

## **Instrument Care**

1. Handle the instrument and bow with extreme care. Never bump or jar the instrument, even while it is in its case. The instrument is fragile and could go out of adjustment or break.
2. Keep the instrument and bow clean. Wipe the rosin and fingerprints off the instrument with a soft cloth after you finish playing.
3. When you are finished playing put the instrument and bow back in its case and zip or close the case.
4. Never leave your instrument in the car or expose it to high heat, extreme cold, or let it get wet. The instrument may develop cracks or come unglued and need to be repaired. If it is uncomfortable for you it is also bad for your instrument.
5. Don't bump the bridge on anything!
6. Check your bridge to see that it is standing up straight. If it is leaning, tell me and I will fix it.
7. Never polish the instrument with furniture polish.
8. Do not use glue or tape on any part of your instrument.
9. Do not put anything in the case with the instrument except what was meant to be there – even papers and music.
10. No one but the string student and home teacher should handle the instrument, including friends, brothers and sisters.
11. Never lend the instrument to anyone.
12. Do not attempt your own repairs. Only an expert repairman has the skill and experience to do a good job.
13. Always tell your teacher when something happens to your instrument or you notice that it sounds “different”.
14. Never stand cellos up to store them, always place them on their sides.
15. Always keep the cello end pin in when you are not playing your cello.

## **Bow Care**

1. Bows break. Do not drop your bow or hit anything or anyone with it.
2. Tighten your bow before playing – about 7 times – until the hair is not touching the stick. The stick must still have a curve in it.
3. When finished playing loosen the bow – the same number turns you tightened it – this will save you money on bow repairs.
4. Rosin your bow before playing.
5. Do not touch the bow hair. We have oil in our skin and it makes the bow hair unable to play.
6. Always put the bow back in the case after playing.