



Arizona Suzuki Association Winter 2007 Newsletter

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Message from the Past President, Deena Reedy

MOTIVATION MECCAS - WORKSHOPS, SUMMER INSTITUTES AND GROUP CLASS

While trying to decide what to address in my final article as past president for ASA, I began to look through some of my notes from summer institutes as well as the publication "First Class Tips for Suzuki Parents: A Collection of Articles for Parents" from the American Suzuki Journal, published by the Suzuki Association of the Americas in 2001. (I highly recommend this as a great resource for teachers and parents alike. It's a great way to review/ renew many of the most important principles in the Suzuki philosophy.) The main issues that stood out in my mind as a result of this exploration and my own teaching is how to get students and parents to stay actively involved and interested in the Suzuki method – the issue of motivation.

Now, more than ever, there are so many activities which fill the very limited free time of students and their parents. I've come to the conclusion that one of the best ways to convince parents of the importance of the Suzuki approach is to get them involved in activi-

ties which will show them the breadth of this approach - namely WORKSHOPS AND INSTITUTES!

I know that at least for me personally, touching base with other Suzuki teachers at summer institutes or local workshops is the best way to keep things fresh in my teaching by gaining new ideas, building a sense of community and ultimately staying motivated and excited about this inspiring approach to teaching. For my students who have attended workshops or institutes, meeting other students and being inspired by their abilities has been a great boost. Also, having a sense of being a part of something larger than a small local studio can truly offer inspiration, not to mention the benefits of making new friends and seeing a piece from a fresh perspective.

I would strongly encourage each of our members to consider attending a summer institute this year. For those of you who have never attended, I think you'll find yourself saying "why didn't we do this sooner?" Flagstaff has a great institute for strings - right in your own backyard!
(Editor's Note, the NAU

Institute is on hiatus for this year, but there are others in Utah, California, and Colorado) For other instruments, try consulting your teacher, as well as the listing in the upcoming Suzuki Association of the Americas Journal or website. Because institute directors understand that this experience becomes a family vacation, institutes tend to cater to families - so what are you waiting for??!!

More condensed than a summer institute, but still a great learning experience, going to a local workshop can by virtually a mini-institute of its own (without the trip). Even if you plan to attend a summer institute, a local event can provide a different experience. Much can be gained by students within a short one or two day event. Just like one's home teacher, institute and workshop teachers will have areas on which they focus most - sometimes these areas will be similar to one's home teacher, sometimes different. Whether offering different perspectives on problem areas, different ideas to try or simply offering confirmation that you should keep working hard as you're progressing nicely, workshop or institute teachers can motivate students in a more concentrated/ focused environment.

Message continued for page 1



We all tend to listen differently when we know that we'll only have one chance to get a teacher's perspective on our individual playing. Gaining a broader perspective of the world of music and the numerous ideas within it is a great way to expand one's own capabilities and stay excited about learning. Great workshops are sponsored by ASA every fall in Phoenix (watch the website and newsletter), the Music and Dance Academy in Tucson in January (check out the website for details this year - www.maoft.com) and VSSA in Phoenix in March

Finally, I would like to address the importance of group class and group activities, in relation to staying motivated. Whether at institutes, workshops or in your local home studio, group activities can be some of the most important experiences of your Suzuki

student. Even though all students need individual time with their teacher, group activities build a sense of community and belonging for a student that cannot be found anywhere else. Just recently, one of my young six year old students, who struggles with perfectionist tendencies, told me that she liked playing with other kids in group class - she does not always like playing with me in lessons - because, in essence, she feels more on their level and feels more comfortable making mistakes because they make mistakes too! (When she started group this year, we discussed, as we had in her lessons, that even if she made a mistake in group, she could just keep trying - keep playing and no one would probably ever know...EUREKA!) I actually wondered whether playing in a group with students who were playing pieces

beyond her level would be a turn-off for this student, as she had issues with her mother playing pieces ahead of her. However, a group setting with her peers seems to have had just the opposite effect. Group class has often worked well with my pre-teen and early teen students, too, as many of them reach the point where they no longer feel comfortable playing on their own at recitals, but they are more than happy to play as part of a group.

Let me close with one final point - yes, all of these activities will take extra time and effort from your already busy schedule. However, they will bring the individual learning experience to a much higher level and ultimately make it more productive and enjoyable for all! Best wishes in the New Year for new beginnings and continued Suzuki success!



The NAU Suzuki String Program had several Holiday performances:

Lighting Ceremony at the Little America Hotel on Nov.26, 2006

United Way Arts and Crafts Fair on Nov. 18, 2006

Flagstaff Symphony Concert on Dec 1 and 2

The NAU Suzuki Program continues an active group and ensemble class schedule every Thursday afternoon for all levels of violin and viola students. There are currently 18 student teachers in training and 130 Suzuki string students in the program. Additional faculty this year include Dr. Jacquelyn Schwandt, Professor of Viola, and Dr. Louise Scott, Professor of Violin. Mrs. Kim Sullivan will also be teaching and be coordinator of the community portion of the Suzuki Program. Mrs. Sullivan moved to Flagstaff in the fall after teaching Suzuki in the Chicago and Terre Haute, Indiana area. She is the wife of the new Director of the School of Music, Dr. Todd Sullivan.

Karin Hallberg, Coordinator of the NAU Suzuki Program, just published an article in the American String Teachers publication of Teaching Strings in a Culturally Diverse Society. The article is titled "From Mississippi Hotdog to Arizona Cactus".



Founded in 1995, the Music Academy of Tucson is dedicated to the development of ability in each student, fostering creative expression and promoting personal enrichment.

THE MUSIC & DANCE ACADEMY OF TUCSON is proud to announce its 2007 Winter Workshop featuring Violinist Karin Hallberg and Guitarist Andrea Cannon. (Please see the bios of these two presenters on the next page)

Dance was added this year to the line-up of excellent programs offered by the Academy. The Academy is a member of the National Guild of Community Schools of the Arts and the Suzuki Association of the Americas.

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26

LOCATION: MUSIC & DANCE ACADEMY, TUCSON
1735 E FT. LOWELL, SUITE #6

TEACHER ENRICHMENT COURSES AND STUDENT MASTER CLASSES

2:00pm- 5:00pm Teacher Enrichment Courses

Andrea Cannon, "Suzuki Guitar Books 1 & 2- An overview"

Karin Hallberg, "Application of Suzuki Philosophy in Working with Beginning String Students"

5:00pm - 6:00pm Dinner Break

6:00pm - 8:00pm Student Master Classes

Andrea Cannon, guitar, Karin Hallberg- violin

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27

MASTER CLASSES, PARENT/ TEACHER WORKSHOP, GROUPS

8:30am - 9:00am Registration

9:00am -12:15pm Student Master Classes

Andrea Cannon-guitar, Karin Hallberg-violin

12:15pm - 1:45pm Lunch Break

1:45pm - 3:15pm Student Group Classes

Guitar: Group Class with Andrea Cannon

Violin: Group Class with Karin Hallberg

3:15pm - 3:30pm Break

3:30pm - 4:30pm Parent Workshop with Andrea Cannon

"Looking at the Long View"

Orff/Movement Student Activity with Ann Peterson

ASA 2006 Fall Festival



ASA held its 2006 Fall Festival at Gold Canyon United Methodist Church on November 10. Seventy-two violinists and cellists played with Brian Lewis and were captivated by his humor and skill. Eunice Elie motivated everyone to move with her Suzukiroboics program and passed out DVD's of the routines for all the pieces in Suzuki Violin Book 1. Marna Bowling displayed her love of Mariachi music and taught the students pieces to perform before a supper of pizza and salad. In the evening, the students were treated to a recital of violin music performed by Brian Lewis as a part of the Gold Canyon Concert Series. The students had an opportunity to share the stage with Brian following intermission in the concert.

Presenters at the MAOFT Winter Workshop:

ANDREA CANNON, guitar

Teacher Enrichment, Master Classes, Group Class, Parent Workshop

Andrea Cannon attended Berklee College of Music where she majored in Guitar Performance with an emphasis on jazz. Her training includes classical guitar studies with Robert Guthrie, Christopher Parkening, and Judicael Perroy and Suzuki Pedagogy training with Frank Longay, William Kossler and Dorothy Jones.

She has been selected for Teacher Excellence Grants by the Suzuki Association, Music Teachers

National Association and Texas Music Teachers Association. Andrea is a Registered Suzuki Guitar

Teacher Trainer and travels internationally conducting clinics and workshops. She also authors the guitar column for the American Suzuki Journal and serves on the SAA Guitar Committee.

She is the only guitar instructor in the Southwest to have earned National Certification through Music Teacher's National Association. She and her husband Jim live in Houston, Texas and have two children.

KARIN HALLBERG, violin

Teacher Enrichment, Master Classes, Group Class

Karin Hallberg is currently Coordinator of the Suzuki String Program at Northern Arizona University and Instructor of Violin. In addition, she is Principal Violin II in the Flagstaff Symphony and is a regular performer with the NAU Faculty Chamber Music Series. Karin has been a clinician at Suzuki Workshops in Bermuda, Nevada, Montana, Hawaii, Oregon, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Colorado, Texas, New Mexico, Utah, Arizona and Puerto Rico.

Karin was an instructor of violin at the renown MacPhail Center for the Arts in Minneapolis before moving to Flagstaff in 1994. There she regularly performed with Minnesota Opera and the Plymouth Music Series under Philip Brunelle.

Ms. Hallberg received her Master of Arts degree with a Suzuki Pedagogy emphasis from the University of Denver. Her major teachers were James Maurer, Paul Roland, Stephen Clapp, and Sergiu Luca. She attended University of Illinois, the University of Denver, and Aspen Music Festival. Her Suzuki training has been influenced by Louise Scott, William Starr, John Kendall, Louise Behrend, James and Jacquelyn Maurer and Mark Bjork.

The Shar Distinguished Young Teacher Award was presented to Karin in 1986. She recently completed the M.Ed. in Counseling and Human Relations from Northern Arizona University.

Upcoming Events:

VSSA Spring Workshop:

Mark your calendars for March 3 when Valley of the Sun Suzuki Association hosts their Spring Workshop. It will be held this year at the Center for Educational Excellence, 1700 E. Elliot Road #9 in Tempe. For more information call Kristine Ehlis at 480-730-9339 or email her at kristinee@cox.net.

NAU Summer Institute:

The NAU Summer Institute is taking a hiatus this year. Please check the Website www.suzukiassociation.org to find dates and locations of Summer Institutes in other states.

Scottsdale's Brio Fine Arts Announces Two New Teachers:

BRIO will be offering **Suzuki piano instruction**. These lessons will be offered to children as young as 4 years old on **Wednesdays & Fridays** with the specific lesson time to be scheduled with the instructor upon registration.

The instructor is **Yelena Golberg**, who is originally from Moscow, Russia, where she earned both her Bachelor of Music and Master of Music Degrees from the renowned Gnessin Academy of Fine Arts. After graduating, she worked as a piano performer with the Moscow Youth Orchestra, and also taught piano, theory and history of music and composition at the Moscow School of Music, until she left Russia in 1992 for the US, where she has lived with her family and worked ever since. In 2000, she was introduced to a Suzuki Piano Method by her colleague in Central Pennsylvania, fell in love with it, and decided to get formal Suzuki training and 'convert' into a Suzuki Piano teacher. That she accomplished by the summer of 2005, by completing her training at the Greater Pittsburgh Suzuki Piano Institute with its founder, inspiring musician Kiki Barley.

The violin instructor is **Danica Terzic**, a professional violinist in the valley with experience as both a chamber & orchestral musician. Trained in Europe and the US, she recently received her Master of Music in Violin Performance from ASU. She has played and taught professionally in Europe, the US & Canada. BRIO is pleased to have such a fine teacher & musician to help launch our Club BRIO Music Program.

For more information on these new additions to the Club BRIO visual arts offerings, please visit our website, www.briofinearts.com, or call 480-941-8310.





ASA Cello News

ASA currently has four cello teachers. Each teacher recently reported on her studio:

Mary Beth Tyndall , Tucson Suzuki Cello Teacher has an active studio

Mary Beth writes: I have a lot of busy students right now. We have group class once a month for 3 levels of students---Twinkle to book 1, book 2, and book 3 to 5. 16 students participate in those 3 classes. Starting in 4th or 5th grade many of my students participate in Tucson Junior Strings, a multi-level, citywide string orchestra program . In the past year 3 students have given Book 1 graduation recitals in their homes--Allison Park, Kate Hahn, and Levi Powe.

Five of my high school students are in the Tucson Philharmonia Youth Orchestra, preparing for their tour to L.A. in February. Last spring I had two wonderful students graduate who were both with me from age 5 or so. James Rappaport is a student at USC in music now, planning on focusing on cello and conducting. He was fortunate enough to perform the entire Saint-Saens concerto with the TPYO last fall. Mary Anderson is my other recent grad and she is currently enrolled in the U of A studying music.

This past summer Sara Page, a 7th grader, played Elegie with the Rocky Ridge summer camp orchestra, and this fall she won 1st place in the junior division of the Tucson Symphony Concerto competition. Last spring another 7th grader in my studio, John Pae, won first place in the Tucson Civic Orchestra competition and performed the 1st movement of the J.C. Bach concerto with them in May.

I currently am preparing 3 seniors for college auditions, Molly Rife, has had many wonderful opportunities lately. She went to Interlochen this past summer as Arizona's Flinn Scholar, and for a couple of concerts was principal cello of WYSO. She won 1st place in the TSO concerto senior division in October, and 1st place in the youth symphony concerto competition last week, and will play the Saint-Saens 3rd movement in the spring.

Ann Peterson works with Annalisa

Ann Peterson in Tucson has been enjoying helping four-year-old Annalisa awaken the songs in Lola, her cello.

Mary Wilkening's Students Present a Recital

Mary Wilkening's West Valley cello students will present a recital on January 21. Twenty-two students will play pieces from Suzuki Books 1 to 7. Two students play in the Phoenix Symphony Guild's orchestras, and five play in the West Valley Youth Orchestras. One plays in the Pro Arte Orchestra in Anthem. Seventh Grader Sophie Welsh will perform Saint-Saens "Allegro Appassionato" in a Phoenix Symphony Guild Scholarship Competition in early January.

VSSA Cello Teacher Pamela Richardson is on Maternity Leave.

Congratulations on your little one, Pamela! Andrea Gordon has been teaching the cello class at VSSA. Andrea's email is atgcello@msn.com.



ASA
1157 E. Acacia Circle
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Music Academy of Tucson Winter Workshop January 26– 27,
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