

Social Media Side Quest

Every person and every family handles social media differently, and at different ages. So, if you're not a social media person/family - that is completely fine and you can ignore this side quest! If you are, however, social media can be a powerful tool for good when it comes to your children's musical education. Having them follow role models and inspirational accounts can add some positivity to their feeds and possibly even inspire them to get off their phones and try what they see!

In the same way, for parents, following professional musicians and music teachers can give practice strategies, tips, and support. There are Facebook parent groups aimed exactly at supporting parents of music students, and this could be a great way to get more ideas for practicing with your child, and to connect with other like-minded parents.

Here are some recommendations, though this is by no means an exhaustive list:

Facebook (for parents, unless kids are still on Facebook these days?):

Barbie Wong Music (Page), and she runs a private group called Musical Nest

Allen Violin Studio (our studio page, where I often post interesting articles, as well as photos/videos from studio events)

Mason Community Arts Academy

Strings at Mason Community Arts Academy

Big Life Journal

Artist pages for: the Kennedy Center, Mason Center for the Arts, Hilary Hahn, Ray Chen, Silkroad Ensemble, Midori, any group or artist you are interested in.

Instagram (also check to see if your school orchestra has an account):

@allenviolinstudio
@masonartsacademy
@suzukitriangle
@raychen
@violincase
@mindlaunchers
@biglifejournal
@practizma
@boulangerinitiative
@weimaginemusic
@violinist.com_
@astastrings
@kennedycenter
@dolce.strings
@rbalanas

TikTok:

@hilaryhahnofficial
@raychenviolin