



## PROGRAM GUIDELINES

MadFiddle is a youth violin ensemble that explores and performs folk music from around the world. With an emphasis on aural tradition and intergenerational performance, MadFiddle fosters a healthy learning culture that keeps kids playing with their peers and enjoying music.

MadFiddle draws upon an original and evolving curriculum that connects the instrument with the ear and the voice. This curriculum visits a variety of folk traditions - from bluegrass and the blues to old-time and ragtime to Scottish, swing, South American, Scandinavian and beyond.

In 2020, MadFiddle was named *Youth Ensemble of the Year* by the Madison Area Music Association. In 2016, Shauncey Ali received *Teacher of the Year* by the same organization.

## PERFORMANCES

Each season is highlighted by performances with our amazing music community and backing band, Highway 151. Together, we've performed at venues including the Stoughton Opera House, Overture Center, Starlight Theater, Barrymore Theater, Sugar Maple Music Festival, High Noon Saloon, First Unitarian and Music Hall.

## MADFIDDLE APPROACH

Students receive weekly group instruction plus exclusive access to *MadFiddle Online*, a virtual platform for learning at home. Weekly updates keep our students moving forward together. Plus, the *Core Values Curriculum* is a unique social-emotional learning program created for our students.

- **Audio Tutorials** are a primary mode for home learning. Students receive access to interactive audio recordings that reinforce live group instruction and allow players to learn at their own pace.
- **Sheet Music** is provided as a supplemental resource for earlier experience levels.

- **Video Tutorials & Practice Tracks** are provided when available
- **Updates & Assignments** are provided in a 'weekly update' email that streamlines practice focus points for each group.

## GROUP PLACEMENT

Effective group placement sets our program up for long-term success, and the functionality of each group depends on it. We recognize that everyone is on their own musical path, independent of their age.

Group placement is based on the needs of each class and the developmental needs of the student.

Level 1&2: Class Waltz & Class Reel (Thursdays 4:45-5:45 pm)

Level 3: Class Stomp (Thursdays 6:00-7:00 pm)

Level 4: Class Breakdown (Fridays 4:45-5:45 pm)

Level 5: Class Shred (Fridays 6:00-7:00 pm)

Level 6: Class Slay (Thursdays 7:15-8:15 pm)

## PRIVATE INSTRUCTION

MadFiddle is designed to supplement private instruction. For assistance finding a private teacher in the area, visit [www.istmadison.org](http://www.istmadison.org)

## TUITION

Tuition is handled by the semester. \$37/week includes live instruction, MadFiddle Online (home learning platform), Core Values Curriculum (social-emotional learning) and performer admission to all performances. It does not include the performance t-shirt.

## AUDITION & REGISTRATION

For more information, see the **Auditions** document.

Sincerely,

Shauncey Ali, Director

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