

# LEARNING TRADE SECRETS WORKSHOPS

## Bow Making Syllabus

March 29-April 4, 2020

Suggested Enrollment Cap: 15

### COURSE INFORMATION

**Course Description:** Students interested in learning to make bows will find this hands on course very thorough and challenging. This course is for those who have accomplished rehairing and repairing bows and wish to further their knowledge of bows or broaden their skills and income. By the end of the week, students will have learned how to rough out sticks, camber and straighten, shape and finish bow sticks. Demonstrations will show students techniques for a repeatable process.

**Course Objective:** The week is devoted to the woodworking elements of bow making only. The student will learn how to properly plane and camber a stick in the style of Tourte, carve and shape a corresponding head, carve mortises, fit a frog and button, and finish and polish the stick.

**Course Topics:** Course topics will include types of wood, gauging the viability of a stick blank, round vs. octagonal sticks, style, camber, and other bow related topics. Also a discussions on how strength and weight affect playability. All questions will be answered.

### RESOURCES AND SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIALS

**Materials:** A photo essay is provided to each student as a visual reference for assistance during the workshop. Bow schematics are provided for students to add measurements and other notes. These are reusable for the student's purposes only and not for resale.

**Tools:** Tools are expensive and take knowledge to prepare and maintain. We encourage students to bring their own planes, knives, chisels, calipers and files, however a tool box is provided with some tools ready for use during the week should the student be new to bow making. All tools must be returned prior to leaving the workshop. Reference books are available for viewing.

### INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

**Instructor Rodney D. Mohr** and **Assistant Instructor Katherine Mohr**, are happy to answer any questions after the workshop. Please contact Rodney at [Rodney@RodneyMohr.com](mailto:Rodney@RodneyMohr.com) or Katherine at [filledeMohr@gmail.com](mailto:filledeMohr@gmail.com). Join Katherine's Facebook page for Violin Business Professionals.

For additional course offerings visit [www.LearningTradeSecrets.com](http://www.LearningTradeSecrets.com) or  
Contact Us at [LearningTradeSecrets@gmail.com](mailto:LearningTradeSecrets@gmail.com).

## PARTICIPATION AND INSTRUCTIONS

**Participation:** Some students have previous experience and are attending workshops to refine their skills. New students are expected to communicate with the instructor(s) as a learning resource, not other students.

**Punctuality:** Students are expected to arrive on time and complete the daily milestones as they co-ordinate with the daily course calendar. Teaching hours are 8:00 - 5:00pm. Additional evening hours may be available at the instructor's discretion.

## COURSE CONTENTS

**Contents:** The contents of this course include the following topics:

Choosing wood and determining viability

Camber and style

Cutting mortises

Fitting frog and button to stick

Stick graduations and bow weight

Chamfers

Staining and polishing stick

## COURSE GROUND RULES

**Syllabus Changes:** While every attempt has been made to prepare this syllabus and class schedule in final form, it will be at the instructor's discretion to make any changes as he/she may deem necessary in order to meet the learning outcomes of the course.

**General Policies:** The instructor expects attention to detail and meeting course expectations, including participation in discussions and addressing technical problems immediately.

**Phones:** Please be courteous to your bench partners by silencing your cell phone during work hours and taking calls outside the workshop.

**Tools:** Do not borrow tools without permission. Everyone should have all the tools and supplies they need; if not please ask your instructor.

**Safety Concerns:** Injury is possible when using cyanoacrylate glue, therefore each student has been provided a pair of safety glasses for use during the course to help prevent eye injury. A First Aid and Eye Wash Station also are available should injury occur. Should an injury occur, please see your instructor immediately and then dial 9-1-1. Any injury requires a completed Injury Form located on the clip board next to the eye wash station. Your safety and well-being is our number one priority.

# COURSE CALENDAR

These topics and milestones are subject to change at the discretion of the instructor.

DAY	DATE	AGENDA/TOPIC	MILESTONES
SUNDAY	05/12/2019	Tool Sharpening and workshop preparation for Monday	All tools are sharp and ready to go
MONDAY	05/13/2019	Introduction and overview Discussion on Wood Discussion on Camber & Style Rough-out and camber stick Start on 2nd stick if time	Stick is ready for tip
TUESDAY	05/14/2019	Put on tip Preliminary shaping of head Start on 2nd stick if time	Tip is on Profile of head is finished Stick is ready to fit frog
WEDNESDAY	05/15/2019	Fit frog Cut mortise Drill screw hole	Frog is fit to stick Mortise is cut Button screws into frog eyelet
THURSDAY	05/16/2019	Discussion on Bow Weight Graduate stick Round stick if needed	Stick graduations are finished Stick is rounded and weight is acceptable
FRIDAY	05/17/2019	Final head shaping & chamfer Sand Polish	Finish stick & prep for polish Stick is finished and ready for polish
SATURDAY	05/18/2019	Finish polish Rehair, Wrap & Thumbgrip Review & Questions Clean up by 6:00 pm	Finish stick All questions answered Return all tools to tool box