



Welcome Back, Violinists

Fall Calendar

Aug.22	First Day of Lessons
Sept. 5	No Lessons
Sept. 10	Group Lessons
Sept. 24	Group Lessons
Oct. 8	Group Lessons
Oct. 14-16	CH Workshop
Oct. 22	Group Lessons
Oct. 22	DMTA Play-a-Thon
Nov. 4	Studio Class
Nov. 12	Group Lessons\
Nov. 20	DMTA recital
Nov. 22-27	Holiday
Dec. 10	STEAD Performance
Dec. 12-15	Make-up Lessons
Jan. 7	Group Lessons
Jan. 10	Spring Semester

Something New

On Friday, November 4, students are invited to attend a *studio class*. This class is for everyone, at all levels. The purpose for the class is to learn together in a social setting. Students will perform a polished piece for the class. All are welcome to observe.

Time: 4:00-5:30 PM

Place: Christus Victor Lutheran Church, Fellowship Hall

Sign-up sheet will be available two weeks prior to the class.

2006 Sneak Preview

Graduation Recitals

January 21, 22

Feb. 25 STEAD Winter Workshop

March 17, 18 NCSTA 2006 Play-In at Duke University



Caption describing picture or graphic.

Summer Recapitulation

Chardonnay attended the Lamar Stringfield String Camp at Meredith College.

Wesley attended Raspberry Ridge Chamber Music Camp.

Jane attended the Virginia Suzuki Institute at Sweet Briar College.

Carla and *Chardonnay* helped

out at the Summer Violin Blitz.

Dagny and *Faith*, *Chardonnay*, *Wesley*, *Grace*, Mr. Greg Rakauskas, *Mia* and *Andrew* along with special guests Ms. Mary Ann Heym and Chris Moorman performed fiddle and jazz favorites at the Durham Public Library on August 4.

Calum completed Vol. 2.

Andrew completed the Twinkle Variations. Both received certificates at the Summer Recital.

Congratulations violinists!

Inside this issue:

NCSTA 2006 Celebration	2
Music for Teens	2
Listening	2
Suzuki Philosophy	3
Graduation Recitals	3
Pennies for Practice	3
Chapel Hill Fall Suzuki Workshop	4

Special points of interest:

- North Carolina Suzuki Teachers Association Spring 2006 Celebration of Music
- Graduation Recitals 2006
- "Pennies for Practice" for the Hurricane Relief Effort
- Chapel Hill Fall Suzuki Workshop

North Carolina Suzuki Teachers Association 2006 Celebration of Music in Durham

The **2006 NCSTA State-Wide Play-In** will be located on the East Campus of Duke University on March 17, 18.

Triangle area teachers and their families will host the event and we are excited about this wonderful setting right here in Durham!

The event will include a Friday afternoon “kick-off” with instrumental play-ins, and evening concert provided by local performers.

Students will attend small and large group classes and electives on Saturday. There will be free time for frisbee toss on the lawn, lunch,

strolling on campus. Out-of-town families are invited to spend the weekend, tour the campus, visit Duke Gardens, the new art museum and experience the sights and sounds of Durham.

Moorman Studio Violinists will attend and I hope that some of you will participate by volunteering your help or serving by hosting a family in your home.

I look forward to an exciting, nurturing weekend of music making with friends from across the state of North Carolina.

You will find registration forms,

Repertoire and other details on the NCSTA website or via the link from our local website.

<ncsuzukiteachers.org>

<durhamsuzuki.org>

Mark your calendars now!

Music for Teens: Composers of our Time

I love the classics from Bach, Brahms, Beethoven, and many more. As a composer, I am equally drawn to the works of living composers. Enjoying the music of the avant-garde takes time and study, but there are composers whose works are very accessible.

Everyone will enjoy the following: John Adams (composer of *Nixon in China*) *John's Book of Alleged Dances*, and

Gnarly Buttons performed by Kronos String Quartet; I also recommend Adam's *Harmonielehre* which is considered a classic. Tan Dun, a composer born in China, has become a celebrated composer, especially since his music written for *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*. His composition *Symphony 1997: Heaven, Earth, Mankind* is so moving that I consider it the 20th century equivalent

to Beethoven's 9th. Finally, Jennifer Higdon's *blue cathedral* is one of my recent favorites—Jennifer has become recognized by a wider audience recently as one of her compositions received a Grammy Award.

I encourage teens to attend a concert of new music this season. Look for concerts at Duke University—Encounters and NC State Arts Now concerts. Enjoy!

Listening: The Key to Success

Suzuki revolutionized the world of music by suggesting that infants listen to selected classical music on a repeated basis. This means of learning is quite natural—children learn to speak their native tongues by listening to household conversation from birth. Researchers in development tell us that language capacity is inevitable and probably “hard-wired” in the human

brain. In order for language to develop, human, however, infants must hear language—a common characteristic of bird song.

The study of absolute pitch has led researchers to believe that early exposure to music is key to high levels of music competence.

We do not know how long the window

of opportunity to develop a musical ear is open. But we can enhance the learning process by listening daily.

Waiting to see if a child demonstrates talent, according to Suzuki, is incorrect. It has been my experience that students who listen the most, advance more easily, play better in tune, and more musically than students who do not. Find out for yourself—listen daily!

SUZUKI PHILOSOPHY : Enjoy the process

Suzuki enjoyed playing games with his students and he advocated that parents should be light-hearted in their approach to being home teacher. His story about Hitomi Kasuya, a member of the Suzuki touring group in America, serves as a wonderful example. Hitomi was given a small violin at the age of three and throughout the day she would play with it as if it were a toy. Her mother would occasionally give her a little help. Suzuki said, *This is the art of education at its best (Nurtured by Love, p. 96).*

This kind of teaching takes time and patience. If these are in short supply, however, it is a challenge to create the atmosphere that children need to learn.

Here are some tips to help you create a joyful practice atmosphere.

- 1- Carve out and keep sacred a quiet time every day;
- 2- Put the phone on the answering ma-



Do not hurry. Do not rest in your efforts. S.Suzuki

chine, or have a family secretary who will take messages;

- 3- Put a sign on the practice room door— "Shhh-Artist at Work!"
- 4- Review to develop ability;
- 5- Adhere to a "one point lesson."
- 6- Think more about beautiful tone than 'what piece you are on.'
- 7- Listen to the recordings —far more than you practice;
- 8- If your child is reluctant remember "HALT" hungry, angry, lonely, tired. A child's basic needs must first be met;
- 9- Hugs and Laughter every day!

Third Annual Suzuki Graduation Recitals: January 21, 22 2006

The tradition of graduation recitals originated in Matsumoto, Japan, where hundreds of young violinists and their families would gather for a gala concert. This annual event allowed children from remote regions to enjoy and celebrate the wonderful sound created by many students performing a common repertoire.

Suzuki, himself, listened to countless graduation tapes, responding by letter to

students in order to encourage them.

In the United States, many Suzuki programs carry on the tradition in their own way. We (STEAD) have adopted the tradition of the graduation celebration of the Greenville Suzuki Association (with some accom-

Mark your calendars: January 21 and 22, 2006. Snow make-up days will be the following weekend, January 28, 29.

modation for our own student population). Students are invited to participate after they have finished Volume 2, at which time they graduate from Volume 1. The point is to ensure that students perform at a high level. We look forward to a wonderful event.

Pennies for Practice

STEAD students will collect pennies for their practice beginning September 10 at group lessons. The proceeds will go to Hurricane Relief efforts post Hurricane Katrina.

This is the way it works: students will earn \$.01 for each review piece, minute or listening each day. On group lesson day, students will bring those pennies where they will be collected.

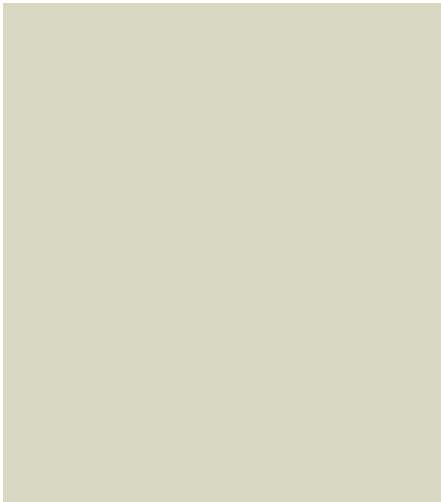
At the end of the fall semester-STEAD will send a monetary gift to an agency or program.

Together, students can make a difference. Join us in our effort to help those in need.

You can help by suggesting a charitable organization, counting pennies, or packaging them.

Please let me know if you are able to help.

Thank you!



[www.durhamsuzuki.org]

Chapel Hill Fall Suzuki Workshop: October 14-16, 2005

Don't miss the annual Chapel Hill Fall Suzuki Workshop. Our good friend and wonderful teacher, Terry Durbin will serve as our special clinician. Master classes on Friday afternoon and Sunday will take place at the home of Nancy Brooks and the Saturday workshop and grand finale concert will be at Trinity School.

This workshop is for everyone! No matter what level, you will enjoy this special weekend. Terry has the unique ability to entertain all ages of students, teachers and parents. Giving us a much need lift from the seriousness of life, Terry believes that music-making should be joyful, and the learning process should be exciting and playful.

Terry comes to us from Los Angeles, California, where he teaches conducting and violin. A former member of the Lexington Suzuki Program, Terry continues to serve as Suzuki clinician

around the country. We are so happy that he is able to come to Chapel Hill again this year.

Please Review the Following Pieces:

Volume 1:

Twinkles—O Come, Little Children

Allegro

Minuet no. 3, Bach

Volume 2:

Long, Long Ago

Two Grenadiers

Volume 3:

Minuet, Bach

Volume 4

Concerto no. 2, mv't 3, Seitz

Volume 4/5

Concerto for Two Violins in D Minor

Volume 5:
Gavotte, Bach

Enrichment Pieces:

Volume 5 -
Rondino on a Theme by Beethoven

Volume 7
L'Abeille, Francois Schubert

Teacher, Lyssa Whitson will hold classes for advanced students playing the Rondino and L'Abeille in her home, 2801 Welcome Dr., Durham 27705 on Fridays, September 9, 16, 23 and October 7 from 3:30-4:30 PM. Drop in fee is \$ 5/ lesson.

Please mark your calendar and plan for a wonderful weekend of music making and fun!