General Information
The Texas State University String Project offers affordable string instruction for children in the San Marcos and surrounding areas. We invite students in grades K-8 to join us for a program full of music learning and fun on the Texas State campus. The program is open to public, private and home-schooled families throughout the Central Texas area.

Our full program consists of weekly group classes and private lessons during each of the university’s long semesters, from late August to late April each year with a winter break. Group classes meet on Wednesday evening from 5:30-6:45pm, and private lessons are scheduled in coordination with your assigned instructor. All instruction takes place at the Texas State University School of Music, located at 101 Pleasant Street, San Marcos, TX, 78666.

Wednesday Class Schedule
Weekly group classes meet each Wednesday during the long semester at 5:30 – 6:45 pm, with the exception of Suzuki classes for children in grades K-2. These classes begin at one hour in length (5:30-6:30pm) and increase to 75 minutes over the course of the year.

It is our mission to support public school string programs, all String Project students must also be enrolled in their school orchestra program, if one exists for their grade level.

Important Dates for 2024-25
A complete list of important dates is available on our website.

Wed. August 28       New Student Registration, Returning Student Sizing/Rental
Wed. September 4     First class day, Fall Semester
Mon. September 9     Fall semester private lessons begin
Wed. November 20      Fall concert, 6:00 pm PERF Recital Hall
Wed. January 22      First class day, Spring Semester
Mon. January 27      Spring semester private lessons begin
Wed. April 26        Spring concert, 6:00 pm PERF Recital Hall (TBC)

Private Lesson Schedule
Private lessons are scheduled in coordination with your assigned private instructor. Returning students will receive their private teacher assignment before the semester begins. New students will receive by the first day of Wednesday classes.
Tuition
Tuition is $240 per semester for Beginning and Maroon classes and include twelve (12) weekly classes and ten (10) weekly 30-minute private lessons. Tuition for the Gold Orchestra program is $280 per semester, including twelve (12) weekly classes and ten (10) weekly 45-minute private lessons. A sibling discount of $25 is available for the second sibling and beyond. Registration is completed online on the Texas State String Project website. If you would like to pay by cash, check, or money order please reach out to the director.

Instrumental Rental & Supplies
String Project students must provide their own instruments. We strongly recommend renting an instrument before purchasing – sizes change as children grow, and there are many instruments on the market of insufficient quality. To be safe, please consult a String Project teacher or director before purchasing to ensure your the instrument your are considering is the correct size and will allow your student to enjoy a positive learning experience.

The Texas State String Project has a limited supply of instruments available for rent at discounted rates. These instruments are available on a first-come, first-served basis. A $100 refundable deposit is required, and rental costs vary from $60-80 per semester per instrument.

If we are unable to provide a String Project instrument for your student, we recommend the following area string shops. All are knowledgeable and reputable, and offer excellent rent-to-own and trade-in credit programs.

Westbank String Shop, South Austin – (512) 326-4898
Antonio Strad Violin, San Antonio – (210) 349-9788 or (800) 284-9788
Blackerby Violin Shop, South Austin – (512) 284-8879
Strait Music Company, South Austin – (512) 476-6927
Terra Nova Violins, San Antonio – (210) 349-4700
Terra Nova Violins, North Austin - (512) 640-4072

Whether you rent or purchase, be sure that you receive a complete “outfit,” including: instrument, bow, case, rosin, sponge or shoulder rest (for violin/viola) and endpin/“rock stop” (for cello/bass). Shoulder rests/sponges are required for violin/viola and must be used at all times.

Beginning ensembles (K-2 and 3-5) will be using Learning Together, Book 1 (book/cd), and Beginning and Maroon Orchestra classes will be using Essential Elements Book 1. Sheet music will be provided for other ensembles and any additional sheet music for private lessons will be assigned as needed.

On-Campus Parking
On-campus parking is limited and requires a valid Texas State parking permit on Monday through Friday, so there are two options for parking on the Texas State campus:

Option 1: Purchase a Texas State University purple commuter permit, which allows community members to park on campus after regular school or business hours. The fee is $115 for the calendar year (August 2023 – August 2024). (This document will be updated when the 2024-25
fee schedule is released.) Although this seems like a lot at one time, it averages out about half the cost of option 2, paying per visit.

To purchase a parking permit, parents must visit the Texas State Parking Services in the Mathews Street Garage, (202 Student Center Drive), during their business hours and purchase directly. You will need to have your license plate number, driver license number and $115 payment with you and be sure to request a purple parking pass. For more information, please contact Parking Services at 512-245-2887 or visit Texas State Parking Services.

Option 2: Pay per visit by purchasing a “$5 after 5:00 pm” permit by using the AMP Park app (available on the App Store or on Google Play, or pay at aimsmobilepay.com) in the in the Pleasant Street Garage, across the street from the School of Music.