



Arizona Suzuki Association

Fall 2015

Newsletter

Special Points of Interest

President's Column	Page 1
MusicFest Experience	Page 2
ASA Workshop	Page 3
Workshop Repertoire	Page 3
ASA Teacher Application	Page 4
Studio Group Form link	Page 4
Every Child Can!	Page 4
ASA-PPG	Page 4
John Kendall	Page 5
VSSA News	Page 6
Chaparral MusicFest	Page 7
Map to Orangewood Church	Page 8
Workshop Flyer	Page 9



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Three Issues

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Quarter Page\$34

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One Issue

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Half Page\$25

Quarter Page \$17

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Suzuki Summer Institutes Inspire

By Laura Tagawa, ASA President & Violin Teacher

This summer I was lucky enough to attend not one, but two Suzuki institutes, one as director/teacher and the other as a teacher trainee. Summer institutes which take place around the US from May-August, offer students, parents, and teachers a place to learn, teach, and recharge “musical batteries.” Institutes are usually 4-5 days long and bring students and teachers together for an intensive and inspiring week of music. Classes offered at institutes include core classes such as master classes, repertoire classes, technique classes, and electives such as movement/dance, fiddling, orchestra, chamber ensembles, and composition. Many institutes also include recital opportunities and social activities for students. Teachers also attend institutes as trainees, to complete short-term training in each Suzuki book level or classes related to a specific topic in teaching.

These great musical communities offer students a chance to meet other students from their area or from another city or state who have Suzuki in com-

mon. Strong friendships are often made that stay strong even after institute ends, and often students return year after year and see their friends they made at institute. While learning new skills and sharpening old skills, students are able to focus on their instrument in a supportive community. Although only 4-5 days, each day often equals a week's worth of progress and motivation.

This summer was the fifth year of the Chaparral Musicfest Suzuki Academy in Prescott. This institute is small, allowing students to get to know their classmates and teachers well. Both violin and piano programs are offered. Highlights of the academy included a lunchtime faculty recital, improvisation classes, and a grand finale celebration concert ending with all piano and violin students playing Twinkle together. As an institute director and teacher, it is a joy to meet enthusiastic students and parents from different places and backgrounds all who love playing the violin! Having a Suzuki institute in our state builds and strengthens our Suzuki com-

Continued on Page 2

Suzuki Summer Institutes (continued from Page 1)



munity. Each year the institute has continued to grow, offering additional book levels and types of classes, and Arizona is very lucky to have a local institute.

The Japan Seattle Institute celebrated its twenty-fifth year this past August. This institute is unique in that it is an international institute, hosting students from Japan in addition to students from around the US. 250 violin, viola, cello, and bass students attended in 2015. Evening concerts featured violinist Corin

Lee (who performed a Paganini Caprice on a 1/8 size violin!), cellist Amy Sue Barston, and the student orchestra concert. Teachers also attended for training classes with the institute faculty, which included classes for violin, cello, and bass. As trainees, in addition to daily classes, observation hours are required which give the teachers a chance to observe many classes, teachers, and students. Attending as a trainee gives teachers time to learn new teaching skills and come home in-

spired.

Attending summer institutes provide a change of musical scenery, a chance to connect and re-connect with friends and colleagues, and offer inspiration to all who attend. The SAA offers a list of scholarships for students and teachers who are interested in attending summer institutes at their website, <https://suzukiassociation.org/events/scholarships/>. Many of the deadlines are early in the Spring, so it's never too early to start thinking about next summer. I hope to see you at a Suzuki institute!

THE PRESCOTT SUMMER EXPERIENCE by Nicole Spencer-Walters (12 year-old, Book 4 Student)

This summer, I went to my first violin camp in Prescott, Arizona. The Chaparral Music Fest gave me the opportunity to experience a variety of musical techniques from different teachers over the course of the 4-day camp. With over 20 kids who played violin and piano, the music camp was an awesome success.

The music camp was held at the Yavapai College and I felt like a college student when I received my

own name tag, schedule and when I went into the college classrooms every day for the classes. We had different classes with brilliant clinicians assigned to teach us. Some of our classes were Music Theory; Master classes; fiddling classes; instrument technique; and many other exciting ones. Although I thoroughly enjoyed all of them, my best class was the Music Theory class taught by Mrs. Flurry. In that class, I was amazed to see how we composed a piece of theme music on a computer, digitally selecting the different

Continued on Page 6

Drawing for music gifts at the ASA Fall workshop!

**October 23rd & 24th, 2015, ASA Fall Workshop
at Orangewood Church,
7321 N. 10th St, Phoenix, AZ 85020 MAP p. 8**

Student Registration by Oct. 8 is \$55 per child, Between Oct 9 and 15 is, \$65.. Registration closes on October 15.

Teacher Registration is \$20.

Student and Teacher Registration*

(Must be a member of ASA to participate)

Participant's Name _____

Age _____ Instrument _____

Polished Piece _____ Suzuki Book # _____

Second Child's Name _____

Age _____ Instrument _____

Polished Piece _____ Suzuki Book # _____

Parent's Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Preferred Phone # _____

Email _____

Teacher _____

Teacher's email _____

Before October 8, 2016, per student \$55 _____

Between October 8-15, 2015, /student \$65 _____

Friday evening Master Class (cellos) \$15 _____

Teacher Workshop (\$20) \$20 _____

ASA Membership fee** \$10 _____

Lunch included for registered child

Extra Lunches : \$5/person How Many? _____ \$ _____

Vegetarian yes _____ no _____

Total payable to ASA \$ _____

No Refunds

Please keep the Repertoire list. Cut this column and mail it, with the check made out to ASA to:

Mary Wilkening/ 1157 E Acacia Circle, Litchfield Park AZ 85340/ Email: marywilkening@cox.net

ASA Membership information will be sent in a pdf available in January to ASA Members only. If you do not want your information included, please check here _____.

Photo Release: My child's photo can be used on the ASA website and Facebook pages Yes _____ No _____

****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. Teachers, please find the group registration form on our website www.azsuzuki.org/Join ASA and Forms**



VOLUME 20, ISSUE 1

Arizona Suzuki Association Fall Workshop

Friday, October 23, 2015

4-7 pm: Teacher Workshop with Liz Arbus: Bow Distribution: Building the Lineage of Our Technique

4-7 pm: Cello Master Class with Brittany Gardner— Nine advanced Suzuki cello students. Book 4 and up students will be registered in order of postmark on registration, **Registered teachers are invited.**

(Master Class students must attend Saturday as well)

Saturday, October 24:

8:30 Check In

9-2 pm: Violin, Viola and Cello students in Books 1-3:

Repertoire classes with Liz Arbus and Brittany Gardner; Violin, viola and cello master classes; Fiddling; Vocal Virtuosos.

9-2 pm: Violin, Viola and Cello students in Books 4 and up:

Repertoire classes with Liz Arbus and Brittany Gardner; Violin Master Classes; Cello Choir; Orchestra Reading.

2 pm: Group Performances

3 pm: Dismissal

Repertoire List for Violin (V)

Bk 1: All

Bk 2: Chorus From Judas Maccabaeus, Waltz, Witches' Dance, Lully Gavotte

Bk 3: Gavotte in G Minor, Humoresque, Gavotte in D Major

Bk 4: Seitz Concerto No. 2, 3rd mvt., Vivaldi Concerto, 1st mvt.

Bk 5: Country Dance

Bk 6: Fiocco Allegro

Repertoire List for Viola and Cello

Bk 1: All

Bk 2: May Time, Minuet 1, Hunters' Chorus, The Two Grenadiers

Bk 3: Scherzo

Bk 4: Breval Sonata in G, 1st mvt., Minuets, from #1 Suite in G.

Bk 5: Largo from Sonata in e minor by Vivaldi

Repertoire list is also available at our website azsuzuki.org/Events

Suzuki Repertoire is to be Memorized

Advanced Violins: Orchestra Reading material does not need to be learned before workshop.

Advanced Cellos: Non-Suzuki pieces for cello choir will be emailed to you. Please learn before the workshop.

They do not need to be memorized.

Advanced Group students: please bring a music stand

Cut here. Please keep repertoire list.

Teachers: Don't miss Liz Arbus's workshop on Bow Distribution: Building the Lineage of Our Technique (How all Book One bow distribution applies to all the books and beyond). Be sure to bring your violins! More information on p. 9 and on the ASA website, www.azsuzuki.org.

**Would you like to be listed on the
Arizona Suzuki Association
Website as a registered
Suzuki Teacher for 2015-2016?**

**Register on line at www.azsuzuki.org/
Join ASA and Forms or mail in your \$10
dues and the form below**

Name_____

Instrument_____

Address_____

City_____

Preferred Phone #_____

Email or Website (choose one to be published on
www.azsuzuki.org)_____

We will not publish your address on line, only your preferred
telephone number, zip code, and email or website.

Register on line or send this Form and \$10 to Mary Wilkening,
1157 E. Acacia Circle, Litchfield Park, AZ 85340.

Every Child Can!

Arizona Suzuki Association will host the Suzuki Association of the Americas class, Every Child Can! This class will be taught by a certified Teacher Trainer. Every Child Can! is a one day introductory course on the Suzuki philosophy and its application to education. For parents, teachers, prospective teachers and others, this course provides an inspiring, in-depth look at the Suzuki approach to teaching and learning. Dates: January 17, 2016 in the Phoenix area. Check our website azsuzuki.org for location and times.

ASA—PPG Piano Group

October 31—Celebration Concert at ASU from 11:00 am to 3:30 pm at ASU's Katzin Hall. Observers are welcome.

February 3-7, 2015—Winter Workshop with Japanese Teachers. Teacher and college student observers are welcome. Please contact Gloria Elliot for information at gelliott50@aol.com.



***Teachers, Please go to our website at www.azsuzuki.org/Join ASA and Forms 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.**

The Suzuki Violin Method in American Music Education by John Kendall (1977)

Editor's note: This article was written in 1977 by John Kendall, one of the American pioneers of the Suzuki approach in America. Louise Scott and Karin Hallberg, both professors at NAU, and Liz Arbus, our Fall Workshop Clinician, all studied with John Kendall.

There are moments in history when a place, a time, a man, and an idea converge to produce results of great significance. Such a moment occurred when Shinichi Suzuki began his experiments in violin teaching in Japan. The results have attracted widespread attention, and have generated much speculation about the nature of musical learning and the way in which every human being develops in the early formative years. It is not that any particular segment of Suzuki's ideas in new, but rather that the totality of his concepts, together with the results he has shown, throw a clear light on a question we all wish to explore – how do human beings become musical.

In March 1965 at the MENC biennial convention in Philadelphia, a crowd of music educators assembled for a demonstration by Shinichi Suzuki and

ten Japanese children aged five to thirteen. Many of those present had come to the meeting with skepticism or from mere curiosity. Few, if any, left without being deeply impressed by what they saw and heard. These children played long works from memory with beauty of tone and sound musicianship. They demonstrated their flexibility by moving around the stage and up and down steps while playing. Suzuki divided the children into two groups to play the Vivaldi Concerto in a minor. Group 1 played until he clapped his hands whereupon Group 2 took over without a break in the music. Back and forth from one group to the other, the Vivaldi was played without hesitation and with evenness and security. Suzuki selected difficult spots at which to give the signal. Obviously these children knew the concerto thoroughly. The climax of the demonstration was reached with a masterful performance of the Chausson *Poeme* played by thirteen-year-old Yakari Tate. Certainly this Japanese music educator had proven himself a great teacher.

America interest in Suzuki can

be traced back from his 1964 visit several years to the Spring of 1968 when, during a regional meeting of the American String Teachers Association at Oberlin College in Ohio, a group of string specialists incredulously watched and listened to a motion picture of 750 Japanese children playing the Bach *Concerto for Two Violins* at the Sports Palace in Tokyo. The phenomenal results achieved by these youngsters around a great deal of interest, enthusiasm, and discussion. At that time it seemed obvious that some American teacher should make the trip to Japan and observe firsthand the teaching methods used with these children. (Actually, Joseph Szigeti, several years earlier, had heard the children, and impressed by their performance, had submitted an article to the New York Times, which did not publish it.) With this in mind, correspondence was carried on with Suzuki. His cordial invitation for me to visit made possible a six weeks' trip to Japan in the summer of 1959, for observation and study. A subsequent trip was made in March, April, and May of 1962.

Continued on Page 7

Advertisement

Accompanist

Phone: 480-860-2076

E-mail: barbara.burley48@gmail.com

BARB BURLEY

BS. MS. MUSIC EDUCATION





VSSA Workshop Schedule for 2015-16

August 22, 29

September 19

October 3, 31

Oct. 24 - ASA Workshop at Orangewood Presbyterian Church

November 7, *14 *Winter Concert/Book Promotion

January 9, 23

February 6

February *20, *VSSA workshop - full day schedule

March 5, *26 *Final 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 Rd. Suite 9** / * Note that Group will be held in different places.

➤ ASA, state Suzuki organization, will have a Workshop on Saturday, Oct. 24.

This event is not included in VSSA group lesson fees, but we encourage participation! See www.valleysuzuki.org for more information

Prescott Summer Experience (Continued from Page 2)

instruments and the time signature for the piece as we went along. This showed me how advanced we are today with writing music and that we are not just stuck to writing it manually. The Master Class showed me techniques I had not even thought out and it pointed out habits that I have while playing that I had not previously noticed, which all helped improve my playing.

Instead of staying in the college dormitory, some of the campers, including myself, stayed at a nearby hotel. After the camp each day, we would go swimming in the hotel pool and then practice our instruments on the hotel patio. Some of the campers practiced in a conference room. The guests at the hotel complimented our melodious sounds. I also went sightseeing, which including going out for dinner and to the movies at the beautiful Prescott theatre.

The campers were entertained by the recital performance of the teachers one day, which was amazing. It was great to see our teachers play their instruments for us and also an inspiration for us to wish to play like them one day. From my VSSA experience, I met some campers who I had previously known. Although the majority of them were new to me, we all made lots of friends and had a great time together. On the last day of the camp, we took group pictures and we had our final concert. The students played their group pieces and fiddling songs. It was loud and noisy, but a lot of fun and everyone sounded great. They also had a raffle in which a ukulele and a drum were raffled. I won the ukulele!

Overall, what a wonderful experience the violin and piano camp was for the students this summer in Prescott. I learned a lot and made tons of friends. I can't wait for next year, and hope to see you



Rock formation near Prescott

Suzuki Violin Method in America (Continued from page 5)

During these visits, through the wonderful cooperation of Mr. Suzuki and the teachers and parents of Talent Education, excellent opportunities were afforded to hear Japanese students of ages ranging from 3 to 17 years, singly and in groups. These experiences convinced me of several things: *first*, that this method, after sixteen years of experiment in Japan, has achieved amazing results; *second*, that three-year-old children are not too young to learn to play the violin; *third*, that we are wasting several years of good “learning time” in America by waiting until age nine or ten before beginning violin instruction; *fourth*, that rote, or memory teaching of violin may be extended to two or even three years without in any way interfering with the child’s later abilities to read music; *fifth*, that competition is not necessarily the strongest motivation for progress in learning, and that love of music for its own sake, together with a continual encouragement of self-development, can be powerful motives for students; and *finally*, that we should certainly experiment in America with the teaching methods and ideas which have been so successful in Japan.

News from Chaparral MusicFest Suzuki Academy in Prescott

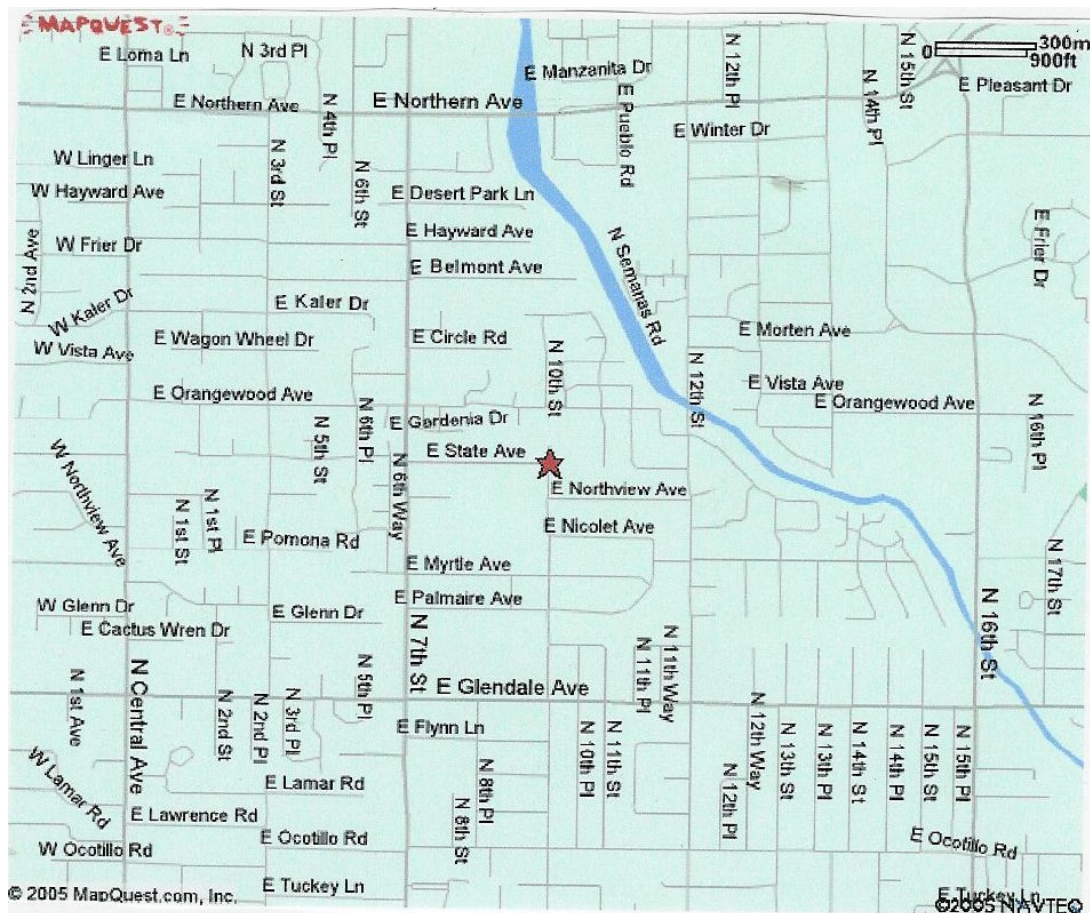
The 2015 Suzuki Academy brought together thirty five piano and violin students, nine faculty, one assistant, and many volunteers who made the program a success. Our students came from around the state of Arizona, including Apache Junction, Flagstaff, Kingman, Laveen, Mesa, Phoenix, Prescott, Prescott Valley, Scottsdale, and Tucson, and across the country, including Colorado, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, and Utah. This was the fifth year as a Suzuki Association of the Americas (SAA) officially sanctioned institute, and our first year at Yavapai College. The Suzuki Academy offers students ages six through twelve an intense but fun learning experience in a focused and supportive environment.

A special thank you to Henry Flurry who will no longer continue as co-director. Henry's passion for teaching and his countless hours of work for the Suzuki Academy is greatly appreciated. He has helped build and strengthen the Suzuki community in Arizona.



Pictures from the 2015 Chaparral MusicFest in Prescott, AZ.

Map to Orangewood Church, Site of ASA Workshop



7321 N. 10th St, Phoenix, AZ 85020

From 51, the Piestewa Parkway, heading north, take the Glendale/Lincoln exit left (west). Then take a right (north) on 12th St. and go about 1/2 mile to Northview. Go left (west) until the street T-stops at 10th. Take a right (north) and it is right there.

Going south on 51, take the Northern exit going west (right). Go to 12th St. Take a left (south) to Northview, then a right (west) and follow the instructions above.

From I-17, take Glendale exit east (right). Go to 7th St. Take a left (north) to State, take a right (east) and the street stops at the church.



Liz Arbus, Violin
Clinician

Brittany Gardner, Cello
Clinician



Arizona Suzuki Association Fall Workshop 2015: Liz Arbus, Violin Brittany Gardner, Cello

To Register: Fill out the registration form in the [ASA Newsletter](#), or go on line at www.azsuzuki.org/Forms. Mail paper registration to Mary Wilkening, 1157 E Acacia Circle, Litchfield Park AZ 85340.

Cost: Students before October 8 - \$55 each including lunch. Add \$10 for late registration between October 8 and 15. Teacher Registration is \$20. Add \$15 for participation in Friday's Master Classes for advanced cello students (see below). No registration the day of the Workshop.*

Teacher Workshop from 4—7 pm Friday. Fee—\$20

*(Remember, families must be a member of ASA to participate. Send in your \$10 membership fee by mail or on line at www.azsuzuki.org/Forms, or join through your teacher's group membership for \$5.)

Orangewood Presbyterian Church, 7321 N 10th St, Phoenix 85020

Schedule:

Friday, October 23, 4—7 pm: Teacher Class by **Liz Arbus, Violin**—Bow Distribution: Building the Lineage of Our Technique (How all Book One bow distribution applies to all the books and beyond). Be sure to bring your violins!

Friday, October 23, 4—7 pm: Master Classes with **Brittany Gardner, cello**, for 9 advanced Suzuki cello students, Book 4 and up. **Master Class students will be assigned an hour long session so they will have the opportunity to hear other student's lessons. Registered Teachers are invited to listen to Master Classes.**

Saturday, October 24: 8:30 am Check-In

9:00-2:00 pm: **Violin, Viola and Cello students in Books 1 – 3:** Repertoire Class with Liz Arbus or Brittany Gardner, Master Class with Arizona Teacher, Fiddling, "Vocal Virtuosos" class.

9:00-2:00 pm: **Violin, Viola and Cello students in Books 4 and up:** Suzuki Repertoire Class with Liz Arbus or Brittany Gardner; Violin Master Classes; Orchestra Site-reading (Violins) , or Cello Choir.

2:00-3:00 pm: Group Performances

3:00 pm: Dismissal



ASA

1157 E. Acacia Circle

Litchfield Park 85340



**ASA Fall Workshop, Liz Arbus, Violin, and Brittany Gardner, Cello
at Orangewood Church on
October 23 & 24. See details inside!**