"Know Your Bow" Campaign

Guidelines for Musicians and Buyers



Guidelines for Bows you Own

- Gather information on the species used in your bow-is it pernambuco?
- A "Declaration of Bow Materials" created by a professional will identify the materials used in your bow, and identify all species, including pernambuco.
- Save all the documents that relate to the history of your bow including past invoices, sales receipts, certificates, insurance policies, inheritance records or any other historical documentation that can prove that your pernambuco bow was made before 2007.

Guidelines for Buying New Modern Bows

European bows

- Finished bows can be imported into the US with no CITES restrictions at this time, however, all bows need species information (US Lacey Act).
- Get and save a dated sales receipt with species information indicating if pernambuco was used.

Chinese bows

- Finished bows can be imported into the US with no CITES restrictions at this time, however, all bows need species information (US Lacey Act).
- Get and save a dated sales receipt with species information indicating if pernambuco was used.

Brazilian bows

- CITES documentation is required plus species information (US Lacey Act).
- When purchasing a bow, the shop should provide you with CITES documentation.
- Get and save a dated sales receipt with species information indicating the legality of pernambuco used.

Modern Artisanal Makers

- Get and save a "Declaration of Bow Materials" listing species used in the making of that bow, including pernambuco.
- Save the invoice and declaration for future travel requirements or sale.
- The Declaration must accompany the bow to new owner.

Guidelines for Buying Older Bows

- Get and save a "Declaration of Bow Materials" listing species used in the making of that bow, including pernambuco.
- Save the invoice and declaration for travel requirements or future sale.
- The Declaration must accompany the bow to new owner.