



EDU CORNER

Bringing "Tender Loving Care" Into The Practice Room

BY KATHRYN PATRICIA COBBLER

In gaining more efficiency and learning technical passages, using repetitions has been a staple in the practice 'tool box'. Something for students to keep in mind is that not all passages are created equal. As we all are unique beings, our brains and hands learn and take to playing certain passages more than others. In order to make the most of their practice sessions I recommend that students T.L.C. their repertoire:

Tender:

These are the passages that are still fragile and need the most attention. These are parts of your music that should be practiced every day--SLOW practice is your best friend :-)

Loving:

this passage is work OK, but there are one to two issues that still need to be corrected. To narrow in on the practice points, refer to the Practice Room Checklist to help focus your practice. Looking at these passages every other day or 60 % of your practice sessions will help to see improvements.

Care:

Feel proud! These passages have received the full care package and meet all the areas on your practice room checklist. These passages can be played 2-3 times per week, to keep them under your fingers.

Happy Practicing!

Practice Room Checklist

As musicians, we are kind of like plumbers, we're always looking for "the leak". Use the following questions to help you find where you need to spend the most time and focus in your practice:

1. Am I playing the correct notes? (Are those notes in tune??)
2. Am I playing the correct rhythms?
3. Am I playing with a steady tempo?
4. Am I playing with my best sound ? (is it warm? is it consistent/even?)



A woman with short dark hair, wearing a dark patterned top, is playing a violin. She is looking down at the instrument with a focused expression. The background is dark and out of focus.

About Kathryn Patricia

“

"Creativity, which is the expression of our originality, helps us stay mindful that what we bring to the world is completely original and cannot be compared."

-Brené Brown

Kathryn Patricia Cobbler is a violist, performing artist and educator living in the Ottawa region. Having a varied experience as an orchestral musician, she has performed with the Toronto Symphony's Trans-Siberian Orchestra, Ottawa Symphony Orchestra, and the Ottawa Jazz Orchestra. As a chamber and solo musician, she has been featured in the Music & Beyond, Southminster United Church, Glebe St. James, Church of the Ascension, and Trinity Anglican Concert Series. Ms. Cobbler's projects currently centre around works for solo viola and the Boss RC-30 loop pedal.

Kathryn is very excited to premiere a piece for this instrument combination this Fall by Raphael Weinroth-Browne, Canadian cellist and composer. Ms. Cobbler has received educational training from the Royal Conservatory and is a certified Suzuki teacher.

Kathryn holds a Honours Bachelor and Masters degree in viola performance from Western University and the University of Ottawa respectively.