August 9, 2019

Greetings Suzuki families!

We hope you are enjoying the summer. We’re starting to look ahead to fall events after returning from a successful trip to Spain with our Suzuki Tour group in June. Thirty students performed 4 concerts throughout Spain, featuring piano solos and duets, string chamber orchestra music and guitar ensemble pieces. We did a lot of sight-seeing, made a lot of friends and even survived a very windy outdoor concert, thanks to a bundle of clothes pins! Many thanks to our wonderful tour faculty, Joe Kaiser, Jean Seils, Nancy Daley and Tamara Gonzalez, along with many parents. Plans are underway for our next tour in three years.

Our first fall event is an inspirational event for parents. Nationally renowned Suzuki violin and viola teacher, Carrie Reuning – Hummel will present, “The Practice Journey: Support for Parents” on Thursday, September 5, 7:30 – 9:00 pm in Antonello Hall. Save the date! Ms. Reuning is visiting from Ithaca, NY. She is author of the popular book, “Time to Practice: A Companion for Parents.” This parent-only session is designed to give parents support and ideas for working with their children through various stages of their musical journey, from beginning to advanced levels. The session is sponsored by MacPhail Center for Music and the MacPhail Suzuki Department and is free of charge for parents and faculty.

Next on the calendar is the Suzuki Welcome Recital on Friday, September 27 at 6:00 pm, in Antonello Hall, featuring students of all ages and instruments. This event is for the whole family, and a reception will follow in the US Bank Lobby, provided by the MacPhail Suzuki Association. Come and greet old friends and make some new ones!

Don’t forget to renew your MSA membership for 2019 – 2020. Membership is just $25.00, and your membership fees help replenish the professional development fund for faculty so we can continue to participate in ongoing Suzuki education. The membership form will be emailed to you soon, and you can renew your membership in person at the parent talk on Sept. 5.

Please check out other events for our department on the online 2019-2020 Suzuki Department Calendar or events. Your specific group class assignment and group class calendar will be mailed to you early next week. Let me or your teacher know if you don’t receive it by Aug. 20, 2019.

In closing, I want to let you know about a few changes in our Suzuki faculty:

- Teresa Campbell, Suzuki violin instructor resigned from MacPhail effective in May to move to Connecticut. She accepted a position as Artistic Director of Bravo! in Waterbury, CT!
- Annie Richardson resigned as Suzuki flute instructor in mid-June.
- Vanamali Medina, a current MacPhail flute instructor, will join our department to teach Suzuki flute students. She has extensive Suzuki training and has years of experience teaching Suzuki flute.
• Benjamin Downs resigned from MacPhail, effective mid-August. He accepted a position as Director of pre-conservatory music at Shattuck Academy in Fairbault, MN.
• Suzanne Greer, a highly respected, veteran Suzuki piano teacher in the community will join our faculty in August. She will be teaching at MacPhail full-time, at both the Chanhassen and Minneapolis sites, and she will teach Suzuki piano group classes.
• Bailey Poesnecker will join our faculty this fall to teach Suzuki viola group classes. Bailey is moving to the Twin Cities from Connecticut and is a graduate of the Hartt School of Music. She has extensive group and individual teaching experience and is a fabulous viola player.

We are sad to say goodbye to Teresa and Annie and Ben; they have made major contributions to our program. But we are thrilled to welcome Vanamali, Suzanne and Bailey to our Suzuki team. I hope you have the chance to meet them and to welcome them soon!

Remember to look for the Suzuki Gavotte newsletter in your email for important Suzuki news throughout the year.

Along with the Suzuki faculty, I welcome you to the 2019 - 2020 year and hope you enjoy a year of excellent lessons, fun activities and musical growth.

Warm regards,

Beth Turco
Suzuki Director
Your student’s specific group class assignment is listed below:

Student First Name: 
Student Last Name: 
Instrument: 
Group Class: 
Location: 
Time: 
Room Number: 
Teacher: 
Class Begins: 

Mark your calendars for your **specific group classes listed below**. Regular attendance at group classes is key to your child’s ongoing engagement in instrument study. Group lessons reinforce concepts and repertoire introduced in private lessons. Dr. Suzuki’s vision for group class is to create community within a program where students and families learn and are motivated from each other. We are fortunate to have such a dynamite team of teachers who work together to provide the best possible group instruction for our students!

Dates for group classes are on the enclosed calendar or on our website at [http://www.macphail.org/for-youth/suzuki-talent-education](http://www.macphail.org/for-youth/suzuki-talent-education). At the first group you will meet your teacher, get to know your classmates and learn about general curricular goals for the year.