



"Should be required reading for string teachers hoping to branch out into fiddling,"
 Laura Risk, Strings Magazine, 9/09

Online fiddle lessons with **Donna Hébert**

"Donna gets it all right!" Darol Anger in his foreword to Fiddling Demystified

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Calling all fiddlers and string teachers!

Six reasons to contact me for live Gmail video chat lessons!

1. You want to work on your fiddling, but can't find a teacher nearby.
2. You LOVE French-Canadian fiddling but live too far away from Québec.
3. You want to groove and manipulate rhythms on the fiddle.
4. You want a reliable and efficient way to learn tunes by ear.
5. You want to improve your chord theory and harmony chops.
6. You're a teacher researching fiddling for your students.

My bio . . .

2009 Commonwealth Awards: cited by Mass. Governor Deval Patrick for **"outstanding artistic achievement."**

2008 Mass. Artists' Fellow in the Folk Arts, Mass. Cultural Council

2008-present: Creative Teaching Partner in Fiddling, Mass Cultural Council, partner with school music teachers to develop regional model and curriculum integrating fiddling with school string instruction. *"I consider Donna to be at the forefront of the developing field of fiddle pedagogy,"* says Dr. Alan Jabbour, Dir. (ret.), American Folklife Center, Library of Congress.

2002-present: Adjunct fiddle instructor, Amherst College, Feb. 2010 faculty recital. Fiddle overview, ear training, rhythmic improv, composition

2001-2010: Seven Franco-American fiddle apprentices through the NEA's Master/Apprenticeship in the Traditional Arts program, performing with three apprentices in Franco-American bands.

Teaching partners: guitarist Max Cohen, Groovemama (Jane Rothfield, Max, Cohen, George Wilson, Stuart Kenney); fiddler Katherine First, accordionist John Whelan, accordionist & pianist Sabin Jacques and Rachel Aucoin, Franco fiddler/singer Daniel Boucher and singer José Vachon

Recent teaching credits include Mark O'Connor's Strings Symposium, Wesleyan, Evansville and Arizona Universities and Philadelphia and Old Songs Folk Festivals, where I developed and lead participatory music programs for ages 6-18 every summer.

Program director for Old Songs summer music camps 2006-present, including 2010 Fiddle and Strings youth camp July 5-9 and French Accent Camp Aug 16-20.

Author/publisher of Fiddling Demystified for Strings, with a respected catalog of instructional materials. Strings Magazine's Sept. 2009 review from fiddler Laura Risk said, *"Fiddling Demystified should be required reading for string teachers hoping to branch out into fiddling."*

Darol Anger in his foreword to Donna's Fiddling Demystified, Vol. 1: A Practical Guide for String Players: *"Donna gets it all right! I suspect that the general level of fiddle knowledge and playing will take a major uptick soon after Fiddling Demystified is published, just as other great music books such as Earl Scruggs' original banjo book, O'Neill's great Irish fiddling reference and the infamous jazz Real Book influenced the course of musicians' lives and work."*

For years, I've heard "If only I lived closer to you and could come for lessons . . ." Well, like the song says, "AT LAST!" I'm now offering online lessons through Gmail video chat. My local students commit for a semester at a time, but with online lessons, you can book individual lessons or block book half and full hour lessons (\$25 and \$50 in blocks of ten instead of \$30 and \$60)

As many of you know, a good teacher can make the difference between success and failure on the fiddle. An unforgiving instrument at best, it can frustrate and test us at all levels of musicianship.

I'm considered an expert teacher of French-Canadian, Contradance, Irish and Scottish fiddling and I'm very competent at Appalachian Old Time. I regularly teach ear training, transcription skills, music theory and rhythmic improvisation as part of my work with students at Amherst College and elsewhere. I perform and teach in multiple groups, including a French-Irish band with accordionist John Whelan and an Old-Time band with fiddler Jane Rothfield. I've taught with Darol Anger, Mark O'Connor, April Verch, George Wilson and many others. See my bio at right.

HOW THIS WORKS . . .

Lesson times available from 10 am-7pm EST,
 with some weekend times available.

1. You send me an email outlining your skills, goals and interests.
2. I answer and we test the online connection.
3. I bill you and you pay online through PayPal.
4. During the lesson, you can present tunes or lesson agenda items, such as techniques and rhythms you want to learn and we go from there. I watch and listen to you play and offer suggestions, or I teach you a bowings or a tune, phrase by phrase, as if we were in a room together.
5. I email you transcriptions for whatever new tune I present. You'll want the chord chart that's included even if you don't read music.

You will need the following: a computer with a webcam (internal or external) and a high speed connection. DSL can be tricky but we can test it first; a broadband connection is best. **We test the connection before I bill you so we know everything works.**

Watch/listen online: New Fiddling Demystified Channel on YouTube <<http://www.youtube.com/fiddlingdemystified#p/a>> has 17 clips, including 2009 onstage at Philadelphia Folk and Old Songs Festivals and other concert footage over the past several years.