



LEVEL ONE

Skills & Goals:

- Comfortable body position and proper instrument placement
- Ability to play in tune in one position, recognizing basic finger patterns
- Developing basic bow grip, straight bow, and variety of bow strokes
- Playing pieces of different character and tempo

Sample Repertoire:

- One octave scales and arpeggios
- Studies by Kinsey, Wohlfahrt, Doflein
- Pieces by Applebaum, Elgar, DeKayser

End of Year Evaluation:

- Six one octave scales with arpeggios
- One study
- One piece, memorized

**Additional
Requirements for
Young Artist Diploma
Candidates Only:**

- Average Score of “high pass” for evaluation
- Two performances per year
- Two year-long electives in total, suggestions include:
theory class, youth orchestra



LEVEL TWO

Skills & Goals:

- Secure and flexible body position (standing and sitting)
- Mastering positions 1 through 3 and proper shifting
- Vibrato on long notes, simple double stops and chords
- Consistent bow grip, comfortable string crossing and bow distribution
- Variety of phrasing and dynamics

Sample Repertoire:

- Two octave scales and arpeggios
- Studies by Sitt, Kayser, Hoffmann
- Pieces by Fiocco, Sitt, Vivaldi, Telemann

End of Year Evaluation:

- Six two octave scales and arpeggios
- One study
- Two contrasting pieces, one of which needs to be memorized

**Additional
Requirements for
Young Artist Diploma
Candidates Only:**

- Average score of “high pass” for evaluation
- Three performances per year
- Three year-long electives in total, suggestions include:
Theory Class, Chamber Music, Youth Orchestra



LEVEL THREE

Skills & Goals:

- Balanced body position, ability to recognize and avoid tension
- Ability to shift to higher positions
- Consistent vibrato, comfortable double stops and chords
- Variety of bowings, including off the string
- Playing with more expression and making more stylistic choices

Sample Repertoire:

- Three octave scales and arpeggios
- Studies by Bruni, Dont, Mazas, Trott
- Pieces by Bach, Bruch, Hindemith, Bach Cello Suites
- Concertos by Zelter, Hoffmeister, Vanhal

End of Year Evaluation:

- Six three octave scales and arpeggios
- One study
- Two contrasting pieces, one of which should be memorized

**Additional
Requirements for
Young Artist Diploma
Candidates Only:**

- Average score of “high pass” for evaluation
- Three performances per year
- Three year-long electives in total, suggestions include:
Theory Class, Chamber Music, Youth Orchestra



LEVEL FOUR

Skills & Goals:

- Comfortable and consistent posture
- Mastery of the entire fingerboard, ability to shift fast
- Variety of vibrato styles, mastery of double stops and chords
- Advanced bow technique and style appropriate application
- Development of personal sound and style

Sample Repertoire:

- Three octave scales and arpeggios, scales in double stops
- Studies by Campagnoli, Kreutzer, Rode, Dont
- Pieces by Vitali, Schumann, Hindemith, Bach Cello Suites
- Sonatas by Bach, Brahms, Rachmaninoff,
- Concertos by Walton, Stamitz, Bartok

End of Year Evaluation:

- All major and minor 3 octave scales and arpeggios
- One study
- Two contrasting pieces, one of which should be memorized

**Additional
Requirements for
Young Artist Diploma
Candidates Only:**

- Average score of “high pass” for evaluation
- Three performances per year
- Three year-long electives in total, suggestions include:
Theory Class, Chamber Music, Youth Orchestra