

Please use the following recording steps as a guide while recording your video to submit. You need to make sure your video is recorded in the correct format and setting.

## **THINGS YOU WILL NEED:**

### **Two Devices**

- One to view the Virtual Classroom materials. We recommend a desktop computer (Mac or PC) or Tablet (iPad, Samsung Tab, Microsoft Surface, etc)
- One that can record video and audio. We recommend a Tablet (iPad, Samsung Tab, Microsoft Surface, etc) or Smartphone (iPhone, Android, Windows, etc)

You will hear the music (and watch if you want too) from one device like a computer/tablet/phone and record with a separate phone.

**Headphones (Instrumental or Vocal)** - Plugged into the first device where you can see and hear the Virtual Classroom materials.

**Music** – Have your music ready

**Music Stand** - Position your stand so you can see the music and the camera can see you.

**Place to put your phone to record** - Position your recording device on high enough for the best possible recording angle. Do not have someone hold it while recording.

## **STEPS TO RECORD:**

**Step 1:** Position yourself so you can view your music. If it helps to watch Ms. Neidhold, have the computer/tablet positioned so you can see that too.

**Step 2:** Plug your headphones into the same device displaying the Virtual Classroom materials (the computer/tablet/phone playing the music).

**Step 3:** Adjust the recording quality on your device. We suggest you make the following adjustments in your device's camera settings (if you know how – ask a parent for help):

- Change video to record at a minimum of 720P at 30 frames per second
- Change audio to record in Stereo Sound

**Step 4:** Position your recording device so that it is vertical (up and down) in portrait or selfie mode. The video should have you and your instrument in the lower 2/3rd's of the screen.

**Step 5:** Check your recording environment. Playing in a room with lots of echo makes it hard to put our videos together. Try to record in a quiet room, maybe with carpet.

**Step 6:** Check your lighting. Be sure lighting is in front of you. We have talked about what to wear and what the background should be. Golden Strings students: We have two plans – 1) Galaxy Jam; 2) Holiday. Don't mix them up.

**Step 7:** Count Off. You will receive an 8 beat count-off before the piece begins. In the first 4 beats, please follow the instructions and say "3" or "3-2-1" when they ask you to.

**Step 8:** Now that you are ready to record, the video on the Virtual Classroom will instruct you when to begin recording yourself and when to stop. The start and stop times help them line up our videos.

**Step 9:** Review your recording. Watch your video before you upload it and make sure it follows these directions.

## **CHECK LIST**

- ☐ \_Did you record your video for the whole piece?
- ☐ \_Did you tune your instrument before recording!?
- ☐ \_Is your image in the lower 2/3's of the screen?
- ☐ \_Is there any background noise? - Your audio should not include the audio track with Ms. Neidhold conducting/playing (USE HEADPHONES), dogs, birds, other household sounds.
- ☐ \_Is your sound good on the video? If not, you may need to change some settings. Try Googling.
- ☐ \_Is the lighting in your video good? - A dark room may not pick up your face and/or instrument and too much light may cause glare.
- ☐ \_Did you play your music with the audio correctly? – Listen for noticeable places in your performance where you slow down or speed up. Practice and re-record.