

# Christopher E. Sexton

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*Recent Masters graduate planning next academic and career steps. Goals include deepening my relationships and career in the music field, growing my private music lesson studio, broadening my studio work, growing my bluegrass and Americana band, and teaching adjunct/part-time at one or more public or private institutions. While I am proficient and highly knowledgeable in traditional classical studies, I have a focus and extensive expertise in bluegrass and Americana music; a genre not currently well-represented in academic studies or private instruction.*

## **EDUCATION**

<i>College :</i>	Shenandoah University M.M. in Instrumental Pedagogy (Violin), GPA: 3.900	2008 – 2010
	Shenandoah University B.M. in Instrumental Performance (Violin), GPA: 3.387 Minor in Piano and Voice	1993 - 1997
	Province Alumni Coordinator, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia	2009 – Present
	Alumni Relations Officer, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia	2007 – 2009
	Passed Praxis; held provisional teaching license; Commonwealth of Virginia	2000 – 2003
	Member, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia	1995 – Present

## **EMPLOYMENT**

***Nothin' Fancy Bluegrass Band LLC; Buena Vista, VA (based)*** 1998 - Present

*Positions held:* IBMA, SPBGMA and Grammy-Nominated Fiddler and Vocalist

*Duties:* As principal and co-owner of nationally renowned bluegrass/Americana band, have traveled extensively through 40 states while averaging 120 gigs per year and releasing 8 full-length bluegrass recordings through Pinecastle Records label.

Performed at Lincoln Center, the Grand Ole Opry, the Birchmere, the Ryman Auditorium, the SPGBMA Awards, the IBMA Awards, numerous other locations and prestigious festivals throughout the United States and Canada. Slated to host SPBGMA Midwest Awards, 2010.

Featured clinician at fiddle workshops at bluegrass festivals across US and Canada.

Nothin' Fancy has collectively been nominated for over a dozen awards through the Society for the Preservation of Bluegrass Music Awards (SPGBMA) and the International Bluegrass Music Association (IBMA).

Special guest artist on Rhonda Vincent & The Rage's 2006 CD, "Ragin' Live." Grammy-Nominated for 2006 Bluegrass Album of the Year.

Are currently the thrice-running (2008 – 2010) recipients of the SPGBMA "Entertaining Band of the Year" award.

Four-time running nominee (2008-2010) for SPGBMA Fiddler of the Year award, and four-time contest winner at the Galax Old-Time Fiddler's Convention.

***Foxes Music Company, Falls Church, VA*** 2002 - Present  
*Positions held:* Private music instructor  
*Duties:* One-on-one lessons in violin, fiddle, viola, and cello

***Picker's Supply Inc., Fredericksburg, VA*** 2002 - Present  
*Positions held:* Private music instructor  
*Duties:* One-on-one lessons in violin, fiddle, viola, and cello

***Freelance Recording Artist, Manassas VA*** 1998 - Present  
*Positions held:* Violinist, Fiddler, Violist, Cellist, Vocalist, Pianist  
*Duties:* Have appeared on over 25 albums of bluegrass, classical, jazz, pop, and R&B genres, including one solo album; recently recorded under the direction of noted R&B and hip-hop producers Timbaland and Ferrell. Additionally, have recorded for the Discovery Channel, Learning Channel, National Geographic, and PBS.

***Violino Ristorante Italiano, Winchester, VA*** 1995 - Present  
*Positions held:* Violinist  
*Duties:* Entertainment, strings

***Contemporary Music Center; Chantilly, VA*** 2002 - 2006  
*Positions held:* Private music instructor  
*Duties:* One-on-one lessons in violin, fiddle, viola, and cello

***The American Children of SCORE; The Plains, VA*** 1998 - 2003  
*Positions held:* String Director, SCORE Concert Group  
*Duties:* Directing string section of the SCORE Concert Group  
String coach

***Parkside Middle School, Prince William County Schools; Manassas, VA*** 2000 - 2002  
*Positions held:* Orchestra Director/Music teacher  
*Duties:* String teacher/orchestra director  
Music teacher, Director of orchestra programs  
Held Provisional License in Commonwealth of Virginia for Instrumental Music, Prek-12

***Fairfax County Public Schools, Fairfax County, VA*** 1999 - 2000  
*Positions held:* Long-Term Substitute Orchestra Teacher, Hayfield S.S.  
Substitute Teacher  
*Duties:* (As long-term substitute) Head of orchestra/strings program  
Substitute teacher for Area I in Fairfax County  
Completed Suzuki-Method Training courses, Suzuki Institute, Washington DC

***Loudoun Symphony Orchestra; Leesburg, VA*** 1998 - 2000  
*Positions held:* Assistant Principal Viola  
*Duties:* Assist and lead viola section

## ***REFERENCES***

Akemi Takayama; Professor of Violin, Shenandoah University  
atakayam@su.edu  
Dr. Kenneth Sarch; Professor of Violin, Mansfield University  
ksarch@epix.net  
Dr. Marc Ramirez; Professor Emeritus of Violin, Shenandoah University  
marcolivia@marcolivia.com