "Irish Fiddle" tune that features melodies for all instruments. Other techniques explored in this very playable arrangement include slides and guitar-style pizzicato. This is a great introduction to Irish Fiddling.

Bernofsky, Lauren Salamander Samba Grand Mesa Music
This piece is intended to help students at the very beginning levels make "real" music, using only open strings and pizzicato. The piano part is essential.

Bobrowitz, David Caribbean Cruise Grand Mesa Music
Latin percussion required. All of the sections have easy but fun syncopated melodies, with the addition of singing countermelodies as the piece progresses.

Dabczynski, Andrew &
Bob Phillips [arr] Basic Fiddlers Philharmonic Celtic Fiddle Tunes Alfred
Simplified Celtic fiddle tunes arranged for strings in any combination from solo through string orchestra. Various lines and symbol systems accommodate beginners and intermediate players. Improvisation opportunities, especially in back-up parts. Collection of 11 tunes.

Frueh, George T. Salsa Fest Kendor Music, Inc.
This spicy Latin-style piece is written for young orchestras. Written in D Major, it has several driving melodies and incorporates simple, but fun-to-play rhythms. Pizzicato and arco sections appear in all parts, with half-note rests between each transition.

Frueh, George T. Tumbleweed Blues Kendor Music, Inc.
This is a western style blues original in D Major lets young orchestras experience playing swing style. It features easy but effective rhythmic patterns and offers the perfect opportunity to share the history of the blues. The bass section has a bluesy walking bass line.

Gabriel, Edgar Fiddle Twinkle Edgar Gabriel Inc.
Fiddle variations of "Twinkle Twinkle Little Star" in the key of D. This string quartet or ensemble piece is designed for students at the beginner level to play a piece they know with students at higher levels in a fiddle style. Includes a Violin 3 part to substitute for viola.

Halferty, Frank J. Li'l Liza Jane (Traditional) Kendor Music, Inc.
This is a traditional melody with added easy fiddle-style touches, pizzicato, open string ostinatos and some fun bass lines. It is written in cut time in G Major.

Law, J. Cameron, arr. La Cucharacha Grand Mesa Music
La Cucaracha (the Cockroach) is a traditional and probably very old Mexican Folk Song. Easy arrangement for String Orchestra.

Law, J. Cameron, arr. Mexican Hat Dance Grand Mesa **Music**
The music for Mexican Hat Dance (Jarabae Tapatio) was written by Jesús González Rubio in the 1800's. The Mexican Hat Dance is a favorite of Mariachi bands and is considered the national folk dance of Mexico.

Monday, Deborah Baker African Blessing Kendor Music, Inc.
This arrangement of Bwana Awabariki gives young string players the chance to explore African culture. A simple rhythmic idea supports the melody, and is passed through the sections as the tune is shared through the orchestra. The final cello/bass statement lifts the key from G to D Major.

Monday, Deborah Baker Song of Peace (**Lo Yisa Goy**) Kendor Music, Inc.
This is an arrangement of the traditional Hebrew song, Lo Yisa Goy. The E minor melody is played by all instruments with colorful accompaniments throughout. Opening slowly and expressively, the tempo increases with each repetition of the theme leading up to a final accelerando.

Norgaard, Martin Jazz Fiddle/Viola/Cello Wizard Junior Mel Bay
Jazz improvisation method with three tunes included. Improvisation at Grade level 1-2. Books for Violin, Viola & Cello

Phillips, Bob Dia De Alegria Highland/Etling
While evoking a Latin feeling, this piece crosses all boundaries with the high-energy boundless joy found in all sections. In the key of G Major, all in first position, D.

Sharp, Thom Fiddle Fiddle Hoedown Ludwig Masters Publ.
This selection in D Major focuses on repeated 16th note patterns at a quick tempo in mostly unison playing. All four parts use all four strings, predominantly open strings and first fingers. It includes string crossings, legato and staccato bow strokes, and a wide variety of dynamics.

Vargas , Jorge, arr. Cielito Lindo Grand Mesa Music.
In the key of D a very easy arrangement of the Mexican favorite for beginning orchestra.

STRING ORCHESTRA GRADE 1.5

Gruneisen , Lorie Turkey Season
Kendor Music, Inc.
Based on the traditional fiddle tune Turkey In The Straw, written in D Major. Frequent passages of tuneful harmonies alternating with unison parts make it very accessible for beginning groups

Norgaard, Martin Calypso FJH
Caribbean inspired piece with optional solo section, improvisation at Grade Level 1. Sheets are provided for all instruments to help teach basic elements of improvisation, along with an included sample solo. Optional drum set.

Sharp, Thom Bees Are Boppin' Sharp Mountain Music
Light, easy-to-play, selection inspired by "bebop" styles. Uses short swing-eighth note patterns over a walking bass line. No improvisation.

Sharp, Thom Twinkle Toes Sharp Mountain Music
Different take on a familiar tune; "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star." Nice bass soli section. No improvisation.

Turner, Matt Cruisin' Carl Fischer

Very accessible D Major groove/ jazz, with section for improvised soloing. Soloists are urged to utilize the D Dorian and/ or the D Blues scales in the solo section. Improvisation level 1

STRING ORCHESTRA GRADE 2

Bratt, Renata, arr. Amazing Grace and Simple Gifts: Folk Hymns for String Orchestra String Letter Publishing
Two arrangements in one folder. The textured yet simple arrangement of "Amazing Grace" features four variations with each instrument group getting a chance to shine. "Simple Gifts" has some challenging sections for young readers, with the Israeli hymn to peace, Shalom Chaverim, featured as a round in the middle.

Bratt, Renata Holiday Songs for Beginning String Orchestra: Winter Fest and Nuts, Crackers, Sweet String Letter Publishing
Two arrangements in one folder. "Winter Fest" is a fantasia of tunes from Vivaldi's "Winter" concerto, from The Four Seasons, spiced up by a liberal dusting of idiomatic rock phrases. "Nuts, Crackers, Sweet" features three tunes from Tchaikovsky's ballet The Nutcracker—the Overture, the March, and the "Russian Dance"—paired with the traditional American fiddle tunes "Cripple Creek" and "Cluck Old Hen."

Bratt, Renata arr. Scottish Tunes for Beginning String Orchestra: Lamentation for James Moray of Abercarney and
Tonight My Sleep Will Be Restless String Letter Publishing
Two arrangements in one folder. Traditional Scottish airs, these two slow tunes in the key of G are somber, yet neither is in a minor key. Arranged for advanced beginning or intermediate string orchestra, legato bowing and dynamic range are emphasized, with some syncopation required.

Bratt, Renata Tangerine Blue and Strawberry Ice: Blues Rock Originals for Beginning String Orchestra String Letter Publishing
Two arrangements in one folder. "Tangerine Blue" is an ideal introduction to the pentatonic scales and syncopated rhythms of the blues. Then rock out with the 16-bar minor blues tune "Strawberry Ice," featuring the driving rhythms and syncopation found in rock classics from the '50s and '60s.

Carlson, Andrew, arr. American Folk Songs for String Orchestra: Red-Haired Boy and Deer in the Headlights String Letter Publishing
Two arrangements in one folder. "Red-Haired Boy" is a traditional Irish reel that has become a standard tune in the American old-time and bluegrass musicians' repertoire. This arrangement combines non-traditional phrase structures and an extended introduction as well as syncopated accompaniment patterns and variations on the basic melody. "Deer in the Headlights," based on the traditional American fiddle tune "Forked Deer," is a "hoe-down" contrasted with a funky ostinato melody, featuring prominent pauses—the deer caught in the headlights.

Dabczynski, Andrew &
Bob Phillips [arr] Basic Fiddlers Philharmonic Celtic Fiddle Tunes Alfred
Simplified Celtic fiddle tunes arranged for strings in any combination from solo through string orchestra. Various lines and symbol systems accommodate beginners and intermediate players. Improvisation opportunities, especially in back-up parts. Collection of 11 tunes.

Dabczynski, Andrew &
Bob Phillips arr. Fiddlers Philharmonic Basic Old-time Alfred
Simplified Old-time fiddle tunes arranged for strings in any combination from solo through string orchestra. Various lines and symbol systems accommodate beginners and intermediate players. Improvisation opportunities, especially in back-up parts. Collection of 16 tunes. Books for Violin, Viola & Cello/Bass, teacher's manual/score.

Dabczynski, Andrew &
Bob Phillips [arr.] Fiddlers Philharmonic "Encore" Alfred
An extended variety of fiddle tunes arranged for strings in any combination from solo through string orchestra. Various lines accommodate early/intermediate through advanced players. Stylistic guidance and improvisation opportunities provided. Collection of 16 tunes. Books for Violin, Viola & Cello/Bass, teacher's manual/score.

- .Dabczynski, Andrew H. [arr] Old Molly Hare Alfred
Authentic old-time fiddle techniques Optional improvisation sections, or written-out solos.
- Dabczynski, Andrew H. [arr] Shamrock Polkas Alfred
Medley of three traditional Irish polka tunes. Authentic Irish fiddle figures and techniques Optional improvisation sections, or written-out solos.
- Frackenpohl, Steve Celtic Force Kendor Music, Inc.
This driving medley contains four hard-hitting Irish fiddle tunes arranged in a Celtic rock style.
- Hébert, Donna Great Groove Band Vol 1 Donna Hébert pub.
9 tunes from Celtic and American sources with easy and fully styled settings, chord charts. Scored for violin, viola, cello, flute, clarinet with accompanying CD. No improvisation required
- Jeffes, Simon [arr Dabczynski] Music for a Found Harmonium Alfred
Contemporary "minimalist folk music," rhythmic complexity, arranged with written-out variations for all instruments. No improvisation
- Longford, Robert / Ellington, Duke C-Jam Blues Hal Leonard
Using only a few notes, Duke Ellington managed to create a jazz standard that is instantly recognizable. With the blues form and easy melody, this is a great chance to introduce your young players to the world of jazz and improvisation. Piano and Percussion parts included Improvisation Level 1-2.
- McBrien, Brendan, arr. Snow (Yuki - Japanese Folk Song) Kjos Music Co.
This delicate and colorful arrangement of a timeless folk tune introduces students to the subtle beauty of traditional Japanese music. This arrangement is in G Major and has a sweet and playful melody and a range of timbre-altering techniques, including pizzicato and tremolo.
- Nieto, John & Phillips, Bob Mariachi Philharmonic Alfred
Authentic orchestral settings of familiar, traditional tunes for string orchestra alone, mariachi band alone, or string orchestra and mariachi band together. Trumpet and accompaniment books are available to provide optional parts for trumpet, guitar, guitarrón, vihuela, piano, and harp. Historical background and arrangement ideas are provided in the Teacher's Manual.
- Norgaard, Martin Swing There, Done That FJH
Jazz swing piece with improvisation at Grade level 1. Improvisation not required. Score/Parts.
- Sabien, Randy Puerto De Libertad (Port of Liberty) Alfred
Latin jazz style with easy syncopation. All string parts in first position. Written out solos, no chord changes. Optional percussion.
- Sabien, Randy & Bob Phillips Jazz Philharmonic Alfred
Jazz tunes arranged for string orchestra. Improvisation at Grade level 1. Various lines accommodate beginner and intermediate players. Collection of 12 tunes. Books for Violin, Viola & Cello/Bass.
- Sabien, Randy & Phillips, Bob Jazz Philharmonic, 2nd Set Alfred
A pedagogically sequenced collection of original jazz melodies, great for beginning players or more experienced players looking to learn jazz. Each song includes a melody line, an accompaniment line, and a more advanced solo part. Not only do these different lines give developing students a good way to slowly learn a piece, they also make using this collection with small ensembles very easy. Players can take turns with the solo part and playing backup on the melody or accompaniment. An accompaniment CD is available separately.
- Sabien, Randy Washburn County Alfred
Optional improvisation sections, or written-out solos.

Seaborn, Cristina [arr] Scandinavian Fiddle Suite Alfred
Three tunes in authentic Scandinavian folk dance traditions of walking tunes and polkas. Written-out variations. No improvisation

Seaborn, Cristina [arr] How Swede It Is Suite Cristina Seaborn Publishing
Five traditional Swedish folktunes arranged for string orchestra with harp. Each mvt sold separately. No improvisation.

Sharp, Thom Salsa Verde Sharp Mountain Music
Light Latin jazz that features a syncopated melody. Uses lots of spiccato bowing. No improvisation.

Sieving, Robert, arr. Hold On (African American Spiritual) Kjos Music Co.
This classic African-American spiritual introduces students to the limitless expressive power of the blues. With swing rhythms (including walking bass), a lyrical tune, and a mood that is at once pensive and joyful.

Thomasson, Benny / arr. Bratt Midnight on the Water Highland String Alternatives
Easy and accessible, this Texas fiddle waltz features beautiful Americana harmonies. In D Major, all instruments stay in first position. Every section has a turn playing the tune as well as the accompaniment.

Ungar, Jay [arr Dabczynski] Lover's Waltz, The Alfred
Contemporary fiddle waltz, arranged with written-out variations for all instruments, optional harp. No improvisation

Wang, Albert, arr. The Brilliant Red Shandandan Flowers Ludwig Masters Publ.
Rich harmonies transport the listener to the hillsides of Shanxi Province, home to the bright red blossoms. The song is widely popular in China and can be sung by nearly every adult in the country.

Wang, Albert, arr. Korean Melody (Doraji) Ludwig Masters Publ.
Suitable for second year players, this lovely pentatonic melody is harmonized in fourths, fifths, and sixths. A few dotted rhythms may require attention, but the focus will be on beautiful tone and developing vibrato.

Wang, Albert, arr. Lijiang River Landscape
Ludwig Masters Publ.
An excellent vehicle for teaching phrasing, this Chinese folk song is adapted to the string orchestra.

Weirich, David Diamond Joe's Riviera Club Grand Mesa Music
Introduces young orchestra students to the swing style! This original work depicts a Chicago gangster's private night club in small-town Indiana. Its irresistible melody, shout chorus, and finger-snapping fun thoroughly engage players and audiences alike. Includes a part for drum set.

Wood, Mark Wood's Bolero Ludwig Masters Publ.
The fun Spanish rock feel, evoking flamenco dancing and even the excitement of a bull fighting arena, comes from the urgent rhythms and modal harmonies common to boleros of all types. The rock aspects can be emphasized with the use of the optional rhythm section consisting of piano, guitar, bass, and drums.

STRING ORCHESTRA GRADE 2.5

Bobrowitz, David Meadowlands (Russian Folk Song) Ludwig Masters Publ.
This quintessential Russian folksong brings the steppes and plains of the world's biggest country into your concert hall. The dark, forceful tune conjures images of forests, peasant villages and Siberian tigers.

Bratt, Renata Summer Choro Highland String Alternatives
Featuring syncopated Brazilian rhythms written in the typical Rondo ABACA form, this original choro (a Brazilian style predating the Bossa Nova) lets every section play both melody and accompaniment. Carefully placed accents and bowings show students how to play their lines in a convincing Latin style.

Lieberman, Julie Lyonn Bollywood (Junior edition) Kendor Music, Inc.
Driving grooves and asymmetrical melodic patterns break and turn to spin a festive, celebratory dance in Indian style. Free online video tutorials and authentic Indian percussion tracks. The Junior (grade 2+) and Senior (grade 4) editions of this piece interlock. The interlocking score can be downloaded for free at kendormusic.com. Both editions include an optional electric violin (or acoustic violin) solo part.

Rowe, Howard Shufflin' the Strings Alfred
In G major, this piece is in the Blues form and includes walking bass line, and improvised solo sections with written solo examples. There is a piano part included, but no written drum part. Improvisation Level 2

Velázquez/Silver Bésame Mucho and Song for My Father: Latin-Jazz Songs for String Quintet String Letter Publishing
arr. Bratt
Two different arrangements in one folder of these famous Latin Jazz tunes. Bésame Mucho is arranged in florid Cuban style. Song for My Father features written out jazz solos which can be improvised. Tune and accompaniment arranged equally and idiomatically throughout the sections. Though it is arranged for string quintet, these parts can be legally copied and are fine for string orchestra. Includes full score and 5 parts. Improvisation level 2

STRING ORCHESTRA GRADE 3

Allen, Ted Fire in the Forge Grand Mesa Music
Marked "Heavy Speed Metal", this piece will make your string orchestra feel like the hippest group around! San Francisco Bay Area string instructor Allen has here created an intense cello and bass driven rocker that makes the "string metal" genre accessible to younger players in this exciting, edgy work. Launched by the Finnish cello quartet "Apocalyptica" in 1993, and taken up by American groups such as "Judgment Day", "string metal" adapts heavy metal guitar stylings.

Anger, Darol [arr Phillips] Creaking Tree Alfred
Original fiddle in a bluesy setting, strong rhythms. Optional improvisation sections, or written-out solos. Optional harp or piano parts are also included.

Anger, Darol arr., by Hefti, Neal Li'l Darlin Highland/Etling
Very nice string arrangement of the big band classic that holds to the original Neal Hefti wrote for the Count Basie Big Band. Improvisation Level 2

Aucoin, Tim Tchefuncte Shuffle Highland/Etling
Feel the relaxed energy of a hot afternoon while the gators bask on the banks of the Tchefuncte River in Louisiana! This swingin' feel-good jazz shuffle features a catchy melody over a Blues in G with a middle section reminiscent of Count Basie taking it home. Written out solos for violin, viola and cello are included with backgrounds for all sections. Improvisation level 2

Bishop, Jeffrey Orange Jam Kjos
Heavy groove-oriented rock piece, no improvisation section.

Bratt, Renata, Arr Appalachian Tunes for Intermediate String Orchestra: Consternation/Devil in the Strawstack and Dusty River String Letter Publishing
Two arrangements in one folder. Traditional American tunes arranged for string orchestra. "Consternation/Devil in the Strawstack" combines a traditional melody with a new jazzy counter melody—giving an old fiddle tune a "new grass" flavor. "Dusty River" combines two classic Appalachian tunes—"Dry and Dusty" and "Duck River"—into an engaging piece packed with challenging string crossings.

Bratt, Renata Outbound Express Highland String Alternatives
Fun forties style swing tune with jazz riffs and syncopations. Each section provides rhythmic groove with written out solos. Students can improvise on their own too with chord changes in the key of C provided. Improvisation level 2.

Bratt, Renata You Didn't Ask Me Highland String Alternatives
Old school '60s soul sound with an infectious, danceable rhythm. Written in 12/8, the tune begins with a ballad-like introduction for solo cello and then moves around the sections. Each instrument has a chance to improvise or solo in the written-out solo section. Authentic sounding riffs, complete with grace notes and a shout chorus, add to the interest of compound meter rock. Improvisation level 2

Brobrowitz, David, arr. Hava Nagila Grand Mesa Music
This authentic and energetic arrangement of the Hebrew Folk Song uses a solo quintet and percussion instruments to expand the palette of the traditional string orchestra. Percussion instruments used include bells, timpani (3), tambourine, and suspended cymbal

Caputo, Bud The Sum of All Love Caputo Music
Swing jazz original for string orchestra and optional rhythm section. Improvisation level 4

Carlson, Andrew, arr. Soldier's Joy and Whiskey Before Breakfast: American Folk Songs for String Quintet String Letter Publishing
Two arrangements in one folder. Soldier's Joy is a traditional American fiddle tune arranged with the tune in all instruments. Whiskey Before Breakfast, an American fiddle tune with Canadian roots, offers an accompaniment that takes on a traditional American "boom-chuck" bowing pattern. Though it is arranged for string quintet, these parts can be legally copied and are fine for string orchestra. Includes full score and 5 parts.

Carlson, Andrew, arr. American Folk Songs for Intermediate String Orchestra String Letter Publishing
Two Traditional Fiddle tunes in one folder, "Sally Goodin" draws from old-time, Texas-style, and bluegrass influences with chopping and chord-comping techniques in the accompaniment. "Wayfaring Stranger" is a traditional American spiritual with Monroe influence as well as a subtle jazz flavor inspired by guitarist Tony Rice. Includes full score and parts.

Coldplay Robert Longfield, arr. Clocks Hal Leonard
Coldplay's mega-hit has great appeal to student players with its infectious riffs and energetic drive. This arrangement captures the groove perfectly for string ensembles who want to learn and perform contemporary airplay songs. Optional drumset part included. Also available for String Quartet.

Dabczynski, Andrew & Phillips, Bob Fiddlers Philharmonic Alfred
A stylistic diverse variety of fiddle tunes arranged for strings in any combination from solo through string orchestra. Various lines accommodate early/intermediate through advanced players. Stylistic guidance and improvisation opportunities provided. Collection of 16 tunes. Books for Violin, Viola & Cello/Bass, teacher's manual/score.

Dabczynski, Andrew & Phillips, Bob Fiddlers Philharmonic "Encore" Alfred
An extended variety of fiddle tunes arranged for strings in any combination from solo through string orchestra. Various lines accommodate early/intermediate through advanced players. Stylistic guidance and improvisation opportunities provided. Collection of 16 tunes. Books for Violin, Viola & Cello/Bass, teacher's manual/score.

Darling, Leanne [arr] Isma'a Alfred
Medley of Traditional Arabic songs and dance tunes in a Middle-Eastern style. Includes mixed meter, authentic rhythms, scales, and articulation.

Day, Susan Electric Violin Blues Grand Mesa Music
This work features an electric violin soloist on this bluesy/jazzy composition. This work may be performed any of three ways: orchestra with solo electric violin, orchestra with advanced violins playing the solo part soli, or orchestra without electric/advanced part. All parts remain in first positing, except electric/advanced part.

Fiddle style Festival piece for string orchestra. Medley of the tunes Mama Don't 'Low, The Water is Wide, Two in the Middle. Includes Grade 1 festival parts. No improvisation.

Hopkins, Michael arr. Cripple Creek Grand Mesa Music
Set in the key of D major, this arrangement of a well-known fiddle tune gives every section of the orchestra the melody. The piece lies very well under the fingers and requires no shifting except in the double bass. It is an excellent work for developing flexibility in the bow, for working on double stops, for playing chromatic slides, and for playing in an American folk fiddling style.

Hubbard, Freddie [arr Ligon] Little Sunflower Latham Music
This soft-spoken jazz piece composed by the fiery jazz trumpet player, Freddie Hubbard, is arranged for string orchestra with optional fully notated piano, bass, drums, and guitar parts. There are three improvisation sections with chord changes and suggested solos. The improvisation sections are 4-8 measure phrases of one scale (improvisation level 1-2). This is a great piece for beginning improvisers and a great change of pace for advanced players.

Jobim, Antonio Carlos & Mendonca, Newton [arr Ligon] Desafinado Kendor
A classic Antonio Carlos Jobim Bossa Nova style tune arranged for string orchestra with optional fully notated piano, bass, drums, guitar parts. There is a section for improvisation with chord changes and suggested solos for all string instruments. Improvisation level 4.

Lennon & McCartney Day Tripper Hal Leonard
Moore, Larry arr.
Very good arrangement of the Beatles classic. Piano, Electric Bass, Drums and Percussion optional. Level 3-4

Lennon & McCartney Eleanor Rigby Hal Leonard
Moore, Larry arr.
Rhythmic drive and modal harmonies are just a part of the intrigue of this Beatles classic, known for its revolutionary inclusion of a string quartet with a pop-rock song. A solid arrangement that features the unique blend of the classical and pop-rock style that is Eleanor Rigby's continuing legacy. Also available for String Quartet.

Lieberman, Julie Lyonn [arr] Lebedike Honga (A Lively Honga) Alfred
Klezmer tune includes traditional Klezmer rhythms, melodies, and blues-like non-diatonic scales. No improvisation.

Lieberman, Julie Lyonn Midnight's Celtic Run Alfred
Original composition in 4/4 with 12/8 feel, D mixolydian scale in the Celtic style. . Optional improvisation sections, or written-out solos.

Lieberman, Julie Lyonn Rockin' It! Alfred
Playable by all acoustic, all electric, or a mixture of string players. High-energy rock 'n roll. Special effects can be improvised.

Lieberman, Julie Lyonn TechnoStrings Kendor Music, Inc.
Drawing from African, Cuban and Indonesian musical influences, this modern original features mesmerizing world-beat grooves. The piece is based on the C mixolydian scale, with an opportunity for soloing. It can be performed with a fun backup track or with student-created acoustic or digital loops. Improvisation Level 1

Lieberman, Julie L, arr. Twin Sisters Highland/Etling
This memorable melody has Celtic tinges, combined with an old-time feel, and a sprig of syncopation from the South's blues fiddle style. Based on the G dorian minor scale, your students will have a chance to create their own solos or play the easy written solos for all four instruments. A very easy and playable tune with spots of more challenging rhythms.

Ligon, Bert Bossa Azul Highland/Etling
Bossa a Azul sounds like sitting in the tropical shade with a cool Caribbean breeze. Melodic material appears in all parts and is designed for fun and successful performances. An improvisation section is included where soloists can improvise using D or G major scales, or play from the provided suggested solos. Fully notated piano, bass and drums are included. This title is available through SmartMusic. Improvisation Level 2

- Ligon, Bert Bossa Verde Alfred
Medium tempo Bossa Nova style based on "Autumn Leaves" harmony, for string orchestra and optional rhythm section. Improvisation section with chord changes and suggested solos for all string instruments. Improvisation level 1 (G major/E minor) is great for beginners as well as advanced improvisers.
- Lipton, Bob arr. by W.C. Handy Beale St. Blues Grand Mesa Music
This arrangement uses an optional drum set part to help create a groove that will transport students to the legendary street in downtown Memphis, Tennessee. It works at a number of tempos.
- Lipton, Bob Kalimba-African Thumb Piano Grand Mesa Music
The kalimba or African thumb piano derives its sound from metal keys being plucked by the player's thumbs on a wooden resonator. Kalimba-like sounds in this all-pizzicato original composition. Graceful melodies and captivating poly-rhythms.
- Lipton, Bob Te Quiero Tanto Grand Mesa Music
(trans. "I Love You So Much") This gentle and beautiful Danza from the Cuban master combines the rhythms of Latin American popular music with the harmonies of European Romanticism.
- Livgren, Kerry Dust in the Wind Hal Leonard
 Moore, Larry arr.
This is a beautiful arrangement of the classic Kansas ballad. It features an acoustic guitar soloist and can be performed with or without guitar.
- Marshall, Dean & Phillips, Bob Cookin' Cabbages Alfred
Based on "Bile Them Cabbage Down." Contains foundational elements of fiddling scored for each section. No improvisation.
- Marshall, Dean & Phillips, Bob [arr] MacPherson's Lament Alfred
Traditional Scottish air with authentic ornamentation, written-out variations for all instruments. No improvisation
- Mitchell, Darren Pizzicato Blues Grand Mesa Music
This lively piece is based on the C blues scale, and is played pizzicato in its entirety. In his first published string work, the composer brings his experience creating video game music to create a rhythmically compelling, very original-sounding string orchestra work.
- Monroe, Bill [arr. Phillips] Bluegrass Fiddle Frenzy Highland/ Etling
A rare arrangement of two A Major Bluegrass standard Bill Monroe fiddle tunes, "Scotland" and "Big Mon." Each fiddle tune features characteristic bluegrass stylings.
- Larry Moore Lady Gaga Fugue Hal Leonard
A convincingly traditional Baroque fugue based on the opening strains of Lady Gaga's hit "Bad Romance." An important musical form with counterpoint is presented in this beautifully entertaining new piece.
- Morrison, Van [arr. Hopkins] Moondance Belwin
This rock standard in A minor establishes the famous Van Morrison groove which incorporates a fair amount of swing. There are no solos or improvisation included, but the classic vocals can be added, and improvised solos can be played over the written parts. Rhythm section parts included.
- Nieto, John & Phillips, Bob [arr] Mariachi Philharmonic Alfred
Authentic orchestral settings of familiar, traditional Mariachi tunes for string orchestra alone, mariachi band alone, or string orchestra and mariachi band together. Optional trumpet book and accompaniment books for guitar, guitarrón, vihuela, piano, and harp.

Nestico, Sammy Queen Bee Kendor Music, Inc.
A favorite from the Count Basie library, arranged for strings. Fully notated rhythm section parts are included, along with stylistically written solos for each individual instrument to use as you prefer.

Norgaard, Martin Molecules and Stars Highland/ Etling
This Latin jazz piece includes challenging and artistic harmonies. There are two solo sections, one focused in B minor (which could include improvising with the B pentatonic scale), and one at the end in E-natural minor.

Norgaard, Martin Jazz Fiddle/Viola/Cello/Bass Wizard Junior book 2 Mel Bay
Jazz improvisation method with four tunes included. Improvisation at level 1-2. Books for Violin, Viola & Cello/Bass.

Norgaard, Martin Stringin' The Blues FJH
Jazz swing piece with improvisation at level 2. Improvisation not required. Score/Parts.

Norgaard, Martin Swing on a String FJH
Jazz swing piece with improvisation at level 1. Improvisation not required. Score/Parts.

O'Carolan, Turlough Jig! Three Melodies by Turlough O'Carolan [Arr Gacksatter] C. Alan Publications
Arrangement of Irish classic tunes, two reels and a jig, by O'Carolan. For string orchestra, includes col legno. No improvisation.

Ostroushko, Peter Dakota Fiddle Hymn and Dance Alfred
Original composition evoking old-time fiddling. Scored fiddling techniques for all instruments. No improvisation.

Ostroushko, Peter Red Lodge Reel [arr Phillips] Alfred
Original old-time style fiddle tune, written-out solos. No improvisation.

Plohman, Crystal &
Phillips, Bob [arr] Tam Lyn Alfred
Classic Irish fiddle tune with authentic fiddling techniques scored for all instruments. No improvisation. D/A Minor.

Louis Prima, Marshall & Phillips arr. Sing, Sing, Sing Alfred
This has been a showstopper from the Benny Goodman Big Band in the past to jazz bands of today. This has long been one of the most popular tunes in the Barrage show. Adapted for string orchestra, this arrangement retains the feel of the show. Percussion required. Improvisation solos. Tricky swing rhythms.

Rideout, Bonnie Johnny, the Piper [arr Phillips] Alfred
Translation of Scottish fiddling traditions to orchestral setting. Includes authentic burls and ornaments in a pipe march, strathspey, and a reel.

Rideout, Bonnie [arr Phillips] Scottish Mist Alfred
Medley of traditional and original Scottish tunes with authentic ornamentation, and other scored fiddling techniques for all instruments. No improvisation.

Sabien, Randy Fourth Dimension Highland/Etling
Based on a twelve-bar blues progression with a twist, each section takes a solo. Solos are written out or may be improvised. Encourage the players to use special effects, as in another dimension. Improvisation Level 2

Sabien, Randy Sunday Song Highland/ Etling
This jazz ballad is a version of a duet that Randy Sabien did with jazz violinist Johnny Frigo on his album In a Fog. The use of beautiful tone is emphasized, and there are two solo sections where improvising is suggested (sample solos included). Rhythm section parts included. Improvisation Level 2

Strayhorn, Billy & Ellington, Duke [arr Ligon] Take the “A” Train Kendor
Billy Strayhorn composed this Duke Ellington Band theme song. Here it is arranged for string orchestra with optional fully notated piano, bass, drums, and guitar parts. Improvisation section with chord changes and suggested solos for all string instruments. Improvisation level 2 (C major, F major).

Wood, Mark Come Fly With Me Ludwig Masters Publ.
This work, with optional standard rock rhythm section, combines classical and American rock styles. There is an improvisation section for 20 measures that could feature members of any instrument section soloing using the D Major pentatonic scale.

Wood, Mark & Joseph Baldassare Wood’s Bolero Ludwig Masters Publ.
The fun Spanish rock feel, evoking flamenco dancing and even the excitement of a bull fighting arena, comes from the urgent rhythms and modal harmonies common to boleros of all types. The rock aspects can be emphasized with the use of the optional rhythm section consisting of piano, guitar, bass, and drums. Includes written out solos.

Zawinul, Josef [arr Ligon] Mercy, Mercy, Mercy Latham Music
Josef Zawinul’s well-known tune is arranged for strings with optional fully notated piano, bass, and drum parts. A tranquil intro gives way to a funky cello part that sets the groove. The improvisation sections are inviting to beginners and advanced players. Suggested solos are provided for all. Improvisation level 1.5

STRING ORCHESTRA GRADE 3.5

Burns, Reynard Road Swing Reynard Burns Publishing
This is a singing jazz piece for strings. It can be played by either a string orchestra or string quartet. It lends itself to intermediate or advanced groups. It can be used to teach young players swing style. Includes solo section with chord changes as well as a suggested solo. Improvisation level 2.

Ellington, Duke [arr Niehaus] Cottontail Kendor
A solo section is included for any player or group of players using the provided written out solo, or by improvising over the provided chord changes. Improvised solo section is level 4.

Fisher, Fred [arr Caponegro] Chicago Kendor
Chicago, another popular jazz standard in the Jazz Classics For String Orchestra Series, can be performed with or without the solo section. Written out solos are provided for all instruments, or the soloist may choose to improvise using the provided chord changes. Improvised section is level 4. For added flexibility, the chart can be performed by strings alone, or with the optional rhythm section parts.

Ligon, Bert Cascade Belwin
A modern spin over the form of Gershwin’s “I Got Rhythm” in G Major with inspiration taken from the sounds of James Taylor, Darol Anger, and Matt Glaser. This piece features rhythm section parts, and composed solis in the violin/viola/ and cello sections, which could be turned into improvised solos.

Ligon, Bert San Diego Stroll Bert Ligon Music
Swing straight-ahead D blues for string ensemble/string orchestra and rhythm section. All string parts have important melodies and room for solos with backgrounds. Improvisation level 1 (D blues scale) but also fun for advanced improvisers.

Ligon, Bert Swing Break Highland/ Etling
Contrapuntal swing in E minor, with riffs that lay well under the fingers, and are bowed for proper swing sound execution. Improvisation section included with chord symbols and sample solos for all sections. Improvisation Level 2

Wood, Mark Bach to Rock Ludwig Masters Publ.
This work, with optional standard rock rhythm section, combines the practices of the 17th century and American rock styles. Rock aspects of the work are in the harmonies.

STRING ORCHESTRA GRADE 4

J.S. Bach [arr Seidenberg] Bach's Lunch Alfred
Swung version of Bach's Double Violin Concerto, as played by the Turtle Island String Quartet. Optional improvisation sections, or written-out solos.

Dabczynski, Andrew &
Phillips, Bob Fiddlers Philharmonic Alfred
A stylistic diverse variety of fiddle tunes arranged for strings in any combination from solo through string orchestra. Various lines accommodate early/intermediate through advanced players. Stylistic guidance and improvisation opportunities provided. Collection of 16 tunes. Books for Violin, Viola & Cello/Bass, teacher's manual/score.

Dixon, Akua Caribbean Sweets: Lemon Merengue & Caribe Jazzbows Music
These two pieces are medium/advanced level with a Latin feel. The improvisation sections are level 1. Chord changes are indicated in Lemon Merengue for Vln 1 and Vla, and in Caribe for Vln 1, Vla, and Vc.

Florido, Jesus & Belford Hernandez Mi Negra (My Dear) Alfred
Venezuelan dance tune in Latin groove. Very challenging 16th subdivision rhythms. Authentic rhythms and ornamentation, written-out variations for all instruments. Rhythm section and piano parts included. No improvisation. Can be augmented to include improvisation at level 1. Score/Parts.

Gabriel, Edgar Moderato Allegro Edgar Gabriel Inc.
An original rock string orchestra ensemble, "Moderato Allegro" can be played with improvisation or without. The piece starts with a slow Moderato rock section then transitions into the Allegro rock groove. This piece can be enhanced with drums. A drum set part is included. The first violin requires sixth position. Also available for string quartet. Improvisation Level 2

Handy, W.C. arr. Lewis **St. Louis Blues** Ludwig-Masters Publ.
Full orchestra version with jazz rhythm section and saxophones.. Many solo opportunities.

Lewis, Mike **Western Reflections American Sketches No. 2** Ludwig Masters Publ.
Full orchestra arrangement including a jazz rhythm section and a full complement of saxophones on traditional American folk songs. Red River Valley; Home on the Range and The Yellow Rose of Texas are presented in a fresh, contemporary rendition.

Lieberman, Julie Lyonn Bollywood (Senior edition) Kendor Music, Inc.
Driving grooves and asymmetrical melodic patterns break and turn to spin a festive, celebratory string dance in Indian style. This piece takes advantage of every possible medium to instruct and inspire your students by offering free online video tutorials and authentic Indian percussion tracks. The Junior (grade 2+) and Senior (grade 4) editions of this piece interlock to create a multi-level edition that's perfect for all-district concerts; an interlocking score can be downloaded for free at kendormusic.com. Both editions include an optional electric violin (or acoustic violin) solo part.

Lieberman, Julie Lyonn [arr] Folk Dance from Provence Alfred
Provencal melody, accessible to a wide range of levels. Layered scoring in 6/8, G minor-major.

Moore, Larry arr. Born This Way Hal Leonard
By Germanotta, Lausen, Blair & Garibay
*A great string arrangement of the Lady Gaga mega-hit from pop music's most notable entertainer. Drums and piano optional. **

Moore, Larry arr. Rolling In The Deep Hal Leonard
By Adkins, Adele & Epworth, Paul
A fine string arrangement of the Adele hit song. Drums and piano optional.

Moore, Larry arr. Come Together Hal Leonard
By Lennon & McCartney
Arranger Larry Moore has taken this iconic Beatles song and transformed it into something unique. With new harmonic twists over the slow funky groove, it's got a whole new sound that's great fun to play. Optional drum and piano part included. Also available for String Quartet.

Nieto, John & Phillips, Bob [arr] Mariachi Philharmonic Alfred
Authentic orchestral settings of familiar, traditional Marichi tunes for string orchestra alone, mariachi band alone, or string orchestra and mariachi band together. Optional trumpet book and accompaniment books for guitar, guitarrón, vihuela, piano, and harp.

O' Riordan, Dolores
(The Cranberries) [arr Reed] Zombie Mona Lisa Sound
Driving mid-tempo rock arrangement of this classic. Some syncopation, 16th notes in violins, challenging viola part. No improvisation section.

Phillips, Bob arr. Led Zeppelin Medley for String Orchestra Alfred
Led Zeppelin
A great classic rock medley including "Communication Breakdown," "Immigrant Song," "Stairway to Heaven," "Dazed and Confused" and "Rock and Roll." Electric Bass and drumset part included, however the arrangement can be performed without them because of the inner voicing rhythms.

Roberts, Sue Holiday in Rio Sharp Mountain Music
Bossa nova with lush harmonies, changing time signatures, quarter note triplets and syncopated rhythms. No improvisation section. Shaker optional.

Roberts, Sue A Walk in the Park Sharp Mountain Music
Jazz waltz in the style of Henry Mancini. No improvisation section.

Sabien, Randy J.D. Meets the Rhythm Section Alfred
Blues/swing jazz. Optional improvisation sections, or written-out solos. Percussion and piano parts included.

Sabien, Randy Levitation Alfred
Authentic Jazz swing/12-bar blues shuffle in C. Written-out vamp between orchestra sections. Optional improvisation sections, or written-out solos. Percussion and piano parts included.

Stewart, David &
Lenox, Annie (The Eurythmics)
[arr Reed] Sweet Dreams Are Made of This Mona Lisa Sound
Rock classic in an arrangement for string orchestra, keys of Eb/C minor and Ab/F minor. Challenging viola part, clean staccato string crossings in viola and cello part. No improvisation.

STRING ORCHESTRA GRADE 4.5

Anger, Darol Blues for Oaktown Shar
Swing F Blues for string orchestra, with optional Vln 3 part doubling Vla. Uses chops, bow slaps, syncopated rhythms, close harmony "shout chorus." Improvisation section with chord symbols in all parts, separate part with optional written solo for violin. Improvisation level 1-2 (F blues scale) or follow chord changes. Arrangement adapted from original Turtle Island String Quartet version.

Ligon, Bert Cabana Cubano Bert Ligon Music

Up tempo Samba for string ensemble/string orchestra and rhythm section (piano, bass, drums). Hot Latin piece with some challenging rhythms, well-written articulations, exciting for strings and rhythm section. Improvisation section with background lines, improvisation level 2 (Eb/Cminor).

Ligon, Bert La Calle Doce Bert Ligon Music
Uptempo Samba for string ensemble/string orchestra and rhythm section (piano, bass, drums). Hot Latin piece with some tricky rhythms, exciting ensemble sections, counterpoint, pizzicato, and plenty of room for solos. Improvisation level 2 (E minor) but level 5 for advanced improvisers.

Ligon, Bert Overnight Bert Ligon Music
Jazz Funk for string ensemble/string orchestra and rhythm section. 16th-note rhythms challenging but fun. Improvisation sections with background lines over single chord vamps: A minor, C7, or F7. Improvisation level 2-3.

Sharp, Thom Jazz Suite for Solo Violin and String Orchestra Sharp Mountain Music
Suite for solo violin and string orchestra with rhythm section, with three contrasting movements: I: medium tempo straight eighth and swing, II: slow jazz ballad, and III: fast bebop style. Optional written solo with chord changes for solo violin, improvisation level 5.

STRING ORCHESTRA GRADE 5

Balakrishnan, David Skyclife Shar
Hard rock piece over slow 16th-note groove for string orchestra, with optional Vln 3 part doubling Vla. Uses “chops,” bow slaps, ghosted bowings, syncopated 16th note rhythms. Improvisation sections with backgrounds and separate written solo parts. Improvisation level 1 (E blues scale) for cello and vln 2, but optional for other players. Arrangement adapted from the original Turtle Island String Quartet version.

Dabczynski, Andrew & Phillips, Bob [arr] Fiddlers Philharmonic “Encore” Alfred
An extended variety of fiddle tunes arranged for strings in any combination from solo through string orchestra. Various lines accommodate early/intermediate through advanced players. Stylistic guidance and improvisation opportunities provided. Collection of 16 tunes. Books for Violin, Viola & Cello/Bass, teacher’s manual/score.

Marshall, Dean [arr Phillips] Front Porch Jam Alfred
Bluegrass-style stage showpiece, emphasis on 1st violins. No improvisation.

Nieto, John & Phillips, Bob [arr] Mariachi Philharmonic Alfred
Authentic orchestral settings of familiar, traditional Marichi tunes for string orchestra alone, mariachi band alone, or string orchestra and mariachi band together. Optional trumpet book and accompaniment books for guitar, guitarrón, vihuela, piano, and harp.

ALTERNATIVE STYLES ENSEMBLE MUSIC

Improvisation Level: Please note that the improvisation levels refer to the skills needed to perform an improvised solo within the piece. The scale(s) required for a particular improvisation level correspond with the grade headings.

Level 1: One scale works on all chords.

Level 2: Two closely related scales are needed. Chord tracking is easy.

Level 3: Three scales are needed. Chord tracking is of medium difficulty.

Level 4: Chord blocks such ii-V-I appear in various keys.

Level 5: Knowledge of individual chord scale relationships necessary.

STRING TRIO GRADE 2

Cohen, Jeremy & Bruce, Dix Swing Jazz Violin with Hot-Club Rhythm String Letter Publishing
*With this book/CD pack, violinists can: practice soloing and improvising along with a recorded Hot-Club-style band • learn melodies and solos to 16 great jazz standards • build strength, stamina, focus, and improvising skills by jamming with the band. Includes two audio CDs with variable-speed practice tracks and full-band accompaniment.
String Quartet arrangements of “Some of These” Days and “St. Louis Blues” Level 2, Improvisation Level 2-3*

Walker, Scott [arr] Irish Tunes for Young @ Heart: S'got Possibilities
Violins, Violas or Cellos Bk 1
18 Irish tunes scored for any combination of violin, viola and cello. Each book has all three parts plus chords. Tunes with grade 1 third part.

STRING DUET GRADE 3

Childsplay Great Waltz (The) Music For String Ensemble Mel Bay
Book/CD set. Tune book from the Childsplay CD, "The Great Waltz." 15 waltzes transcribed to include both melody and harmony lines for violin, viola and cello, as well as chordal suggestions for guitar and piano.

Fraser, Alasdair and Haas, Natalie Transcriptions for the Scottish style CDs *Fire and Grace* and *In the Moment*
www.culburnie.com

Excellent examples of this style of Celtic and American rhythmic and chopping accompaniment with tunes. Available as twenty seven separate downloads, including score and violin and cello parts, or all transcriptions for each CD. Fire and Grace contains traditional tunes and In the Moment, newly composed.

Greenblatt, Deborah Barn Dance Fiddle Tunes for 2 Instruments Greenblatt and Seay
(violin, viola, cello, bass)
36 traditional tunes arranged into 22 medleys for two violas. Can be harmonized using companion books for violins or mandolins.

Greenblatt, Deborah [arr] Danish Fiddle Tunes for 2 Instruments Greenblatt and Seay
(violin, viola, cello, bass)
31 traditional Danish tunes, playable in any combination of two instruments, with chords for back-up instruments.

Greenblatt, Deborah [arr] Irish Fiddle Tunes for 2 Instruments Greenblatt and Seay
(violin, viola, cello, bass)
32 traditional Irish tunes, playable in any combination of two instruments, with chords for back-up instruments.

Greenblatt, Deborah [arr] Klezmer Fiddle Tunes for 2 Instruments Greenblatt and Seay
(violin, viola, cello, bass)
33 traditional Klezmer tunes, playable in any combination of two instruments, with chords for back-up instruments. Comes with program notes about each tune.

STRING TRIO GRADE 3

Cohen, Jeremy Swing –Jazz Classics Avalon & Dark Eyes String Letter Pub.
The Hot-Club rhythm popularized in the 1930s and '40s by Gypsy violinist Stéphanie Grappelli and guitarist Django Reinhardt has lit a fire under 1,000 swing-jazz bands worldwide. These two swing-jazz classics capture the flair of that popular music. "Avalon" ranges from a waltz to the sound of a carnival carousel. "Dark Eyes," an early hit for the fabled Hot Club of France, also starts as a waltz before giving way to chance for you to put a modern stamp on it. Both of these sophisticated swing-jazz charts are perfect for weddings and other casuals or even as concert encore pieces. Level 3

Duncan, Craig [arr] American Fiddle Tunes for Solo and Ensemble Mel Bay
16 traditional fiddling tunes arranged in a theme and variation format. Accommodates various combinations from solo instrument with piano to duets and trios to full string quartet/orchestra. Includes parts for viola melody (solo), and viola harmony. Can be played as solo books with piano accompaniment as ensemble.

Duncan, Craig [arr] Celtic Fiddle Tunes for Solo and Ensemble Mel Bay
14 arrangements of 22 traditional tunes from Ireland. Accommodates various combinations from solo instrument with piano to duets and trios to full string quartet/orchestra. Includes parts for viola melody (solo), and viola harmony. Can be played as solo books with piano accompaniment or ensemble.

STRING QUARTET GRADE 3

Gorfain, Eric arr. New Slang (by The Shins) and Yellow (by Coldplay)
By Coldplay and The Shins String Letter Publishing
(Pop Hits for String Quartet Strings Charts Series). Arranged by Eric Gorfain. Two of alternative rock's best-known, mid-tempo ballads are translated into concise arrangements that capture the dynamic power of Coldplay's "Yellow" and the quiet melodicism of the Shins' "New Slang." For String Quartet. Level 3

Gorfain, Eric arr. Pop Songs from the Twilight Saga
By OK Go and Grizzly Bear String Letter Publishing
Play two dreamy tunes from the bestselling soundtrack of The Twilight Saga: New Moon "Shooting the Moon" and "Slow Life." Arranger Eric Gorfain translates the folksy, psychedelic sounds of the indie-rock bands Grizzly Bear and OK Go into string arrangements that are sure to energize a school recital or bring a contemporary touch to any casual gig. Level 3

Greenblatt, Deborah [arr] Swedish String Quartet Collection Greenblatt and Seay
Original folk music tunes with melody frequently moving into other parts than the first violin. Excellent intermediate arrangement.

Porter, Cole [arr Ligon] Cole Porter Album, Volumes 1 &2 Latham Music
Favorite Cole Porter tunes, including Night and Day, Begin the Beguine, What is This Thing Called Love?, as well as many others tunes of various jazz styles. There are no solo sections. All parts are of equal level. The melody is distributed among all instruments.

Rabson, Mimi Cole Porter Songs For String Quartet String Letter Pub.
Take your ensemble back to the 1930s with these lively Cole Porter show tunes arranged for string quartet. Written in 1934 as the title song for his Depression-era Broadway musical, "Anything Goes" has a distinctive rhythmic motif and a playful style that is so characteristic of his music. It's perfect for weddings, Valentine's Day, and other casual gigs or as an unexpected encore piece. "Night and Day" is a timeless ballad and jazz standard, arranged here as a concert piece. Level 3

STRING TRIO GRADE 3

Walker, Scott [arr] Irish Tunes for Young @ Heart:
Violins, Violas or Cellos Bk 1 S'got Possibilities
18 Irish tunes scored for any combination of violin, viola and cello. Each book has all three parts plus chords. Tunes with grade 1 third part.

Walker, Scott [arr] Irish Tunes for Young @ Heart:
Violins, Violas or Cellos Bk 2 S'got Possibilities
15 Irish tunes scored for any combination of violin, viola and cello – two to four parts. Each book has all parts plus chords.

STRING QUARTET GRADE 3.5

Legrand, Michel [arr Ligon] Michel Legrand Album Latham Music
This album contains many familiar melodies by Michel Legrand, including Windmills of Your Mind, The Summer Knows, How Do You Keep the Music Playing, as well as many others. There are no solo sections. These are lush arrangements of beautiful tunes. The Vln 2, Vla, and Vc parts are approximately a grade 3, Vln 1 grade 4. Some playing necessary using 4 sharps and 4 flats.

CELLO DUETS GRADE 4

Minsky, Aaron Three American Cello Duets C.F. Peters
These duets are interesting and provide cellists with an opportunity to play alternative styles of music. The cello parts of are equal technical difficulty. Double stops, a key signature with 4 flats, and plenty of position work contribute to making this set a valuable teaching tool. The tunes are: "Cello Blues, Theme and Variation", "The Good High Alaska Boogie", and "Way Out West".

CELLO QUARTET GRADE 4

Atwell, Shirl DMO, A Jazz Cello Quartet Latham
Very fun original composition in 3 mvmts for 4 cellos. Syncopated and swing rhythms. No improvisation.

STRING QUARTET GRADE 5

Various arrangers Jammin' Jazz Standards Latham
Fun to play arrangements of jazz standards including Blue Moon, Bye Bye Blackbird, A Day in the Life of a Fool, How High the Moon, It's Only a Paper Moon, It Had to be You and Take Five arranged for string quartet. Suggested solos are provided for all. Improvisation level 5. Score/parts.

Rabson, Mimi Five Pieces for String Quartet E&R Music
Original jazz/world compositions for string quartet, as recorded by the Really Eclectic String Quartet (RESQ). Set includes: Klezzified, On the River, Number One, RESQ Theme, King Street Tango. Challenging rhythms, changing meter, written solos or improvised. Cello part may be played by bass.

STRING QUARTET GRADE 6

McLean, Michael Tangos & More: 6 Dances for String Quartet Latham
Two Tangos, Serenata, Rhumba, Czardas and Fandango. Challenging rhythms, changing key signatures, higher positions, but well worth the effort.

STRING QUINTET GRADE 6

Dixon, Akua Determination Jazzbows Music
5/4 G minor blues based composition for string quartet with bass, or larger string ensemble. Haunting melody over bass ostinato, challenging syncopated and 16th note rhythms. Improvisation section with three different backgrounds, improvisation level 2-3 (G minor blues or three chord-scales) Worthwhile for advanced groups looking for a challenge, and for advanced improvisers to stretch out in 5/4 rhythm.

ALTERNATIVE STYLES VIOLIN SOLO

Improvisation Level: Please note that the improvisation levels refer to the skills needed to perform an improvised solo within the piece. The scale(s) required for a particular improvisation level correspond with the grade headings.

Level 1: One scale works on all chords.

Level 2: Two closely related scales are needed. Chord tracking is easy.

Level 3: Three scales are needed. Chord tracking is of medium difficulty.

Level 4: Chord blocks such ii-V-I's appear in various keys.

Level 5: Knowledge of individual chord scale relationships necessary.

VIOLIN SOLO GRADE 1

O'Connor, Mark O'Connor Violin Method Book 1 Mark O'Connor
This method seeks to instill a deep appreciation of America's musical history with background stories of all those that contributed to this rich heritage: Immigrants, African-American slaves, soldiers - all of whom together created what has become the new American Classical Music. Chords are included in the music, CD Included with play along and listening tracks. Many of the songs include duet parts that the teacher can play with the student.

Wicklund, Brian American Fiddle Method, Vol. 1 Mel Bay
Book and CD of fiddle tunes arranged in a step by step method. With chord changes, lyrics, backup and harmony instruction.

VIOLIN SOLO GRADE 2

Dabczynski, Andrew &
Bob Phillips [arr] Fiddlers Philharmonic Basic Old-time (vln) Alfred
Simplified Old-time fiddle tunes arranged for strings in any combination from solo through string orchestra. Various lines and symbol systems accommodate beginners and intermediate players. Improvisation opportunities, especially in back-up parts. Collection of 16 tunes.

Dabczynski, Andrew &
Bob Phillips (arr.) Fiddler's Philharmonic and Encore (vln) Alfred
Fiddle tunes arranged for string orchestra. Various lines accommodate beginner and intermediate players. Collection of 16 tunes.

Fitzhugh Perry, Geoffrey Fiddle Jam, a Way-Cool Easy Way
to Learn How to Improvise (vln) Hal Leonard
Book of tunes in various styles – funk, blues, rock with simple improvisation ideas. Comes with CD. Improvisation at level 1.

Gabriel, Edgar String Groove, Ideas for Improvising (vln) Edgar Gabriel Inc.
12 tunes written in different styles for beginning improvisers with lots of exercises. Can be combined with viola and cello books. Practical music theory – scales and chords. Comes with CD. Improvisation at level 1-2.

Gabriel, Edgar String Groove App for Apple iPad iTunes
The book and Cd "Ideas For Improvising" is presented in an App for iPad. Materials such as Call and Response, videos and other interactive teachings that are not possible with the book and Cd are added. Each chapter has an advanced section for the advanced student or professional at levels 3-5.

Harmon, Jody Improve Jody Harmon
Introduces improvisation with four tunes included, each using a single scale for improvising. Improvisation Level 1-2.

Lowinger, Gene [arr] Bluegrass Fiddle Oak
Fiddle tunes Grade 2-4. Tunes sequentially organized. Great way to introduce double stops. Collection of 44 tunes.

O'Connor, Mark Mark O'Connor's Fiddle Camp - Back to Basics Homespun Tapes
O'Connor teaches three fiddle tunes in phrase-by-phrase detail using a wide variety of basic fiddle techniques. 60-minute DVD, Includes music book

O'Connor, Mark O'Connor Violin Method Book 2 Mark O'Connor
A continuation of book 1. All in first position. Keys in flats, frequent accidentals and syncopated rhythms are presented

Sorenson, Dean Standard of Excellence Jazz Combo Sessions-violin Kjos Music Company
A collection of jazz compositions that can be played in a wide variety of 'combo' settings, solo or with a combination of instruments, including both wind and string players. Comes with accompaniment CD with tunes as well as play along section.

Wicklund, Brian American Fiddle Method, Vol. 1 Mel Bay
Book and CD of fiddle tunes arranged in a step by step method. With chord changes, lyrics, backup and harmony instruction.

Zisman, Michael, ed. The Real Easy Book, - Vol. 1 Tunes for Beginning Improvisers "C Clef" Sher Music
Easy, but classic jazz tunes give the beginning improviser a good start in learning the jazz repertoire. Sample piano voicings, guitar chord diagrams, sample bass lines and useful scales for improvisation are included with each tune, for easy reference. Level 1, 2 and 3 improvisation

VIOLIN SOLO GRADE 3

- Anger, Darol All Star Bluegrass Jam-Along for fiddle Homespun/ Hal Leonard
Features 21 popular bluegrass songs & instrumentals, performed and written for learning players. The artist plays a basic solo that states the melody of the tune, then a more adventurous improvisation, and each solo is transcribed in detail. The accompanying CD provides audio versions of the solos, plus back-up rhythm tracks performed at moderate tempo.
- Anger, Darol, Casey Driessen & Eggleston, Rushad Chops and Grooves; Rhythmic Explorations for Bowed Instruments Homespun Tapes
Very clear DVD, including printed music, on the creation of the percussive bowing technique called the chop. Creating exciting rhythmic grooves used to accompany musical genres from bluegrass to Celtic, swing to ska, Latin to rock and funk. Two hour DVD, includes music.
- Anger, Darol Blues on the Fiddle Homespun Tapes
Fun instruction in playing the blues; tunes, riffs and styles from the Mississippi Delta to blues-inflected bluegrass, bebop, jazz and even rock and roll. 80-minute DVD, includes music.
- Blake, John Jr. and Jody Harmon Jazz Improvisation Made Easy for Violin Jody Harmon
Jazz improvisation method with three tunes, exercises, and transcriptions of John Blake solo on each tune. John Blake performs on all selections. Improvisation level 1-2.
- Dabczynski, Andrew & Bob Phillips (arr.) Fiddler's Philharmonic and Encore (vln) Alfred
Fiddle tunes arranged for string orchestra or solo. Various lines accommodate beginner and intermediate players. Collection of 16 tunes.
- Duncan, Craig [arr] American Fiddle Tunes for Solo and Ensemble (vln) Mel Bay
16 traditional fiddling tunes arranged in a theme and variation format. Accommodates various combinations from solo instrument with piano to duets and trios to full string quartet/orchestra. Includes parts for violin melody (solo), and violin harmony. Can be played as solo books with piano accompaniment or ensemble.
- Duncan, Craig [arr] Celtic Fiddle Tunes for Solo and Ensemble, Violin Mel Bay
14 arrangements of 22 traditional tunes from Ireland. Accommodates various combinations from solo instrument with piano to duets and trios to full string quartet/orchestra. Includes parts for violin melody (solo), and violin harmony. Can be played as solo books with piano accompaniment as ensemble.
- Gabriel, Edgar String Groove, Ideas for Improvising (vln) Edgar Gabriel Inc.
12 tunes written in different styles for beginning improvisers with lots of exercises. Can be combined with viola and cello books. Practical music theory – scales and chords. Comes with CD. Improvisation at level 1-2.
- Geslison, Mark [arr] 50 Tunes for Fiddle Vol. 1 Mel Bay
Book 1 in a 5-book series. Collection of Bluegrass, Old Time and Celtic tunes for ensembles, families and individuals. Also for bass, mandolin, banjo, guitar. Parts range from beginner to advanced. All tunes contain a simple melody and most of the tunes contain an intermediate or advanced part. Many tunes contain a harmony part to match the melody. Companion CD's included.
- Greenblatt, Deborah Barn Dance Fiddle Tunes for Two Violins Greenblatt and Seay
36 traditional tunes arranged into 22 medleys for two violas. Can be harmonized using companion books for violas or mandolins.
- Hébert, Donna [arr] The Grumbling Old Woman Hébert pub.
*60 contradance tunes for violin, 27 played slow and then faster on accompanying CD, with bowings, chords, tune sources, contradance instructions, Gilbert & Sullivan (Patience & Trial By Jury) arranged for square dancing with instructions. *
- Merritts, Gene The Bob Wills Fiddle Book Creative Concepts

Western Swing with chord symbols for improvisation Grade 3 and up. Some chromaticism. Collection of lead sheets for 34 tunes.

Miller, Randy & Perron, Jack New England Fiddler's Repertoire Fiddlecase Book 20th Anniversary Edition

A collection of 168 contra dance standards for fiddle. No chord changes.

Norgaard, Martin Jazz Fiddle Wizard Jr., Book 2 Mel Bay
Jazz improvisation method with four tunes included. Improvisation at level 1-2. Violin book may be used for individual instruction.

O'Connor, Mark Liberty! Seven Folk Tunes for Violin Mark O'Connor
Arrangements of seven traditional folk/fiddle tunes, including three ballads, with chord changes for accompaniment.

O'Connor, Mark O'Connor Violin Method Book 3 Mark O'Connor
A continuation of book 1. Second position introduced. Keys in flats, frequent accidentals, shuffle rhythms, 6/8 and syncopated rhythms are presented.

O'Neill, Francis [ed.] O'Neil's Music of Ireland Mel Bay
Classic collection of Irish tunes. Ornamentations are not notated. Collection of 1,850 tunes.

Phillips, Stacy [ed.] The Phillips Collection of Traditional American Fiddle Tunes Vols. 1 and 2 Mel Bay
Huge collection of important fiddle tunes.

Sorenson, Dean Standard of Excellence Jazz Combo Sessions-violin Kjos Music Company
A collection of jazz compositions that can be played in a wide variety of 'combo' settings, solo or with a combination of instruments, including both wind and string players. Comes with accompaniment CD with tunes as well as play along section.

Stirling, Lindsey "Crystallize" Lindsey Stirling
Violin and piano sheet music of the original Dubstep hit. The piano part includes the chord changes to allow for improvisation or a rhythm section. Purchase includes mp3s to listen and play along. Download purchase only.
<http://www.lindseystirling.com>

Stirling, Lindsey arr. "Lindsey Stirling Covers Play Along" Various Artists Hal Leonard
From the Hal Leonard Play along Series Volume 35 a collection of violin arrangements of Lindsey Stirling's favorite pop and rock cover songs. The audio CD includes tracks with violin and without. Enhanced so Mac & PC users can adjust the recording to any tempo without changing pitch.

Stirling, Lindsey arr. "Lindsey Stirling Play Along II Volume 45" By Various Artists Hal Leonard
from the Hal Leonard Play along Series Volume 45. Another collection of Lindsey Stirling's favorite pop and rock cover songs. The audio CD includes tracks with violin and without. Enhanced so Mac & PC users can adjust the recording to any tempo without changing pitch.

Wood, Mark Electrify Your Strings Cherry Lane Music
A method that teaches violinists how to improvise! Plug in and take your violin on a journey beyond the world of classical music with Mark Wood and Electrify Your Strings. With instruction right out of Mark's famous music education program, you'll learn about improvising solo and rhythm parts, modern string techniques, playing in a band, buying electric gear, and much, much more! Plus, there's valuable information not just for students, but for string teachers and school musical directors alike so they can rock their orchestras! A CD is included with recorded examples plus jam tracks in different styles and previously unreleased material.

Zisman, Michael, ed. The Real Easy Book, - Vol. 1 Tunes for Beginning Improvisers "C Clef" Sher Music
Easy, but classic jazz tunes give the beginning improviser a good start in learning the jazz repertoire. Sample piano voicings, guitar chord diagrams, sample bass lines and useful scales for improvisation are included with each tune, for easy reference. Level 1, 2 and 3 improvisation

Zisman, Michael, ed The Real Easy Book - Vol. 2, "C Clef" Tunes For Intermediate Improvisers Sher Music
Intermediate level classic jazz tunes for intermediate improvisers through advanced. Includes scales for soloing, chord voicings, guitar diagrams and bass lines. Level 2, 3 and 4 improvisation

VIOLIN SOLO GRADE 4

Anger, Darol All Star Bluegrass Jam-Along for fiddle Homespun/ Hal Leonard
Features 21 popular bluegrass songs & instrumentals, performed and written for learning players. The artist plays a basic solo that states the melody of the tune, then a more adventurous improvisation, and each solo is transcribed in detail. The accompanying CD provides audio versions of the solos, plus back-up rhythm tracks performed at moderate tempo.

Anger, Darol Fiddle Tunes Hal Leonard
Seven original tunes for level 4/5 players. Includes chords, transcribed solos, melodic variations, and some harmony violin parts. Impressive solo pieces, previously recorded by Anger.

Bardfeld, Sam Latin Violin: How to Play Salsa, Charanga, and Latin Jazz Violin Gerard & Sarzin Publishers
A useful introduction to basics of playing Afro-Cuban based music for violin. Includes transcriptions, discography, and cd with original recordings, sample montunos, and play-along tunes.

Dabczynski, Andrew & Bob Phillips (arr.) Fiddler's Philharmonic and Encore (vln) Alfred
Fiddle tunes arranged for string orchestra or solo. Various lines accommodate beginner and intermediate players. Collection of 16 tunes. Books for Violin, Viola & Cello/Bass.

Doucet, Michael Beau Solo Mel Bay
Twelve Cajun fiddle tunes transcribed from Michael Doucet's CD of the same name. Requires alternate tuning on all but one piece.

Glaser, Matt Swingin' Jazz Violin, Improvisation & Musicianship Homespun Tapes
Masterclass format including music theory - how to play the circle of fifths, improvise around dominant 7th chords, use symmetrical structures (diminished, augmented and whole tone scales) - rhythmic accenting and articulation, bowing patterns, phrasing and how to swing. 80-minute DVD, Includes music book

Greene, Richard Bluegrass Fiddle Homespun Tapes
Bluegrass fiddle master Richard Greene teaches bluegrass bowing patterns and techniques: crossbowing, "separate" bowing, the bounced bow (spiccato), hemiola (accenting off beats), the "Georgia shuffle" and rhythm chopping, bluegrass slides, more. 80-minute DVD, includes music book.

Hart, Laurie & Greg Sandell Danse ce Soir! Fiddle and Accordion Music of Quebec Mel Bay
Valuable collection of 122 traditional and original tunes, most transcriptions, with chord changes. Includes discography, bibliography, transcribed piano accompaniment for some tunes, historical information. CD with 32 tunes available separately.

Hébert, Donna [ed.] Fiddling Demystified: A Practical Guide for String Players (vln) Hébert pub.
Easy to understand manual of 31 tunes in authentic styles - each with chords, bowings and lessons. Right hand technique, theory and bowing styles. Tunes from Celtic and American sources. With 2 CDs.

Holland, Jerry Collection of Fiddle Tunes Cranford Publishers
A compilation of 282 traditional and original fiddle tunes by Cape Breton fiddler Jerry Holland. Includes reels, strathspeys, hornpipes, jigs, airs and waltzes in Cape Breton and Irish styles. Discography.

Kaufman, Steve [arr] Four Hour Bluegrass Workout Homespun Tapes
Forty-nine standard bluegrass fiddle tunes, with four CD backup tracks. Each tune is played at medium and fast tempo. An ideal means of building bluegrass fiddle repertoire, as well as practicing improvising over the tunes.

MacMaster, Natalie Cape Breton Island Fiddle Mel Bay
A collection of 41 transcriptions of selections from three of Cape Breton fiddler Natalie MacMaster's albums. Should be used with original recordings for interpretation. Includes chord changes.

Molsky, Bruce Southern Old-Time Fiddle Tour Homespun Tapes
A DVD teaching traditional fiddling- region by region – with a variety of bowing patterns- from the basic shuffle and “sawstroke” to more advanced combinations- as well as droning, rhythmic emphasis, phrasing and alternate tunings. 75-minute DVD, includes music.

O'Connor, Mark [arr] Limerock Mark O'Connor
An arrangement based on Benny Thomasson's version of this traditional fiddle tune. For solo violin with guitar, mandolin, or bass backup. Also available are arrangements for two violins, or violin with viola and cello.

O'Connor, Mark Appalachia Waltz Mark O'Connor
Original composition for violin, with piano/cello accompaniment. Also for two violins, three violins, violin/viola/cello trio, violin/cello/bass trio.

Lieberman, Julie Lyonn Rockin' Out with Blues Fiddle Huiksi Music Company
Classic blues violin solo transcriptions. Historical information. Collection of 17 solos.

Snidero, Jim
(with Mark Feldman, vln) Easy Jazz Conception (Violin) Advance Music
Book and CD of 15 solo etudes based on blues and standard chord progressions, demonstrated by jazz violinist Mark Feldman. Two separate versions of each etude: one with soloist and one with rhythm section only. Keys of C, F, Bb, Eb, Ab, some higher positions. Improvisation level varies by tune: except for blues, most at level 5.

Zisman, Michael, ed The Real Easy Book - Vol. 2, “C Clef” Tunes For Intermediate Improvisers Sher Music
Intermediate level classic jazz tunes for intermediate improvisers through advanced. Includes scales for soloing, chord voicings, guitar diagrams and bass lines. Level 2, 3 and 4 improvisation

VIOLIN SOLO GRADE 5

Dabczynski, Andrew &
Bob Phillips (arr.) Fiddler's Philharmonic and Encore (vln) Alfred
Fiddle tunes arranged for string orchestra or solo. Various lines accommodate beginner and intermediate players. Collection of 16 tunes. Books for Violin, Viola & Cello/Bass.

Glaser, Matt &
Stephane Grappelli Jazz Violin Oak
Classic jazz violin solo transcriptions as performed by Stephane Grappelli, Joe Venuti, Jean-Luc Ponty, and others. Historical information. Collection of 26 solos.

Hébert, Donna Fiddling Demystified:
A Practical Guide for String Players (vln) Hébert pub.
Easy to understand manual of 31 tunes in authentic styles - each with chords, bowings and lessons. Right hand technique, theory and bowing styles. Tunes from Celtic and American sources. With 2 CDs.

Lipsius, Fred
(with Evan Price, vln) Reading Key Jazz Rhythms (Violin) Advance Music
Book and CD of 24 solo etudes based on blues and standard chord progressions, focused on a specific jazz rhythmic phrase for each etude. Simplified “guide tone” version of each etude (using the target rhythm) is included. Demonstrated by jazz violinist Evan Price. CD with two separate versions of each etude: one with soloist and one with rhythm section only. If desired, improvisation level 5.

O'Connor, Mark
 Midnight on the Water:
 Five pieces for unaccompanied violin Mark O'Connor
This collection includes The Cricket Dance, an exciting solo fiddle piece with complex rhythms, off-the-string bowing, double stops. Additional pieces: Midnight on the Water, Bonaparte's Retreat, Amazing Grace, The Star-Spangled Banner.

Ponty, Jean-Luc
 Jean-Luc Ponty Collection Hal Leonard
Jazz Fusion with improvisation at Grade levels 2 and up. Challenging rhythms and lots of accidentals. Fun to play along with the original recordings (not included). Collection of lead sheets for 22 compositions.

Wilkins, Jack
 (with Sara Caswell, vln) Essential Jazz Etudes The Blues (Violin) Mel Bay
Book and CD of 12 blues etudes in the keys of F, Bb, Eb, Ab, Db, C, G, E. Demonstrated by jazz violinist Sara Caswell. Two separate versions of each etude: one with soloist and one with rhythm section only. Improvisation level varies by tune, ranging from simple F blues to Charlie Parker "Blues for Alice" changes (Improvisation level 2 through 5).

VIOLIN SOLO GRADE 6

Gabriel, Edgar
 Theme and Variations for Solo Rock Violin Edgar Gabriel Inc.
This piece was written for violinist Rachel Barton Pine. It includes existing and new extended techniques such as left hand pizzicato, double stops, harmonics and rock vibrato. The theme is stated as a rock ballad followed by six variations in different rock styles: Hair Band, Speed Metal, Death Metal, Zeppelin Blues, Power Ballad and Acid Rock.

Gabriel, Edgar & O'Connell, Kevin Besame Mucho Edgar
 Gabriel Inc.
A violin piano arrangement of written for the concert violinist or accomplished student who would like to add a wonderful popular Latin song to their repertoire. The violin part carries the melody embellished with double stops, left hand pizzicato and other extended techniques. The written piano score provides a rumba rhythm to accompany and enhance violin part. A short solo is also written into the piano part. For convenience, the chord changes are provided in the piano score.

Glaser, Matt &
 Stephane Grappelli Jazz Violin Oak
Classic jazz violin solo transcriptions as performed by Stephane Grappelli, Joe Venuti, Jean-Luc Ponty, and others. Historical information. Collection of 26 solos.

Venuti, Joe
 [arr Massey & Romano] Joe Venuti "Never Before, Never Again" Mel Bay
Transcriptions of Joe Venuti's virtuoso jazz violin solos from his 1954 duet recording with guitarist Tony Romano. Includes a CD of the original recordings. Guitar voicings and chords also in the transcriptions.

O'Connor, Mark
 The Fiddle Concerto Mark O'Connor
Three-movement concerto for violin and orchestra based on themes from a range of American fiddle styles.

ALTERNATIVE STYLES VIOLA SOLO

Improvisation Level: Please note that the improvisation levels refer to the skills needed to perform an improvised solo within the piece. The scale(s) required for a particular improvisation level correspond with the grade headings.

Level 1: One scale works on all chords.

Level 2: Two closely related scales are needed. Chord tracking is easy.

Level 3: Three scales are needed. Chord tracking is of medium difficulty.

Level 4: Chord blocks such as ii-V-I appear in various keys.

Level 5: Knowledge of individual chord scale relationships necessary.

VIOLA SOLO GRADE 1

Alfred Staff Easy Pop & Rock Hits Instrumental Solos Alfred

A versatile selection of pop & rock music, Carefully edited arrangements appropriate to the viola A fully orchestrated accompaniment MP3 CD is provided, featuring each song as a live performance demo track followed by a play-along track. The CD also contains a PDF of the Piano Accompaniment and Alfred's Tempo Changer Software. Also available for all other strings.

Dabczynski, Andrew & Bob Phillips [arr] Basic Fiddlers Philharmonic Celtic Fiddle Tunes (vcl) Alfred
Simplified Celtic fiddle tunes arranged for strings in any combination from solo through string orchestra. Various lines and symbol systems accommodate beginners and intermediate players. Improvisation opportunities, especially in back-up parts. Collection of 11 tunes.

Farrar Royce, Jane & Doris Gazda Fiddling Fingers Carl Fisher
With Jay Ungar & Molly Mason Royce
Beginning Fiddling Lessons for String Classes or Individual Learners. Audio Cd Included (also, violin, cello and Double Bass).

Kanack, Alice Kay Fun Improvisation for Viola, Cello Summy Birchard
The book and Cd contain philosophical and practical advice on how to use its 28 musical exercises to develop a child's innate creative ability to its highest level. The basic instructions allow even a twinkler to use these exercises, while the advanced instructions provide a challenge to the most advanced player. The book contains almost no musical notation, instead it is loaded with instruction, finger patterns, viola tablature and much more. Also available for violin and cello.

O'Connor, Mark O'Connor Viola Method Book 1 Mark O'Connor
This method seeks to instill a deep appreciation of America's musical history with background stories of all those that contributed to this rich heritage: Immigrants, African-American slaves, soldiers - all of whom together created what has become the new American Classical Music. Chords are included in the music, CD Included with play along and listening tracks. Many of the songs include duet parts that the teacher can play with the student.

VIOLA SOLO GRADE 2

Alfred Publishing Staff Classic Rock Instrumental Solos for Strings Alfred
This book is part of an instrumental series arranged for Violin, Viola, and Cello. The arrangements are completely compatible with each other and can be played together or as solos. Each book contains a carefully edited part that is appropriate for the Level 2--3 player, as well as a fully orchestrated accompaniment CD. The CD includes a DEMO track of each song, which features a live instrumental performance, followed by a PLAY-ALONG track.

Dabczynski, Andrew & Bob Phillips [arr] Basic Fiddlers Philharmonic Celtic Fiddle Tunes (vla) Alfred
Simplified Celtic fiddle tunes arranged for strings in any combination from solo through string orchestra. Various lines and symbol systems accommodate beginners and intermediate players. Improvisation opportunities, especially in back-up parts. Collection of 11 tunes.

Dabczynski, Andrew & Bob Phillips (arr.) Fiddlers Philharmonic Basic Old-time (vla) Alfred
Simplified Old-time fiddle tunes arranged for strings in any combination from solo through string orchestra. Various lines and symbol systems accommodate beginners and intermediate players. Improvisation opportunities, especially in back-up parts. Collection of 16 tunes.

Dabczynski, Andrew & Bob Phillips (arr.) Fiddler's Philharmonic and Encore (vla) Alfred

Fiddle tunes arranged for string orchestra or solo. Various lines accommodate beginner and intermediate players. Collection of 16 tunes.

Fitzhugh Perry, Geoffrey Fiddle Jam, a Way-Cool Easy Way
to Learn How to Improvise (vla) Hal Leonard
Book of tunes in various styles – funk, blues, rock with simple improvisation ideas. Comes with CD. Improvisation at level 1.

Fleury, Paul M The Complete Scale Book for Viola: Jazz, Modal and Exotic Scales Create Space
Starting with modal scales, this delves into Arabic, Japanese, Pentatonic scales, the list goes on. 189 pps sectioned by scale, and then scale by note. Also available for cello and violin.

Gabriel, Edgar String Groove, Ideas for Improvising (Vla) Edgar Gabriel Inc.
12 tunes written in different styles for beginning improvisers with lots of exercises. Can be combined with viola and cello books. Practical music theory – scales and chords. Comes with CD. Improvisation at level 1-2.

Greenblatt, Deborah The Viola Fiddling Tune Book Greenblatt and Seay
27 fun fiddle tunes including chords from around the globe, with optional second part. Some tunes in different keys than those used by the violin.

Greenblatt, Deborah & David Seay Klezmer Fiddle Tunes for Two Violas Greenblatt & Seay
These 33 traditional Klezmer tunes are arranged for two instruments, with chords for back-up musicians included. The tunes in each book of the Klezmer Fiddle Tunes for Two series are in the same keys so you can all play together. CD Sold Separately.

Harmon, Jody Improvise! For Viola Jody Harmon
Introduces improvisation with four tunes included, each using a single scale for improvising. Improvisation Level 1-2.

Hoffheimer, Michael Fiddling for Viola Mel Bay
Traditional Irish and American Fiddle Tunes Arranged for Viola. Contains a wealth of material for fiddlers seeking a transition to the viola and/or violists in search of a collection of traditional fiddle music. The top is traditional viola notation in the alto clef while the bottom is the same music in treble clef transposed down a 5th, allowing fiddlers who read the G or treble clef to play the viola by fingering it as if it were a fiddle.

Norgaard, Martin Jazz Viola Wizard Jr., Book 1 Mel Bay
Jazz improvisation method with three tunes included. Improvisation at level 1-2. Viola book may be used for individual instruction.

Norgaard, Martin Jazz Viola Wizard Junior, Book 2 Mel Bay
Jazz improvisation method with four tunes included. Improvisation at level 1-2. Viola book may be used for individual instruction

O'Connor, Mark O'Connor Viola Method Book 2 Mark O'Connor
A continuation of book 1. All in first position. Keys in flats, frequent accidentals and syncopated rhythms are presented

Sorenson, Dean Standard of Excellence Jazz Combo Sessions-viola Kjos Music Company
A collection of jazz compositions that can be played in a wide variety of 'combo' settings, solo or with a combination of instruments, including both wind and string players. Comes with accompaniment CD with tunes as well as play along section.

Wicklund, Brian, Faith Farr, and
Jan Farrar-Royce American Fiddle Method, Vol. 1 for Viola Mel Bay
Book and CD of fiddle tunes in their original keys, arranged for viola. With chord changes, lyrics, backup and harmony instruction.

Witt, Anne Scottish Fiddling For Viola Mel Bay
The forty-five tunes in this collection represent the vast repertoire of traditional Scottish fiddle music dating back to the 1700s. Included are laments, airs, marches, strathspeys, reels and jigs. The music has been edited and arranged for viola along with guitar chords if desired for accompaniment. The tunes are presented in sets of three or four for solo performance.
 2008

Witt, Anne Scottish Melodies for Two Violas Mel Bay
A collection of twenty-four pieces from 18th and 19th century Scotland. Included are airs and dance tunes originally for voice or fiddle. These duet arrangements are perfect for student and teacher as well as viola colleagues. The music is presented in sets of two or three tunes ready for performance.

VIOLA SOLO GRADE 3

Blake, John Jr. and Jody Harmon Jazz Improvisation Made Easy for Viola Jody Harmon
Jazz improvisation method with three tunes, exercises, and transcriptions of John Blake solo on each tune. John Blake performs on all selections. Improvisation level 1-2. Transcription uses upper positions on viola.

Dabczynski, Andrew &
 Bob Phillips (arr.) Fiddler's Philharmonic and Encore (vla) Alfred
Fiddle tunes arranged for string orchestra or solo. Various lines accommodate beginner and intermediate players. Collection of 16 tunes. Books for Violin, Viola & Cello/Bass.

Duncan, Craig [arr] American Fiddle Tunes for Solo and Ensemble (vla) Mel Bay
16 traditional fiddling tunes arranged in a theme and variation format. Accommodates various combinations from solo instrument with piano to duets and trios to full string quartet/orchestra. Includes parts for viola melody (solo), and viola harmony. Can be played as solo books with piano accompaniment as ensemble.

Duncan, Craig [arr] Celtic Fiddle Tunes for Solo and Ensemble (vla) Mel Bay
14 arrangements of 22 traditional tunes from Ireland. Accommodates various combinations from solo instrument with piano to duets and trios to full string quartet/orchestra. Includes parts for viola melody (solo), and viola harmony. Can be played as solo books with piano accompaniment as ensemble.

Fentone Staff Ragtime Favorites Fentone Music
These play-along packs feature 8 classic Joplin rags arranged for the intermediate player with a great accompaniment CD. Titles include: The Chrysanthemum · The Entertainer · Maple Leaf Rag · and more. arranged for viola.

Gabriel, Edgar String Groove, Ideas for Improvising (vla) Edgar Gabriel Inc.
12 tunes written in different styles for beginning improvisers with lots of exercises. Can be combined with viola and cello books. Practical music theory – scales and chords. Comes with CD. Improvisation at level 1-2.

Glaser, Matt & Rabson, Mimi Berklee Practice Method: Viola Berklee Press
Available for more than a dozen instruments, these coordinated method books teach how to play in a rock band. Learn what all the great musicians seem to know intuitively – how to listen, interact and respond, improvise, and become part of the groove. The book and play-along CD will help improve your timing, technique, and reading ability to become the great player that everyone wants to have in their band! Topics in the Viola book include: warming up, practice routines, learning by ear, theory & technique, rhythmic interpretation, reading, improvisation, interpreting lead sheets, and more. The accompanying CD features Berklee players and covers a wide variety of styles.

Norgaard, Martin Jazz Viola Wizard Jr., Book 2 Mel Bay
Jazz improvisation method with four tunes included. Improvisation at level 1-2. Viola book may be used for individual instruction.

Sorenson, Dean Standard of Excellence Jazz Combo Sessions-viola Kjos Music Company
A collection of jazz compositions that can be played in a wide variety of 'combo' settings, solo or with a combination of instruments, including both wind and string players. Comes with accompaniment CD with tunes as well as play along section.

VIOLA SOLO GRADE 4

Dabczynski, Andrew & Bob Phillips (arr.) Fiddler's Philharmonic and Encore (vla) Alfred
Fiddle tunes arranged for string orchestra or solo. Various lines accommodate beginner and intermediate players. Collection of 16 tunes. Books for Violin, Viola & Cello/Bass.

Hébert, Donna Fiddling Demystified:
A Practical Guide for String Players (vla) Hébert pub.
Easy to understand manual of 31 tunes in authentic styles - each with chords, bowings and lessons. Right hand technique, theory and bowing styles. Tunes from Celtic and American sources. With 2 CDs.

Snidero, Jim
(with Mark Feldman, vln) Easy Jazz Conception (Viola) Advance Music
Book and CD of 15 solo etudes based on blues and standard chord progressions, demonstrated by jazz violinist Mark Feldman. Two separate versions of each etude: one with soloist and one with rhythm section only. Keys of C, F, Bb, Eb, Ab, higher positions on viola. Improvisation level varies by tune: except for blues, most at level 5.

Reuter, Lucy [arr.] Fiddle Tunes for Viola Lucy Reuter
This book of 50 traditional pieces is a good introduction to the fiddle tunes commonly played in jam sessions. Some tunes are written in two keys, or two different octaves, to make it easier to play on the viola. CD and chords are included.

VIOLA SOLO GRADE 5

Dabczynski, Andrew & Bob Phillips (arr.) Fiddler's Philharmonic and Encore (vla) Alfred
Fiddle tunes arranged for string orchestra or solo. Various lines accommodate beginner and intermediate players. Collection of 16 tunes. Books for Violin, Viola & Cello/Bass.

Hébert, Donna Fiddling Demystified: A Practical Guide for String Players (vla) Hébert pub.
Easy to understand manual of 31 tunes in authentic styles - each with chords, bowings and lessons. Right hand technique, theory and bowing styles. Tunes from Celtic and American sources. With 2 CDs.

VIOLA SOLO GRADE 6

Gabriel, Edgar Theme and Variations for Solo Rock Viola Edgar Gabriel Inc.
Originally written for violin, the piece was written for violinist Rachel Barton Pine. It includes existing and new extended techniques such as left hand pizzicato, double stops, harmonics and rock vibrato. The theme is stated as a rock ballad followed by six variations in different rock styles: Hair Band, Speed Metal, Death Metal, Zeppelin Blues, Power Ballad and Acid Rock.

Wreede, Katrina Concerto for Improvising Viola and Orchestra Katrina Wreede
Challenging composition for improvising solo viola and orchestra. Improvisation level 5.

ALTERNATIVE STYLES CELLO SOLO

Improvisation Level: Please note that the improvisation levels refer to the skills needed to perform an improvised solo within the piece. The scale(s) required for a particular improvisation level correspond with the grade headings.

Level 1: One scale works on all chords.

Level 2: Two closely related scales are needed. Chord tracking is easy.

Level 3: Three scales are needed. Chord tracking is of medium difficulty.

Level 4: Chord blocks such ii-V-Is appear in various keys.

Level 5: Knowledge of individual chord scale relationships necessary.

CELLO SOLO Grade 1

Dabczynski, Andrew & Bob Phillips [arr] Basic Fiddlers Philharmonic Celtic Fiddle Tunes (vcl) Alfred
Simplified Celtic fiddle tunes arranged for strings in any combination from solo through string orchestra. Various lines and symbol systems accommodate beginners and intermediate players. Improvisation opportunities, especially in back-up parts. Collection of 11 tunes.

Dabczynski, Andrew & Bob Phillips [arr] Basic Fiddlers Philharmonic Old-time (vcl) Alfred
Simplified Old-time fiddle tunes arranged for strings in any combination from solo through string orchestra. Various lines and symbol systems accommodate beginners and intermediate players. Improvisation opportunities, especially in back-up parts. Collection of 16 tunes.

O'Connor, Mark O'Connor Cello Method Book 1 Mark O'Connor
This method seeks to instill a deep appreciation of America's musical history with background stories of all those that contributed to this rich heritage: Immigrants, African-American slaves, soldiers - all of whom together created what has become the new American Classical Music. Chords are included in the music, CD Included with play along and listening tracks. Many of the songs include duet parts that the teacher can play with the student.

CELLO SOLO GRADE 2

Dabczynski, Andrew & Bob Phillips [arr] Basic Fiddlers Philharmonic Celtic Fiddle Tunes (vcl) Alfred
Simplified Celtic fiddle tunes arranged for strings in any combination from solo through string orchestra. Various lines and symbol systems accommodate beginners and intermediate players. Improvisation opportunities, especially in back-up parts. Collection of 11 tunes.

Dabczynski, Andrew & Bob Phillips [arr] Basic Fiddlers Philharmonic Old-time (vcl) Alfred
Simplified Old-time fiddle tunes arranged for strings in any combination from solo through string orchestra. Various lines and symbol systems accommodate beginners and intermediate players. Improvisation opportunities, especially in back-up parts. Collection of 16 tunes.

Dabczynski, Andrew & Bob Phillips (arr.) Fiddler's Philharmonic and Encore (vcl) Alfred
Fiddle tunes arranged for string orchestra or solo. Various lines accommodate beginner and intermediate players.

Eggleston, Rushad Rhythmic Explorations on the Cello; Chops, Chords, Syncopations and Accompaniments
Homespun
85 Minute DVD plus music on a PDF file to view or print. Video lessons on chopping, strumming, chording, bass lines and groove oriented improvisation.

Fitzhugh Perry, Geoffrey Fiddle Jam, a Way-Cool Easy Way
To Learn How to Improvise (vcl) Hal Leonard
Book of tunes in various styles – funk, blues, rock with simple improvisation ideas. Comes with CD. Improvisation at grade level 1.

Gabriel, Edgar String Groove, Ideas for Improvising (vcl) Edgar Gabriel Inc.
12 tunes written in different styles for beginning improvisers with lots of exercises. Can be combined with viola and cello books. Practical music theory – scales and chords. Comes with CD. Improvisation at level 1-2.

Greenblatt, Deborah The Cello Fiddling Tune Book The Old Schoolhouse
27 fun fiddle tunes including chords from around the globe, with optional second part. Some tunes in different keys than those used by the violin.

Harmon, Jody Improvise! For Cello Jody Harmon
Introduces improvisation with four tunes included, each using a single scale for improvising. Improvisation Level 1-2.

Martin, ed Session Tunes for Scottish Cellists Music Sales Corporation
Contains over 80 great session tunes with helpful fingering and chords added by Scottish cellist Eilidh Martin. Carefully graded with approved levels for SQA exams. Lots of tunes you have heard the fiddlers play and wanted to join in with!

Norgaard, Martin Jazz Cello Wizard Jr., Book 1 Mel Bay
Jazz improvisation method with three tunes included. Improvisation level 1-2. Viola book may be used for individual instruction.

O'Connor, Mark O'Connor Cello Method Book 1 Mark O'Connor
This method seeks to instill a deep appreciation of America's musical history with background stories of all those that contributed to this rich heritage: Immigrants, African-American slaves, soldiers - all of whom together created what has become the new American Classical Music. Chords are included in the music, CD Included with play along and listening tracks. Many of the songs include duet parts that the teacher can play with the student.

Smolen, Sera [arr.] Fiddling Tunes for Cello and Guitar Ithaca Talent Education.
35 fiddle tunes transcribed for cello with chord symbols. Includes tunes from the British Isles and the US.

Sorenson, Dean Standard of Excellence Jazz Combo Sessions-Cello Kjos Music Company
A collection of jazz compositions that can be played in a wide variety of 'combo' settings, solo or with a combination of instruments, including both wind and string players. Comes with accompaniment CD with tunes as well as play along section.

Wicklund, Brian, and Faith Farr American Fiddle Method, Vol. 1 for Cello Mel Bay
Book and CD of fiddle tunes in their original keys, arranged for cello. With chord changes, lyrics, backup and harmony instruction.

Zisman, Michael, ed. The Real Easy Book, - Vol. 1 Tunes for Beginning Improvisers Bass Clef Sher Music
Easy, but classic jazz tunes give the beginning improviser a good start in learning the jazz repertoire. Sample piano voicings, guitar chord diagrams, sample bass lines and useful scales for improvisation are included with each tune, for easy reference. Level 1, 2 and 3 improvisation

SOLO CELLO GRADE 3

Anger, Darol & Driessen, Casey, & Eggleston, Rushad Chops and Grooves; Rhythmic Explorations for Bowed Instruments Homespun Tapes
Very clear DVD, including printed music, on the creation of the percussive bowing technique called the chop. Creating exciting rhythmic grooves used to accompany musical genres from bluegrass to Celtic, swing to ska, Latin to rock and funk. Two hour DVD, includes music

Blake, John Jr. and Jody Harmon Jazz Improvisation Made Easy for Cello Jody Harmon
Jazz improvisation method with three tunes, exercises, and transcriptions of John Blake solo on each tune. John Blake performs on all selections. Improvisation level 1-2. Transcription uses upper positions on cello.

Bratt, Renata The Fiddling Cellist Mel Bay
Eighteen fiddle tunes with chords in styles found in typical fiddle jam sessions - Celtic, Old Time and Bluegrass. Arranged for two or three cellos with short studies teaching idiomatic bass lines and back-up harmony as well as improvisational soloing over the chord changes. Companion CD includes all examples with guitar accompaniment. Level 1 and 2 improvisation.

Bratt, Renata [arr.] Celtic Grooves for two cellists Mel Bay
47 Scottish and Irish Fiddle tunes arranged for two cellists with companion CD. The melody part includes idiomatic bowings, ornaments and chords. The accompaniment part includes a variety of one and two measure rhythmic grooves with some chopping.

- Dabczynski, Andrew & Bob Phillips (arr.) Fiddler's Philharmonic and Encore (vcl) Alfred
Fiddle tunes arranged for string orchestra or solo. Various lines accommodate beginner and intermediate players. Collection of 16 tunes.
- Duncan, Craig [arr.] American Fiddle Tunes for Solo and Ensemble (vcl) Mel Bay
16 traditional fiddling tunes arranged in a theme and variation format. Accommodates various combinations from solo instrument with piano to duets and trios to full string quartet/orchestra. Includes parts for cello melody (solo), and cello harmony. Can be played as solo books with piano accompaniment or ensemble.
- Duncan, Craig [arr.] Celtic Fiddle Tunes for Solo and Ensemble, Cello Mel Bay
14 arrangements of 22 traditional tunes from Ireland. Accommodates various combinations from solo instrument with piano to duets and trios to full string quartet/orchestra. Includes parts for cello melody (solo), and cello harmony. Can be played as solo books with piano accompaniment or ensemble.
- Eggleston, Rushad Rhythmic Explorations on the Cello; Chops, Chords, Syncopations and Accompaniments Homespun
85 Minute DVD plus music on a PDF file to view or print. Video lessons on chopping, strumming, chording, bass lines and groove oriented improvisation.
- Gabriel, Edgar String Groove, Ideas for Improvising (vcl) Edgar Gabriel Inc.
12 tunes written in different styles for beginning improvisers with lots of exercises. Can be combined with viola and cello books. Practical music theory – scales and chords. Comes with CD. Improvisation at Grade level 1-2.
- Haas, Natalie Grooves, Rhythms and Accompaniment Techniques for Celtic Cello Homespun Music
Two hour instructional DVD including music to print or view. Learn how to accompany Celtic and fiddle- style tunes. With exercises, rhythms, chords, grooves and tunes to play them with.
- Martin, ed. Session Tunes for Scottish Cellists Music Sales Corporation
Contains over 80 great session tunes with helpful fingering and chords added by Scottish cellist Eilidh Martin. Carefully graded with approved levels for SQA exams. Lots of tunes you have heard the fiddlers play and wanted to join in with!
- Maxfield, Liz David The Irish Cello Book: Traditional Tunes & Techniques Berklee Press
Over 100 Irish melodies with technical lessons including articulations, concepts and practices of Irish fiddle music adapted to the cello. Comes with CD illustrating various techniques. No chords provided to give the student space to make up their own.
- McCrae, Kevin and Neil Johnstone ed. Scottish Folk Tunes: 69 Traditional Pieces for Cello Schott World Music
Intermediate to advanced arrangements. The tunes include slow airs and laments, marches, strathspeys, reels, jigs, polkas, hornpipes, and a quickstep. Includes extensive notes on the selections. Comes with CD.
- Minsky, Aaron Ten American Cello Etudes C.F. Peters
A set of ten solo etudes featuring rock and roll, blues, Latin, folk, country, and the American waltz.
- Minsky, Aaron Dead Cello Latham Music
Dead Cello features four of the Grateful Dead's signature songs. The Other One; driving improvisations. Dark Star; space jams. Stella Blue; a love song to a guitar. Truckin'. C.D. Available separately
- Minsky, Aaron Ten International Cello Encores C.F. Peters
A set of ten cello pieces based on musical styles from around the world; Mexico, Ireland, Asia, Israel, Africa, Caribbean, and America. CD available separately.
- Newton, Abby Crossing to Scotland Mel Bay
Arrangements of a variety of Scottish tunes in their original keys. Chords included, CD available separately.

- Norgaard, Martin Jazz Cello Wizard Jr., Book 1 and 2 Mel Bay
Jazz improvisation method with four tunes included. Improvisation at level 1-2. Cello book may be used for individual instruction.
- Smolen, Sera [arr.] Fiddling Tunes for Cello and Guitar Ithaca Talent Education.
35 fiddle tunes transcribed for cello with chord symbols. Includes tunes from the British Isles and the US.
- Sorenson, Dean Standard of Excellence Jazz Combo Sessions-Cello Kjos Music Company
A collection of jazz compositions that can be played in a wide variety of 'combo' settings, solo or with a combination of instruments, including both wind and string players. Comes with accompaniment CD with tunes as well as play along section.
- Wilson, Bryan Cello Chords www.bryanwilsoncello.com
A manual of eleven different chord types in all 12 keys. With clear categories and suggested fingerings for every chord. Good for all genres of music
- Zisman, Michael, ed. The Real Easy Book, - Vol. 1 Tunes for Beginning Improvisers Bass Clef Sher Music
Easy, but classic jazz tunes give the beginning improviser a good start in learning the jazz repertoire. Sample piano voicings, guitar chord diagrams, sample bass lines and useful scales for improvisation are included with each tune, for easy reference.
- Zisman, Michael, ed The Real Easy Book - Vol. 2, Tunes For Intermediate Improvisers "Bass Clef" Sher Music
Intermediate level classic jazz tunes for intermediate improvisers through advanced. Includes scales for soloing, chord voicings, guitar diagrams and bass lines. Level 2, 3 and 4 improvisation
- SOLO CELLO GRADE 4**
- Bratt, Renata [arr.] Celtic Grooves for two cellists Mel Bay
47 Scottish and Irish Fiddle tunes arranged for two cellists with companion CD. The melody part includes idiomatic bowings, ornaments and chords. The accompaniment part includes a variety of one and two measure rhythmic grooves with some chopping. No improvisation
- Dabczynski, Andrew &
 Bob Phillips (arr.) Fiddler's Philharmonic and Encore (vcl) Alfred
Fiddle tunes arranged for string orchestra or solo. Various lines accommodate beginner and intermediate players.
- Grissom, Sean Celtic Cello Set Endpin Music Publishing
A medley of 4 classic Irish tunes including Drowsie Maggie.
- Haas, Natalie Grooves, Rhythms and Accompaniment Techniques for Celtic Cello Homespun Music
Two hour instructional DVD including music to print or view. Learn how to accompany Celtic and fiddle- style tunes. With exercises, rhythms, chords, grooves and tunes to play them with.
- Hébert, Donna [arr Bratt] Fiddling Demystified:
 A Practical Guide for String Players (vcl) Hébert pub.
Easy to understand manual of 31 tunes in authentic styles - each with chords, bowings and lessons. Right hand technique, theory and bowing styles. Tunes from Celtic and American sources. With 2 CDs.
- Martin, ed. Session Tunes for Scottish Cellists Music Sales Corporation
Contains over 80 great session tunes with helpful fingering and chords added by Scottish cellist Eilidh Martin. Carefully graded with approved levels for SQA exams. Lots of tunes you have heard the fiddlers play and wanted to join in with!
- McCrae, Kevin and Neil Johnstone ed. Scottish Folk Tunes: 69 Traditional Pieces for Cello Schott World Music
Intermediate to advanced arrangements. The tunes include slow airs and laments, marches, strathspeys, reels, jigs, polkas, hornpipes, and a quickstep. Includes extensive notes on the selections. Comes with CD.
- McFarland-Johnson, Jeffrey Tonic to Chromatic! JohnSong Music

A reference book of essential scales and chord patterns which serve as the basis for improvisation. Intervals, chords, pentatonic scales, the Greek modes, whole-tone and chromatic scales. Covers basic music theory as applied to the cello and exercises.

Minsky, Aaron Ten American Cello Etudes C.F. Peters
A set of ten etudes featuring rock and roll, blues, Latin, folk, country, and the American waltz. CD available separately

Minsky, Aaron Dead Cello Latham Music
Dead Cello features four of the Grateful Dead's signature songs. The Other One; driving improvisations. Dark Star; space jams. Stella Blue; a love song to a guitar. Truckin'. C.D. Available separately

Minsky, Aaron Ten International Cello Encores C.F. Peters
A set of ten cello pieces based on musical styles from around the world; Mexico, Ireland, Asia, Israel, Africa, Caribbean, and America. CD available separately

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Arrangements of a variety of Scottish tunes in their original keys. Chords included, CD available separately.

Zisman, Michael, ed The Real Easy Book - Vol. 2, Tunes For Intermediate Improvisers "Bass Clef" Sher Music
Intermediate level classic jazz tunes for intermediate improvisers through advanced. Includes scales for soloing, chord voicings, guitar diagrams and bass lines. Level 2, 3 and 4 improvisation

SOLO CELLO GRADE 5

Boone, Benjamin Buffing the Gut, a Jazz Etude for Solo Cello Latham
Difficult but interesting jazzy composition. No improvisation

Dabczynski, Andrew &
Bob Phillips (arr.) Fiddler's Philharmonic and Encore (vcl) Alfred
Fiddle tunes arranged for string orchestra or solo. Various lines accommodate beginner and intermediate players. Collection of 16 tunes.

Hébert, Donna [arr Bratt] Fiddling Demystified:
A Practical Guide for String Players (vcl) Hébert pub.
Easy to understand manual of 31 tunes in authentic styles - each with chords, bowings and lessons. Right hand technique, theory and bowing styles. Tunes from Celtic and American sources. With 2 CDs.

Lipsius, Fred Reading Key Jazz Rhythms (trombone) Advance Music
Bass clef version of this extremely useful book and CD. 24 solo etudes based on blues and standard chord progressions, each focused on a single syncopated rhythmic phrase. Simplified version of each etude (still using the target rhythm) is included. CD with two separate versions of each etude: one with soloist and one with rhythm section only. If desired, improvisation level 5.

Maxfield, Liz David The Irish Cello Book: Traditional Tunes & Techniques Berklee Press
Over 100 Irish melodies with technical lessons including articulations, concepts and practices of Irish fiddle music adapted to the cello. Comes with CD illustrating various techniques. No chords provided to give the student space to make up their own.

Summer, Mark Michael Praetorius [arr Summer] Julie-o/Lo How a Rose E'er Blooming Shar
Two beautiful unaccompanied cello solos. Julie-o is an original tune composed by Mark Summer of the Turtle Island String Quartet. Lo How a Rose E'er Blooming is an arrangement by Summer of this lovely Christmas carol. Both are technically difficult with many unusual techniques employed; especially in Julie-o.

Wilson, Bryan

Cello Chords

www.bryanwilsoncello.com

A manual of eleven different chord types in all 12 keys. With clear categories and suggested fingerings for every chord. Good for all genres of music

ALTERNATIVE STYLES SOLO BASS

Improvisation Level: Please note that the improvisation levels refer to the skills needed to perform an improvised solo within the piece. The scale(s) required for a particular improvisation level correspond with the grade headings.

Level 1: One scale works on all chords.

Level 2: Two closely related scales are needed. Chord tracking is easy.

Level 3: Three scales are needed. Chord tracking is of medium difficulty.

Level 4: Chord blocks such as ii-V-I appear in various keys.

Level 5: Knowledge of individual chord scale relationships necessary.

SOLO BASS Grade 1

Todd Phillips

Essential Techniques for Acoustic Bass Lesson One Homespun Tapes

A DVD with Todd Phillips teaching the musical foundation for acoustic bass playing in all styles, with rhythm exercises, major scales and chords in both open and closed positions.

Schatz, Mark

Bluegrass Bass Lesson 1

Homespun Tapes

On this DVD, Schatz demonstrates basic patterns and scales, fingerings, passing notes, chord progressions, walking lines, arpeggios and other important techniques needed to play most songs and instrumentals in the bluegrass repertoire.

Sher, Chuck

Foundation Exercises for Bass

Sher Music

Divided into 33 lessons, the book progresses from elementary to intermediate lessons on each topic including reading music, organizing notes into scales, basic ear training exercises, bass grooves and practicing improvisation.

SOLO BASS Grade 2

Todd Phillips

Essential Techniques for Acoustic Bass,
Lesson Two

Homespun Tapes

A DVD with bassist Todd Phillips teaching the musical foundation for acoustic bass playing in all styles, with rhythm exercises, minor scales, leading tones, a variety of time signatures and more complex chord changes.

Schatz, Mark

Bluegrass Bass: Lesson Two

Homespun Tapes

A 60-minute DVD teaching intermediate bluegrass bass repertoire including formation of walking bass lines using chromatic scales, "slap" bass, syncopations, hammer-ons, pull-offs and more.

Sher, Chuck

Foundation Exercises for Bass

Sher Music

Divided into 33 lessons, the book progresses from elementary to intermediate lessons on each topic including reading music, organizing notes into scales, basic ear training exercises, bass grooves and practicing improvisation.

Sorenson, Dean

Standard of Excellence Jazz Combo Sessions-bass

Kjos Music Company

A collection of jazz compositions that can be played in a wide variety of 'combo' settings, solo or with a combination of instruments, including both wind and string players. Comes with accompaniment CD with tunes as well as play along section.

Wasserman, Rob &
Grisman, David

Acoustic Bass

Homespun Tapes

Wasserman teaches several acoustic bass styles and covers the basics—holding the bass, hand positions, picking technique, tuning, scale exercises—then moves on to improvisation, back-ups, runs, chords, more. Includes music book and Six CDs.

Zisman, Michael, ed.

The Real Easy Book, - Vol. 1 Tunes for Beginning Improvisers Bass Clef

Sher Music

Easy, but classic jazz tunes give the beginning improviser a good start in learning the jazz repertoire. Sample piano voicings, guitar chord diagrams, sample bass lines and useful scales for improvisation are included with each tune, for easy reference. Level 1, 2 and 3 improvisation

SOLO BASS Grade 3

Cimorosi, Tony World Beat Grooves for Bass Hal Leonard
This is a fun book including some traditional Latin styles, but also lines from Africa and the Caribbean islands. Comes with CD.

Dabczynski, Andrew &
Bob Phillips (arr.) Fiddler's Philharmonic and Encore(bass) Alfred
Fiddle tunes arranged for string orchestra or solo. Various lines accommodate beginner and intermediate players. Collection of 16 tunes.

Duncan, Craig [arr] American Fiddle Tunes for Solo and Ensemble Mel Bay
16 traditional fiddling tunes arranged in a theme and variation format. Accommodates various combinations from solo instrument with piano to duets and trios to full string quartet/orchestra. Includes parts for bass melody (solo), and bass harmony. Can be played as solo books with piano accompaniment as ensemble.

Duncan, Craig [arr] Celtic Fiddle Tunes for Solo and Ensemble, Bass Mel Bay
14 arrangements of 22 traditional tunes from Ireland. Accommodates various combinations from solo instrument with piano to duets and trios to full string quartet/orchestra. Includes parts for bass melody (solo), and bass harmony. Can be played as solo books with piano accompaniment or ensemble.

Houghton, Steve, &
Warrington, Tom. Essential Styles for the Drummer and Bassist (vol 1 and 2) Alfred
Contains written examples with accompanying recording for 50 jazz, Latin and commercial styles. Each example includes a brief commentary by the authors. Comes with CD

Peacock, Gary The Acoustic Bass, Musicianship and
Improvisational Techniques Homespun Tapes
Jazz master Peacock teaches three important aspects of playing -physical, mental and intuitive - which together form the complete process of creating jazz on the bass. Includes booklet and 75-minute DVD.

Sher, Chuck. The Improviser's Bass Method Sher Music
Manual for improvising and accompanying jazz improvisers on the bass.

Sher, Chuck & Marc Johnson Concepts for Bass Soloing Sher Music
Transcriptions of bass solos by jazz bass greats, exercises on using modes to solo, note choices for chords and typical jazz licks. Includes 2 CDs of Marc Johnson soloing on each exercise

Slutsky, Allan &
Silverman, Chuck The Funkmaster, the Great James Brown
Rhythm Sections 1960-1973 Alfred
This book contains complete rhythm section transcriptions for 23 of Brown's finest tunes. Each bass-line transcription is accompanied by an explanation and anecdotes about the rhythmic or harmonic choices made by the recorded bass player. An invaluable book. Comes with CD.

Sorenson, Dean Standard of Excellence Jazz Combo Sessions-bass Kjos Music Company
A collection of jazz compositions that can be played in a wide variety of 'combo' settings, solo or with a combination of instruments, including both wind and string players. Comes with accompaniment CD with tunes as well as play along section.

Stagnaro, Oscar and Chuck Sher The Latin Bass Book: A Practical Guide Sher Music
Comprehensive book on how to play bass in authentic Afro-Cuban, Brazilian, Caribbean, Latin Jazz & South American styles. With a comprehensive study of jazz harmony and theory and transcriptions of Oscar Stagnaro playing each exercise. Includes 3 Play-Along CDs to accompany each exercise.

Zisman, Michael, ed. The Real Easy Book, - Vol. 1 Tunes for Beginning Improvisers Bass Clef Sher Music
Easy, but classic jazz tunes give the beginning improviser a good start in learning the jazz repertoire. Sample piano voicings, guitar chord diagrams, sample bass lines and useful scales for improvisation are included with each tune, for easy reference. Level 1, 2 and 3 improvisation

Zisman, Michael, ed The Real Easy Book - Vol. 2, Tunes For Intermediate Improvisers "Bass Clef" Sher Music
Intermediate level classic jazz tunes for intermediate improvisers through advanced. Includes scales for soloing, chord voicings, guitar diagrams and bass lines. Level 2, 3 and 4 improvisation

SOLO BASS Grade 4

Sher, Chuck & Marc Johnson Concepts for Bass Soloing Sher Music
Transcriptions of bass solos by jazz bass greats, exercises on using modes to solo, note choices for chords and typical jazz licks. Includes 2 CDs of Marc Johnson soloing on each exercise

Stagnaro, Oscar and Chuck Sher The Latin Bass Book: A Practical Guide Sher Music
Comprehensive book on how to play bass in authentic Afro-Cuban, Brazilian, Caribbean, Latin Jazz & South American styles. With a comprehensive study of jazz harmony and theory and transcriptions of Oscar Stagnaro playing each exercise. Includes 3 Play-Along CDs to accompany each exercise.

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Intermediate level classic jazz tunes for intermediate improvisers through advanced. Includes scales for soloing, chord voicings, guitar diagrams and bass lines. Level 2, 3 and 4 improvisation

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Jody Harmon

Johnsong Music, P.O. Box 3646, Napa, CA, 94558

Donna Hébert

Bert Ligon

S'got Possibilities, 2300 Walker Ave, Greensboro, NC,27403

Digital

Gabriel, Edgar String Groove App for Apple iPad iTunes
The book and Cd "Ideas For Improvising" is presented in an App for iPad. Materials such as Call and Response, videos and other interactive teachings that are not possible with the book and Cd are added. The app works for all strings the user can choose their clef. Each chapter has an advanced section for the advanced student or professional at levels 3-5.

Harmon, Jody Variations Project Jody Harmon
Contemporary arrangements of public domain tunes used in Suzuki Repertoire, published digitally as "albums". Each digital album contains: Recording of tune and sample improvised variation; Recording of accompaniment of tune, so students can use it to create their own variations; pdf sheet music for violin, viola, and cello; pdf theory worksheets used to help create variations for each tune. More tunes and worksheets added regularly. Download only

Harmon, Jody

<http://stringimprov.bandcamp.com>

Howes, Christian

Arpeggios for Jazz Violin, Cello and Viola

Christian Howes

Arpeggio worksheets allow users to practice all types of 7th chords, allowing the expansion of jazz vocabulary and improvisation in a comfortable manner. Available for download

Lieberman, Julie Lyonn StringsCentral App iTunes *Tips, resources, video, audio and string company links covering tuning, equipment, accessories, technique and musical skills. American and world styles, electrics and more. Coordinated with StringsCentral playlists on YouTube.*