

## REMEDIAL TEACHING: STRATEGIES & SOLUTIONS FOR SOLVING STUDENTS' COMMON BOWING PROBLEMS

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### I. General Principles for Determining Solutions

- A. Ability to recognize that a playing problem exists
- B. Ability to dissect problem, e.g. multiple components of spiccato or vibrato skills to help determine how and in what order to fix components of the problem
- C. Need to prioritize solutions when multiple problems occur
  - 1. determine large goals and objectives: which bowing skills, left hand and instrument position skills, and ear training skills first need to be addressed, and in what order
  - 2. priority base solution guidelines: center of body out and large motor motions first, then smaller motions
- D. Need to have multiple solutions to remedy same problem to disguise repetition

### II. Sample Playing Problem and Possible Solutions

#### Bow Hand Shape

1. Problem:

Solution:

2. Problem

Solution:

3. Problem:

Solution:

4. Problem:

Solution:

5. Problem:

Solution

**Simple Detache**

1. Problem:

Solution

2. Problem:

Solution:

3. Problem:

Solution:

4. Problem:

Solution:

5. Problem:

Solution:

**String Crossings**

1. Problem:

Solution

2. Problem:

Solution

3. Problem

Solution:

4. Problem:

Solution:

**Direction Changes**

1. Problem

Solution:

2. Problem:

Solution

3. Problem:

Solution

### **Stopped Bowings**

1. Problem:

Solution

2. Problem:

Solution:

3. Problem:

Solution:

4. Problem:

Solution:

### **Spiccato**

1. Problem:

Solution

2. Problem:

Solution:

3. Problem:

Solution:

4. Problem:

Solution:

### **III. Resources For Remediating Students' Playing Problems**

- *The Art and Science of String Performance* by Sam Applebaum, Alfred Pub.
- *The Teaching of Action in String Playing*, Paul Rolland, ASTA with NSOA
- *Playing the String Game: Strategies for Teaching Cello and Strings*, Phyllis Young
- *The String Play: The Drama of Playing and Teaching*, Phyllis Young
- *Strategies for Teaching Strings: Building A Successful String and Orchestra Program* by Don Hamann and Bob Gillespie, Oxford University Press – Third Edition & Fourth Edition
- *String Clinics to Go: DVD Series* by Bob Gillespie and Bob Phillips, available through Shar Music Products: 3 DVDs