

# LEARNING TRADE SECRETS WORKSHOPS

## Bow Rehairing & Maintenance Workshop

Suggested Enrollment Cap: 9

### COURSE INFORMATION

**Course Description:** Students interested in learning how to rehair and maintain bows for stringed instruments will find this hands on course very thorough and challenging. This course is for those with little to no tool skills. By the end of the week, students will have learned how to handle a knife, chisel and other tools of the trade along with a consistent method for rehairing bows. Demonstrations will show students other maintenance techniques useful for employment in the industry.

**Course Objective:** The student will learn how to properly prepare and rehair a violin bow by first disassembling the bow and then polishing parts, cutting plugs and installing hair. The student will be encouraged to rehair three bows during the week and more time permitting.

**Course Topics:** Course topics will include preparing bows of varying materials, including carbon fiber, wood and fiberglass; and how different types of hair affect sound production. Also discussions on gauging the proper amount of hair, pleasing clients, and how camber and straightening affect a rehair. There also will be additional demonstrations on replacing wraps and thumbgrips. All questions will be answered.

### RESOURCES AND SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

**Materials:** A photo essay is provided to each student as a visual reference for assistance during the workshop. Additional written materials are available for the student's purposes only and are not for resale.

**Tools:** Tools are expensive and take knowledge to prepare and maintain. Students are encouraged to bring their own, however a tool box is provided with tools ready for use during the week. All tools must be returned prior to leaving the workshop.

### INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

**Instructor Rodney D. Mohr** and **Assistant Instructor Katherine Mohr**, are happy to answer any questions after the workshop. Please contact Rodney at [Rodney@RodneyMohr.com](mailto:Rodney@RodneyMohr.com) or Katherine at [filledeMohr@gmail.com](mailto:filledeMohr@gmail.com).

## PARTICIPATION AND INSTRUCTIONS

**Participation:** Some students have previous experience and are attending workshops to refine their skills. New students are expected to communicate with the instructor as a learning resource, not other students.

**Instruction:** Students are expected to arrive on time and complete the daily milestones . Both time and supplies are valuable, if you do not understand the instructions, please ask for clarification before beginning work.

## COURSE CONTENTS

**Contents:** The contents of this course include the following topics:

Tools & Sharpening

Rehairing & Maintenance

Wraps & Thumbgrips

## WORKSHOP GROUND RULES

**Syllabus Changes:** While every attempt has been made to prepare this syllabus and class schedule in final form, it will be at the instructor's discretion to make any changes as he/she may deem necessary in order to meet the learning outcomes of the course.

**General Policies:** The instructor expects attention to detail and meeting course expectations, including participation in discussions and addressing technical problems immediately.

**Phones:** Please be courteous to your bench partners by silencing your cell phone during work hours and taking calls outside the workshop when necessary.

**Tools:** Do not borrow tools without permission. Everyone should have all the tools and supplies they need; if not please ask your instructor. Students are prohibited from using any power tools or equipment in the machine room.

**Safety Concerns:** COVID-19 is a safety concern! Although it may be difficult to work and wear a mask, we ask that for your safety you do so if you are unvaccinated. Should you choose not to wear mask we are not responsible for contraction. Injury is possible when using cyanoacrylate glue, therefore each student has been provided a pair of safety glasses for use during the course to help prevent eye injury. A First Aid and Eye Wash Station also are available should injury occur.

**Work Hours:** Hours are 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Or at the instructor's discretion. Additional time may be available from 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. for trouble shooting. Check with instructor for additional time.

# COURSE CALENDAR

These topics and milestones are subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.

DAY	TIME	AGENDA/TOPIC	MILESTONES
SUNDAY	5:00pm	Getting Acquainted	All tools are sharp and ready to go
	5:30pm-6:00 pm	Pizza Party	
	6:30pm-8:00pm	Tool Sharpening Workshop preparation for Monday	
MONDAY	8:30am–5:00pm	Introduction and overview	Bow preparation for rehairing
		Rehair Demonstration & Discussion	Understanding wood grain orientation
		Removing hair, plugs and wedges	Bow prep
		Cut and fit head plug	Head plug fit by end of day
TUESDAY	8:30am–5:00pm	Disassembling the frog	Silver parts polished Frog plug fit by end of day
		Polish silver parts	
		Cut and fit frog plug	
		Knot tying	
WEDNESDAY	8:30am–5:00pm	Hair installation in head	Hair in head
		Combing out and tying knots	Hair is in bow
		Hair installation in frog	
THURSDAY	8:30am–5:00pm	Cutting and fitting spread wedge	Rehair is complete
		1-2 more rehairs	1-2 more rehairs are complete
		Problems and questions addressed	
FRIDAY	8:30am–5:00pm	Wrap & Thumbgrip Demonstration Refining rehairing techniques	All questions answered
	5:00pm–6:00pm	Pack personal belongings	Return all tools to tool box
SATURDAY		Workshop Closed for Cleaning	