

WYOMING FINE ARTS CENTER & CCM SUZUKI STRINGS POLICY GUIDE 2012-2013

Jennifer Leong & Rose Reidmiller, Directors
Directors' Email: SuzukiCenter4theArts@gmail.com

FACULTY CONTACT INFORMATION

Joyce Chan – joycechan59@gmail.com

Jenny Leong – jencluggish@gmail.com

Bob Conda (piano) – condarj@mail.uc.edu

Rose Reidmiller – rosereid@gmail.com

Timothy Durbin – ttdurbin@aol.com

Mary Rekers (Musik Kids) – mtrekers@gmail.com

Cecelia Goist – cgoist@yahoo.com

Kesi Ymeri – kesi_ymeri@yahoo.com

JiYong Atkinson – jiyongatkinson@gmail.com

GENERAL INFORMATION & WELCOME

Whether you are new to the Wyoming Fine Arts Center & CCM Suzuki String Programs or have been one of our long time families, we wish to welcome you to the program. Founded in 1995, the Center has been a long time leader in Suzuki education in the Cincinnati area. We attribute our standard of excellence to the quality of our faculty and the commitment of our parents and students to the Suzuki Philosophy. We have assembled one of the finest groups of instructors. Each one of our teachers is highly skilled and experienced in teaching and performing on his or her particular instrument. Each of our teachers in our program is a trained Suzuki teacher committed to the Suzuki Philosophy and continual growth in the art of teaching children.

Over the past few years, we have worked to make our program an educational and nurturing environment that supports and encourages the musical growth in *all* children. While we enjoy playing music together we do have certain rules and policies which help to ensure a healthy Suzuki environment and the success of each child. We appreciate you taking the time to read the following policies and incorporate them into your Suzuki experience here at the Center.

Again we welcome you to the program and look forward to working with you and your child.

Sincerely,

Ms. Rose, Ms. Jenny, and the entire Suzuki Faculty

***The Suzuki Program at the Center fosters Suzuki Education through weekly private lessons, group classes, recitals and concerts. The program adheres to the core Suzuki beliefs that all children have talent, education begins early and through listening, learning should be broken down into steps, environment and nurture influences success.**

NOTES ABOUT GROUP CLASSES

TIMELINESS

Teachers intend to BEGIN Group Class promptly at their starting times. Students need to arrive EARLY so they can take off coats, greet friends, get a drink of water, use the bathroom, and have their violins tuned. Please plan to arrive at least 10 minutes early for Group Classes. Arriving late is very disruptive and stops the class for additional tuning. If there is a class before your class, please take the opportunity to observe, learn from, and support the class preceding your class. Also, feel free to observe classes beyond your child's level for inspiration and ideas.

ATTENDANCE

Regular Group Class attendance and consistency is vital to your child's Suzuki Education. In addition to private lessons, Suzuki children participate in regular group lessons at which they learn from and are motivated by each other. Activities and repertoire based on the number of students in each class. Music is a team effort. Each student adds something special to each class and we miss you when you are not there! If you need to miss due to illness, please email your group class and private lesson teacher prior to the class. Books 2-5 attend both group class and orchestra class.

PARTICIPATION

As the Suzuki Parent/Practice-Partner, your attendance of and participation in Group Class is fundamental, especially at the early levels. In Pre-Twinkle, Twinkle, and Early Book One classes, the attending parent should be prepared to participate in the class. Taking notes is highly recommended and encouraged for all levels. Take notes on pieces your child does not yet play as it will help greatly when your child reaches those pieces in the repertoire. All parents need to be present in group classes until book four.

ASSIGNMENTS

Please write down your Group Class assignments on your most recent Private Lesson Sheet and/or inform your individual instructor of any Group Class supplemental or review assignments.

MISSED GROUP CLASSES - Please read carefully

We ask that you miss no more than one group class per quarter. There are no refunds for missed classes. You can make arrangements to make-up the missed class by attending or observing another class that is close to your child's level. In the case of severe weather, the directors will notify families via email of group class cancellations. Any group class cancelled due to severe weather will not be made up.

CONCERTS AND OUTREACH PERFORMANCES

Students are expected to participate in the Winter and Spring Group Concerts with their other group class members. Please mark these dates on your family calendar at the beginning of the school year. It is the responsibility of the student to be in attendance at the dress rehearsal. Students who do not attend the dress rehearsal will be unfamiliar with the order of pieces and tempos. Make every effort to be at the dress rehearsal so

that the performance is a *positive* experience for your child. Students who do not attend the dress rehearsal and/or performance need to send a **written email** to their group teacher, private lesson teacher, and the directors of the Suzuki Program in advance of the rehearsal.

Families are also expected to participate in one Outreach Concert per quarter. For the exact dates please see the yearly calendar. To participate in an Outreach Concert, students must sign up on the Suzuki Bulletin Board prior to the Outreach Concert. Outreach Concerts are those which go out into the community. Sign ups are taken down a week in advance of the Outreach to plan for the event. Students need to attend any dress rehearsal prior to an outreach. If a dress rehearsal is to be missed a **written email** needs to be sent to the group teacher, private lesson teacher, and the directors of the Suzuki Program in advance of the dress rehearsal.

Dress Code for all group concerts and outreach performances is dressy black bottoms and a white top, unless otherwise announced. You do not need to dress up for the dress rehearsal.

PARENT VOLUNTEER COMMITMENT

Every parent in the Suzuki String Program is an integral part of the Suzuki Parent Association (SPO). While some parents serve in offices all parents are asked to attend SPO meetings and give input. In addition parents are asked to volunteer throughout the year to bring refreshments for concerts, support events and help with fundraising. Every family is asked to participate in fundraising events through use of Kroger cards, and other fundraising efforts. Funds go to keeping tuition costs low and supporting the 100 days club, teacher training, special outreach concerts, and additional events for the program that benefit all the children.

SOLO RECITALS

The Suzuki Program also offers Solo performance opportunities to all students who are enrolled in Suzuki Group classes. This year, we will present two solo recitals at the Center. Please consult the calendar for the dates and times of these concerts. There are a few rules which apply to these and any other programs that your child may be involved in at the Center.

- Participation in a solo recital requires the recommendation of your private instructor.
- The piece selected to perform should be a "polished" piece. Your teacher will help you to choose a piece that represents your best playing.
- It is necessary for each student to sign up for a rehearsal with Bob Conda prior to the recital day. It is unwise and unfair to expect to show up on the day of the recital, and "run through" the piece with the accompanist regardless of the simplicity of the piece. Students may sign up for a Friday or Saturday rehearsal time free of charge. For specific rehearsal dates please refer to the yearly calendar. Any additional or alternative rehearsal times can be arranged with Bob Conda for an extra fee.
- It is part of good concert etiquette that all performers remain in the hall until the conclusion of the program. If you have a conflict which would require the

- performer to "play and leave," this must be approved with your private teacher in advance.
- The dress code for solo recitals is dressy clothing, no jeans please.

ADDITIONAL PIANO COACHING

Bob Conda is our program pianist and music coach. It is extremely helpful for children to work through their pieces using the support of the piano accompaniment. All student who are book 4 and beyond and are preparing for independent solo recitals are encouraged to have a coaching with Bob prior to their rehearsal time. Coaching's are offered at the rate of \$25 per half hour. Checks for additional coaching time are made payable to Bob Conda and should be given directly to Bob at the time of the coaching.

TUITION

Enrollment in the Suzuki Program is a yearly commitment. All Suzuki students participate in the weekly group program and private lesson under the instruction of a certified Suzuki teacher. The weekly group program includes group classes, orchestra, and theory or music and movement as designated by level. The yearly Suzuki program fee will only be pro-rated for cases of new student enrollment (during the school year) or in documented cases of prolonged illness or family emergency. All outreaches, group concerts, and solo recitals are included in the Suzuki enrollment fee and are provided for Suzuki students only. In addition, some private lesson teachers may require group participation in their studios and can refrain from continuing to teach a student who is no longer in group classes.

Tuition must be paid prior to the beginning of the new term.

PRIVATE STUDIO LESSONS - Please read carefully

There are a few rules which apply to studio lesson time. Please be familiar with the following expectations below.

1. All parents are requested to attend private lessons through book six and should bring their own notebook to take notes.
2. Students should arrive early to warm up, unpack, and take any necessary bathroom trips before coming to the lesson.
3. Please keep siblings occupied and quiet during the lesson - your attention needs to be on the child taking the lesson. If this is a problem, your teacher might ask that the sibling be left with a baby sitter.
4. All students are expected to practice 6 days a week and complete the lesson assignment from the prior week.

ILLNESS POLICY

In order to protect faculty and other students from contagious diseases, we request that students who have a fever, or who have had a fever within 24 hours, do not attend private lessons or group classes. The same guidelines are suggested for students with nausea. Teachers reserve the right to not teach lessons for students who are ill, or appear to be suffering symptoms of the flu, colds, etc.

Statement of Commitment

Please sign and return to private teacher within two weeks.

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read and fully understand and agree to the WFAC/CCM Suzuki Program parent/student expectations and will comply with them to the best of my ability. Please know that the Suzuki faculty has an open door policy - we appreciate hearing your concerns, ideas, and compliments!

Parent Name

Parent Signature

Date