



Noah Schaffrick is the Director of Middle School Orchestras for the Manitowoc Public School District in Wisconsin, where he also teaches 6th grade General Music. A dedicated educator and performer, Noah holds a Master of Music in Violin Performance from the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) and a Bachelor of Music Education in Instrumental and General Music from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. He has also earned advanced certificates in music theory and graduate business foundations.

At UTEP, Noah was honored as the UTEP Outstanding Graduate Student in Music Performance and served as the Graduate Student Marshal for the UTEP College of Liberal Arts, recognizing his academic achievements. As a performer and educator, Noah frequently freelances as a principal violinist/violist and clinician, and has performed internationally, including in Italy. He is an active member of the American String Teachers Association (ASTA) and the American Viola Society (AVS).

Noah is deeply committed to the advancement of string pedagogy, focusing on exploring lesser-known works and diversifying teaching methods for the 21st-century learner. His research interests include expanding pedagogical repertoires for violin and viola, and he often presents on topics such as *Paul Rolland Pedagogy: An Introduction to the Principles of Action in Performance*, *The Sassmannshaus Method: Solo Pieces, Scales, and More*, and *New Works for Chamber Music: Engaging Young, Diverse Composers*.

In the classroom, Noah has taught or assisted in courses across various subjects, including chamber music, music theory, music appreciation, fiddling, and body mapping. He also authored the article Vartan Manoogian's Foundational Violin Exercises as Modern Technical Studies, published through ASTA.

Noah's violin teachers include Dr. Stephen Nordstrom and Leanne Kelso while being mentored in orchestral studies by Dr. Christopher Ramaekers.

Teaching Philosophy

As a dedicated educator, I aim to nurture musicians who will grow to become contributing members of our society. My teaching approach centers on helping students achieve their personal musical goals by connecting them to music through Comprehensive Musicianship through Performance (CMP) and Culturally Responsive Pedagogies. I wish to share my passion for music and demonstrate how it can transform lives, for the individuals involved and the communities around them.

In my lessons, students will learn:

- The technical aspects of their instrument and how to perform safely to prevent injury
- A comprehensive musical vocabulary, along with the awareness and application of musical components, genres, and cultural contexts.
- An understanding and appreciation of how their music can impact their society and how music is perceived throughout cultures
- Individual artistic expression
- Life skills that can be extended beyond music