**East Carolina University**

**String Project**

**Eligibility**

The ECU String Project is accepting new students in grades 4-high school who are living within commuting distance of ECU. You may apply by returning the attached application or by supplying the information in an e-mail to the director. After applying you will receive more specific information from one of our teachers.

**Program Description**

Beginning in fall 2008, the ECU String Project began providing string instruction for 4th and 5th grade students in the immediate community and surrounding areas. For 2012-13, The ECU String Project curriculum consists of small group lessons and ensemble classes based on level, and we want your child as a student! Lessons are 30 minutes to one hour in length, depending upon the age and advancement of each student. Lessons will be held between 4:00 and 6:00 on Monday and Wednesday. Classes are designed to develop music concepts and string techniques and other musical skills, such as ensemble playing, and leadership skills. All String Project activities will take place at the Fletcher Music Center on the ECU campus.

**Tuition**

The ECU String Project offers quality instruction for a low cost. Tuition for the program includes all lessons. Tuition is to be paid at the first class during each semester. Tuition for students during the 2012-2013 academic year is $45.00 per semester. Instruments and supplies are the responsibility of the parents, and there are several outlets for renting instruments.

**String Project Teachers**

All of the ECU String Project teachers are string music majors at East Carolina University. In addition to providing a string education program for the community, the String Project also provides a hands-on teacher training program for ECU string students. Inspired by the University of Texas String Project, the original program of its kind, the ECU String Project also supports the American String Teachers Association current initiatives by encouraging the development of young talent and mentoring string teachers.

Under the supervision of Dr. Greg Hurley, all of the ECU String Project teachers attend regular pedagogy meetings, attend string workshops, and receive feedback on their teaching.

**What Are My Responsibilities as a Parent?**

Learning for any child is always much more successful with parent support and involvement. So, for this reason, students will be most successful if parents direct their child to:

* Attend lessons and classes regularly
* Practice regularly as instructed by your teacher

Parents are also strongly encouraged to expose their child to activities and events that encourage and enforce musical interest & attend lessons and practice sessions as guided by your teacher.

**About the Director: Dr. C. Gregory Hurley**

Dr. Hurley is Associate Professor of Music Education at East Carolina University and is active as an educator, clinician, and violist. Prior to coming to ECU in 2001, Dr. Hurley worked in other musical settings including the position of Chair of Music Education at the University of Northern Colorado and earlier as a string teacher in the Wake County (NC) Public Schools. Dr. Hurley currently conducts the Eastern Youth Junior Orchestra and teaches courses for undergraduate and graduate students in music at ECU.

*For further information please contact Dr. Hurley*

*at (252) 328-1245 or hurleyc@ecu.edu*

**Application for New Students**

To register your child for the ECU String Project, please return this form to the address below OR send the following information by email to:

 Dr. Greg Hurley, ECU String Project

 Fletcher Music Center

 East Carolina University

 Greenville, NC 27858

 HurleyC@ecu.edu

Parents’ names: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Student’s name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Instrument: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Years of experience playing a string instrument

 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Any Questions???

Contact Dr. Greg Hurley

(252)328-1245 or hurleyc@ecu.edu

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**Who is eligible to apply?**

A beginning 4th – 6th grade student, or any person in grades 6th -12 who has had prior instruction on a string instrument.

**Once my child graduates from 6th grade, what opportunities are available through the ECU String Project**?

The ECU String Project is offering classes for students as they advance in age, and we hope that students beginning with us this year will continue through high school.

**Will the ECU String Project provide instruments for student use?**

The ECU String Project does not provide instruments for student use. Students should rent or buy an instrument. Check with local music stores about rental or purchase. Please insist on horsehair bows, and purchase a shoulder rest for violin and viola, and a rock stop for students playing cello and bass. Check the size of instrument with your instrumental string project teacher.

**I can’t participate next semester. Can I come back into the program once I’ve stopped?** Once a student stops participating in the ECU String Project, they are not eligible to re-enter the program.

**Is regular practice expected?**

Yes, regular practice, just like so many other things in life, is expected for success. Parents can help in this process by setting aside a space in the home and expecting practice at a consistent time each day. Teachers will help to guide expectations of what and how to practice. Positive parental support builds a student’s confidence and commitment to practice.

**Where are classes and lessons held?** Classes are held at the Fletcher Music Center on the ECU Campus. The length of lessons and classes depends on age and advancement of the students. However, they will occur between 4:00 and 6:00 on Monday and Wednesday. Students will come twice a week: once for large group experience, and a second time for instruction in small groups.

**Are there any restrictions of eligibility for the program**?

Students who are currently studying with a private teacher are not eligible for instrumental lessons in the ECU String Project. Students must be members of their public school string program if one exists.

**How will music study affect my child’s school work?**

Researchers have found that students studying orchestra instruments in addition to their school program tend to develop greater powers of concentration, which enhances academic success.

**Does the ECU String Project use the Suzuki string instruction method?**

The ECU String Project director and teachers recognize that there are a number of excellent methods, including those written by Applebaum, Rolland, Matesky, and others. The approach selected for each class depends on the nature of the particular class and the background of the teacher.

**This sounds like a wonderful opportunity, but isn’t it a lot of hard work?**

Yes, mastery of a musical instrument requires much hard work and discipline, but few activities are more fun and satisfying than creating beautiful music. We feel the rewards are commensurate with the investment.

**Come Join in the Fun of the**

**East Carolina University**

**STRING PROJECT**

**Director, Dr. Greg Hurley**

**A String Education Program**

**For Young Musicians**

****

**Sponsored by**

**ECU School of Music**

**&**

**ECU College of Fine Arts and Communication**

**&**

**A grant from the Dana Foundation through the National String Project Consortium**