

# Suzuki at UW-Stevens Point



The Suzuki programs at UW-Stevens Point were founded by Margery Aber in 1967. The Aber Suzuki Center (ASC) is housed in state-of-the-art facilities in the Noel Fine Arts Center on the UWSP campus as well as satellite locations in neighboring cities.

ASC offers a year-round program that teaches music, using the Suzuki method, to approximately 250 students from over 30 central Wisconsin cities. Pre-college offerings include: private instruction in cello, flute, guitar, harp, piano, violin, viola, and voice. The program also offers weekly group classes, chamber music coaching, the ASC String Orchestra, as well as many solo and group performance opportunities.

Home of the internationally-acclaimed American Suzuki Institute, the oldest Suzuki summer school outside Japan, the Suzuki Programs at UWSP is the focal point for Suzuki instruction in Wisconsin and a national leader in setting direction for Suzuki Education.

## SUZUKI EARLY CHILDHOOD MUSIC EDUCATION (SECE) BIRTH-AGE 4

The Suzuki Early Childhood Education Program is a wonderful first-time musical experience for very young children and their parents. The class focuses on building skills using the Suzuki philosophy, through singing and movement. These activities, specifically geared to this age group, are presented in a positive, nurturing learning environment. Teachers are specially trained as Suzuki early childhood instructors.



# Every Child Has Talent

The Suzuki method is based on the premise that all children are born with talent. This talent can be developed in the same way they learn to speak their native language: at home, in a nurturing family-centered environment. With the guidance of excellent teachers and the support of parents, Suzuki students learn to make music in the same way they learn to speak— by listening and imitating.

Dr. Suzuki stated that the purpose of his approach to educational philosophy was not only to study music, but also to foster the development of well rounded, compassionate, intelligent, and peace-loving human beings.

Many ASC students continue with lifelong involvement in music, and some go on to pursue professional careers in music. The excellent training available in the UWSP Suzuki programs provides a foundation of skills and depth of character that serves each student well in the pursuit of any life-goals they set for themselves.



# ABER SUZUKI CENTER Cornerstones of the Suzuki Approach

## PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Parents attend lessons with the young child and serve as “home teachers” during the week.

## EARLY BEGINNING

It is rarely too early, but never too late to begin.

## LISTENING

Students learn by ear by listening to a reference recording of the Suzuki repertoire.

## REPETITION

Repetition is essential in learning to play an instrument, especially to train muscles and memory.

## REFINEMENT

New skills are added to previously learned pieces to refine tone development and musicianship.

## POSITIVE ENVIRONMENT

Specific praise for effort and accomplishment creates a nurturing learning environment.

## GROUP EXPERIENCE

In addition to private lessons, students participate in regular group lessons and performances.

## READING AND WRITING COME LATER

Children learn to speak and, later, learn to read. Following this example, Suzuki students develop basic technical competence on their instruments before being taught to read music.

## Benefits of Suzuki Music Education

- |                       |                      |                         |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| • Focus/concentration | • Confidence         | • Responsibility        |
| • Perseverance        | • Performance skills | • Memory                |
| • Self-discipline     | • Creativity         | • Strong work ethic     |
| • Self-expression     | • Coordination       | • Appreciation of music |
| • Self-esteem         | • Problem-solving    | • Teamwork              |
| • Self-awareness      | • Goal-setting       | • Sharing of ideas      |



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# ABER SUZUKI CENTER



## Every Child Has Talent



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