



# Arizona Suzuki Association

## Fall 2006

### Newsletter

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## Message from ASA President Eunice Elie

"Ever in joyful song!" Eunice Elie, President

Dr. Suzuki based his approach to teaching music on the belief that musical ability is not an inborn talent but an ability that can be developed. Realizing the implications of the fact that people all over the world learn to speak their native language with ease, Suzuki has applied the basic principles of language acquisition to the learning of music. This is called the "mother-tongue" approach.

Learning to play an instrument with excellence is most challenging and requires such discipline and consistent determination on the part of the parent and the child that I would like to RE-fresh our minds and RE-energize our motivation with a few of his points of thought concerning practice times.

**1. BEGIN EARLY.** Medical research shows that a baby begins "hearing" while in the mother's womb. He knows the voice of his mother/father before he is born. Parents are encouraged to repeatedly play

classical music for their unborn baby and infant. Formal training usually begins at age three or four, but it is never too late to start.

**2. PARENT INVOLVEMENT.** Parents must be the role model teachers for their children. They attend lessons and serve as "home teachers" during the week. Parent involvement builds the parent/child relationship.

**3. LISTENING TO RECORDINGS.** Children learn to speak by listening and then by imitating the language spoken around them. By listening to recordings of the literature they will learn, children absorb the language and all the nuances of the music just as they absorb the sounds and expressions of their mother tongue.

**4. POSITIVE ENVIRONMENT.** A positive, enjoyable learning environment is established at lessons and at home so that much of the child's motivation comes from enthusiasm for learning and the desire to please. Each child learns at his own pace. His learning builds one small step to the next,

so that each step can be mastered. Teachers and parents must praise and encourage the child's efforts. Children will also encourage each other as they imitate the parents' role modeling.

**5. REPERTOIR.** All Suzuki students follow the same sequence of musical materials for their particular instrument. Each piece becomes a building block in the careful development of the technique. Reviewing learned pieces gives the student freedom to develop beautiful, emotional expression and musicality in his performance.

**6. INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP ACTIVITIES.** In addition to his own private lessons, group lessons and performances give valuable aid to motivation as he observes more advanced peers.

**7. READING.** Music reading is postponed until the child's instrumental skills are well established, just as we teach children to read only after they can speak. This allows the focus and attention to be on beautiful tone, accurate intonation and musical playing.

Dr. Suzuki championed the unique contribution music can make in the total learning process.

## Brian Lewis Will be Teaching at Our Fall Festival on Friday, November 10, Veteran's Day Holiday



We are very excited to have the opportunity of having a Fall Festival headlined by Brian Lewis. Brian is a "Suzuki kid", the son of Suzuki teacher trainer Alice Joy Lewis, who grew up in Ottawa Kansas. He traveled to Matsumoto, Japan two times where he studied with Dr. Shinichi Suzuki at the Talent Education Institute in Matsumoto. He has a Bachelor and Masters of Music Degrees from The Julliard School where he was a scholarship student of Dorothy DeLay, among other teachers. He has established himself as one of America's

most gifted and charismatic young artists and was named National Artist of the Year in 1998 by Young Audiences, Inc.

Brian will be leading violin group classes and will prepare our students to perform with him on his evening concert at

**Gold Canyon United Methodist Church at 6640 South Kings Ranch Road in Gold Canyon. Map p. 7**

Brian will be performing at a concert at 7:30 at the Church.

Students who are part of the Workshop will be on stage with him for a portion of the concert. One student and one adult ticket is included in the workshop fee. Additional family members may purchase tickets at \$3 and \$8 (a discounted price)

**There will be a drawing for \$200 scholarships toward music lessons at the concert!**

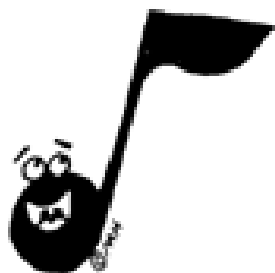
## Marna Bowling will Bring Mariachi to our Festival

Marna Bowling will bring out the Latin side of our students as they learn Mariachi music that they will perform before dinner. We will mail out copies of the Mariachi music on receipt or the registration.

**Parents, if you play guitar, please bring it and join in!**

Marna has been an educator for more than 30 years. As well as teaching privately, she has taught elementary, middle, and high school, and college music classes. Having had the opportunity to study with Dr. Suzuki in San Francisco for the first time in 1966, she began to teach the Suzuki Violin Method,

and has been teaching it ever since. As a result of being awarded the US West Teacher of the Year for the state of Arizona, Marna wrote a book entitled "Mariachi for Beginners". It is used all over the country to introduce students to the culture and style of mariachi music.



## Suzukirobics is a Blast

The third component of the Fall Festival will be Suzukirobics. Have you ever done a movement routine to a Suzuki song? Eunice Elie will lead a class to develop exercise routines using the Book One Suzuki music. Younger students will learn Book One Routines. Older students will have fun pooling their ideas and developing an exercise routine during their class. "Suzukirobics" incorporates the actual Book One music to make a benefit of "listening" time. Children will be developing their listening skills and body conditioning.

Drawing for free music lessons! See p. 4 for details.

**ASA Fall Festival With Brian Lewis, Friday,  
November 10, Gold Canyon Church, MAP p. 7**

Family Registration by October 14, 2006 is \$35, after that date, \$45. Includes parent and child ticket to the Brian Lewis concert. at Gold Canyon Church.

**Family Registration**

*(Must be a member of ASA to participate)*

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Age \_\_\_\_\_ Instrument \_\_\_\_\_  
 Polished Piece \_\_\_\_\_ Vol. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Second Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Age \_\_\_\_\_ Instrument \_\_\_\_\_  
 Polished Piece \_\_\_\_\_ Vol. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parent's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_  
 Teacher \_\_\_\_\_  
 Teacher's phone \_\_\_\_\_

Registration (one per family, includes one student and one adult ticket to Brian Lewis Concert)

Before October 14, 2006	\$35 _____
After October 14, 2006	\$45 _____
ASA Family Membership fee*	\$10 _____
Extra student ticket to Concert	\$3 _____
Extra adult ticket to Brian Lewis Concert	\$8 _____
Supper per person	\$5 _____
Total payable to ASA	\$ _____

**No Refunds**

Mail this form, with the check made out to ASA to:

Sue Taniguchi

Box 932, Litchfield Park AZ 85340

Email: [brit.az@att.net](mailto:brit.az@att.net)

Notice the Studio/Group Policy of ASA : 10 or more members of a studio/group such as VSSA, NAU etc. registering together pay \$5 each for ASA membership. Please find the group registration form on our website [www.azsuzuki.org](http://www.azsuzuki.org)

Mariachi Music will be mailed upon

Registration receipt

**Bring a music stand!**



**Arizona Suzuki Association Fall Festival Schedule**

**1:30 Registration**

**2:00—4:30 Classes with Brian Lewis, Mariachi with Marna Bowling, Suzukirobics**

**5:00—Performance of Mariachi Music and Suzukirobics**

**6:00—7:00 Supper at the Church**

**(Pizza)**

**7:30—Concert with Brian Lewis and Suzuki Students.**

**Repertoire List for Violin** (\*Pieces will be played starting on D string to match cello/viola repertoire)

Bk1: \*Twinkles/Lightly Row/Song of the Wind/\*Go Tell Aunt Rhody/Come Little Children/Long Long Ago/ Allegro/\*Perpetual Motion/Allegretto/Minuet 2.

Bk 2: Hunters Chorus/Long Long Ago/Gavotte from "Mignon"

Bk3: Gavotte in g Minor/Humoresque

Bk4: Seitz Concerto No. 2 3rd mvt.

Bk5: Country Dance

Bk6: Gavotte (Rameau)

**Repertoire List for Viola**

Bk1: Twinkles/Lightly Row/Song of the Wind/Go Tell Aunt Rhody/ Come Little Children/Long Long Ago/Allegro/Perpetual Motion/ Allegretto/Minuet 2.

Bk2: Hunters Chorus/Long Long Ago

Bk3: Humoresque

**Repertoire List for Cello**

Bk1: Twinkles/Lightly Row/Song of the Wind/Go Tell Aunt Rhody/Come Little Children/Allegro/Perpetual Motion/Long Long Ago/Allegretto/Rigadoon/Minuet in C/Minuet 2

Bk2: Hunters Chorue/Theme from "Witches'Dance"

Bk3: Scherzo/Humoresque

Bk4: Chanson Triste

**Repertoire List for Bass**

Bk1: Twinkles/Lightly Row/Song of the Wind/Go Tell Aunt Rhody/O Come Little Children/Allegro/Perpetual Motion/ Allegretto

**Bring a Music Stand!**

## ASA Suzuki Stars

### Teacher's Column

Would you like to be listed on the Arizona Suzuki Association Website as a registered Suzuki Teacher?

Just register today and send in your \$10 dues\* for 2006—2007

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Instrument \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Send this Form and \$10 to Mary Wilkening, 1157 E. Acacia Circle, Litchfield Park, AZ 85340.

**www.azsuzuki.org**

\*Teachers, Please go to our website at [www.azsuzuki.org](http://www.azsuzuki.org) to download a group application form for your studio. Group rates are only \$5/family for 10 applications and fees sent in at the same time.

ASA is looking into the possibility of taking a tour group to China in 2008. Jack Kukuk who has taken many performing groups from around the country on international tours is planning this trip. This opportunity would be for all stages of Suzuki development. We would require auditions and rehearsal time for students interested in this trip. There is no age limit, only performing standard requirements. For more information, call Eunice Elie at 480-857-3130 or email her at [euniceeli@beautifulmusic.info](mailto:euniceeli@beautifulmusic.info)

Start planning now!

**The application form for the ASA Tour Group is on line at our website [www.azsuzuki.org](http://www.azsuzuki.org).**

Connie Clemons,  
Arizuki Stars Director  
Connie Clemons  
[thebandeuropa@cox.net](mailto:thebandeuropa@cox.net)



Your Festival registration form will be placed in a box for a drawing for \$200 toward music lessons. Brian Lewis will pick out two prize winners at the end of the concert on November 10. You must be present to claim your prize.

## Kid's Corner

I can't wait to go back to Institute!!!

Hey Kids!!! Are you looking forward to a fun summer vacation but your parents want you to practice 24/7? How about a compromise?

The Suzuki Institute at Northern Arizona University is a week in the cool mountains of Flagstaff. You get to experience awesome classes, fun teachers and great instruction. You will spend the days in your classes, at recitals, and in the lunchroom (YUM!). The dorms are clean and neat. In addition, there is a fun activity and theme everyday. One day we went on a Treasure hunt and another we broke open a piñata!

My favorite classes were orchestra and chamber music. All my teachers were kind and helped me so much.

The last thing we did together as a group was play a concert on the rim of the Grand Canyon. It was perfectly stunning. A large crowd gathered to listen and it was a beautiful day. We even saw Condors flying overhead.

I made new friends that I hope to see next year. I made memories I will never forget. Thank you Suzuki Institute!! I can't wait to go back!!

Abigail Reeves

Violin/Piano student of Eunice Elie

Here is the article my son wrote about his experience at the Northern Arizona University Suzuki Institute, this last June.

Wendy Bolding

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Keoni Bolding, Age 9:

"This June I went to a Suzuki Institute for cello violin, bass & and violin in Flagstaff. You get to go to the Grand Canyon on the last day. Did you know that they have a theme for every day? For instance, Tuesday was "Pirate Day" and the activity was a pirate movie at 7:00 pm. There is a class for each hour or hour and a half (it depends on the class). There is an orchestra class, a chamber music class, ensemble, fiddling and a music skills class for 3 and 4 year olds, even if they don't play an instrument. In ensemble class I learned that dynamics makes a much better tone. I had a great time and I'm sure you will!"

## VSSA Schedule for 06-07

**VSSA** group classes and \*recital dates:



August 26	January 20
September 9	January 27*
September 23*	February 10
October 7	February 24
October 21*	March 3 – VSSA Workshop full day schedule
November 4	March 31*
November 18*	April 14 – Final Group Concert

Classes will be held at the Center for Educational Excellence on the NW Corner of McClintock and Elliot. The school is located on the west end of the strip mall. 1700 E Elliot Road, Suite 9

## Suzuki Piano of Arizona



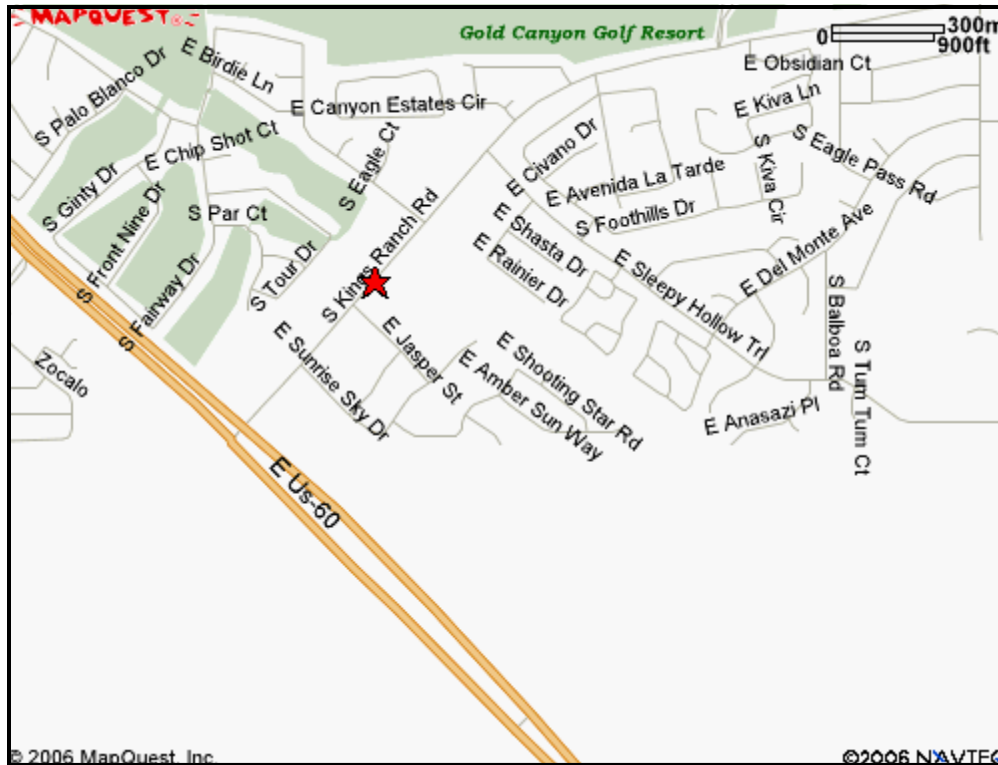
Our **Suzuki Piano of Arizona** events are as follows:

September 30 - Playathon, October 13-14 -Workshop with Dr. Karen Hagberg, November 3 - Graduation Recital, March 2 -Graduation Recital, April 14 - Duet Recital

All events are held at ASU in the Music Building, 5th Floor Recital Hall except the workshop with Dr. Hagberg which will be held at AZ Piano. For information on events please call Vicki Seil, SPA President at 480-926-7804.

Parents, Here is an opportunity to help out your Arizona Suzuki Association: We are looking for a new Webmaster with PDF capability. If you are interested, please email Chris Mahar at [cmahar3@cox.net](mailto:cmahar3@cox.net)

## Festival Map to Gold Canyon Church



Directions to Gold Canyon United Methodist Church: Take US 60 to the end at Apache Junction. Proceed to the 4th stoplight, S. King's Ranch Rd. Turn left and go one block. The church is on the left at 6640 S King's Ranch Rd. Driving time from the 101 and US 60 is approximately 25 minutes.

Please post this page

# ASA Fall Festival with Brian Lewis

ARIZONA SUZUKI ASSOCIATION  
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2006 (VETERAN'S DAY HOLIDAY)  
1:30PM REGISTRATION; CONCERT 7:30 PM



Brian Lewis



Gold Canyon United Methodist Church  
6640 South King's Ranch Road in Gold Canyon

**ARIZONA  
SUZUKI  
ASSOCIATION**

The ASA Fall Festival will feature:

1. Group classes to prepare students to perform with Brian on the Evening Concert
2. Mariachi Music with Marna Bowling, string teacher and author of Mariachi for Beginners
3. Suzukirobics, movement routines to Suzuki songs lead by Eunice Elie
4. Pizza supper
5. Concert with Brian Lewis and Suzuki Students
6. 2 Drawings for \$200 toward free lessons (see page 4 for details)

Mail Registration to  
Sue Taniguchi  
Box 932,  
Litchfield Park AZ 85340

Phone: 623-935-5313

Email: [marywilkening@cox.net](mailto:marywilkening@cox.net)





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## Violin Column by Lindsay Durant, Suzuki Violin Teacher

### As Easy as... Cake?

Lately, I find myself sounding like a broken record in my lessons. To each student who I feel has not made sufficient progress on a new piece, I ask, "How much did you practice this week?" As often as not, I hear "Six days this week," which has really confused me, because how is it possible to put in so much practice and see so little results? Only recently has it occurred to me to that even more important than *how much* a student has practiced is *how* he or she has prac-

ticed. This new line of questioning has led me to discover that most students practice the same way that I once tried to bake a chocolate cake. I'll spare you the details, but suffice it to say that I was in a hurry, had only a vague idea of the recipe in my head, and thought that if I just threw it all together, it would somehow turn out to be delicious in the end. It didn't. Learning a new piece is tricky, not least of all because Suzuki students already have a more or less vague idea of the piece in their heads. It's easy to think that if they just slop through it a few times a day, six or seven days a week, it will somehow turn out to be perfect in the end. It doesn't. The

only way to learn a piece is one phrase, or one measure, or one note at a time. The bowings are important, the accidentals are important, the exact rhythms are important. Only by learning these things can we grasp the full richness and meaning of a piece, and only by chopping a piece into the tiniest of sections can our poor brains have a hope of learning all these things. I suppose it's a simple concept: "Bite off only what you can chew", or "quality over quantity", but it's a concept that can benefit anyone from a Pre-Twinkler to someone who is trying to learn the Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto.

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## Scottsdale has a new Fine Arts Center!

**BRIO Fine Arts Center** joined the ASA in March with the desire to add a Suzuki program to our visual arts program for kids that has been in existence since June of 2004. Although I have had many conversations with members of the board and teachers in the Scottsdale area, we are still looking for someone to help us establish a Suzuki program at BRIO. If anyone is interested or knows of someone who may be, please call or visit. John Sanborn, Owner; BRIO Fine Arts Center; 8340 E. Raintree Dr. C6, Scottsdale, AZ 85260, 480-941-8310; [www.briofinearts.com](http://www.briofinearts.com)



ASA  
1157 E. Acacia Circle  
Litchfield Park 85340



ASA Fall Festival in Gold Canyon on November 10. See details inside!

Drawing for free music lessons. See p. 4 !

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Festival Sponsored by Southwest Strings

