



# AMBASSADOR

## American Suzuki Talent Education Center

University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point  
College of Fine Arts and Communication

*Changing lives by providing the best in performance,  
creativity, and expression*

April 2003

### From the Director's Desk

By Dee Martz

The Voice and String Festival Concert, scheduled for April 27, will be held at Ben Franklin Junior High in Stevens Point. As usual, all students who perform in the Festival Concert must attend the Marathon on April 26 as this is the only rehearsal we have for the performance. The Marathon will be held as usual in the Fine Arts Building at UWSP.

The ASTEC faculty decided to try a new location for the Festival Concert after experiencing a variety of difficulties during the last several years at SPASH. (Perhaps some of you remember that the stage was filled with a set and furniture for the spring play last year!) Ben Franklin has a large auditorium with plenty of room for all the ASTEC family and friends who wish to attend the concert. The stage is well designed and will serve our space needs. I am really looking forward to using this nice facility.

Ben Franklin is quite easy to find. See the map inside that indicates its position relative to the Southside Copps and the "new" Highway HH bridge that crosses the Wisconsin River.



### What a Difference Parents Can Make

By Kyoko Fuller

It is approaching the end of the year and many of you must be reviewing and evaluating your child's progress once again. I would like to express my gratitude to my Suzuki friends and especially to parents for their endless efforts and love for their children. Your dedication and support for Suzuki education truly inspires us to be better and more dedicated teachers. Over the many years I have taught, I have had more examples than I can count of parents who really made an impact not only on their child, but on me, and made teaching to be a joy. In this article I am going to recount just a few stories of some

wonderful parents who have blessed my life and encouraged me to work at my best to keep bringing Dr. Suzuki's philosophy to new generations of students.

Years ago, when I was teaching in Matsumoto, Japan, there were especially good conditions for Japanese parents to create the first Suzuki learning community. Of course, it was a big advantage that many families were practically neighbors and also that they were mostly homemakers and full time mothers. It was not unusual to find my students practicing with their classmate's mother when their own mother was sick or delivering a baby. (My studio was full of babies and pregnant mothers!) These mothers watched each other's needs, and they really enjoyed the friendship and love among the Suzuki families. They were very keen to create activities that generated parental involvement, yet remained sensitive to the leadership and authority of the teachers. For example, we had parent's tea meetings every month where parents shared stories with one another of their children's challenges and successes. As a young, inexperienced teacher, I found their support and nurture to be incredibly encouraging. And their involvement paid off dramatically in the student's achievement. After three years of teaching, many of my oldest students, who were only 6 and 7 years old, had become advanced students. Three of them were chosen to be members of the Japanese Ten Suzuki Children, a tour group that came to the US and stirred up music education in America.

The ASTEC program here at Stevens Point has also seen many parents help this program remain strong. When I was first beginning to teach here, there were three friendly and outgoing parents enrolled in my studio who had no connection with each other except an extremely high regard for Suzuki education. From the moment they started the program, they were enthusiastic not only for their own children, but also in the progress of the other students. They quickly became friends and their camaraderie began to influence other parents of my studio. Out of this developed group lessons for 5-6 year old students which powerfully extended the community learning environment for even more students. These three mothers became an inspiration to other mothers, and then their children became an inspiration to other children. It was contagious!

Quite a number of these same students became the anchors of the Dolce String Ensemble, a performing tour group that was selected in 1996 to represent America for the competition at the Vienna International Youth Music Festival and succeeded in winning the special prize. While abroad, they also performed many concerts in Austria and Germany. I am convinced that these three mothers were key to the development of this group and its many successes.

Several years ago when I called a family that was on our waiting list for several years, the mother was very happy to hear from me. But after talking a bit more, she realized that the scheduled opening time for lessons would conflict with some other important activity. Though she was very upset about it, there seemed to be no solution. A half hour later, she called again to ask me if it would still be OK to enroll at the time we discussed because she had gone to the trouble to move the conflicting obligation to another time. She said that it was too important to pass up this opportunity since they had been waiting for it for a long time. I was impressed with her sincerity and then also with her quick action to change things. Her children were then enrolled in my studio. Because some of her circumstances were rather unusual and difficult, I really did not expect their practice to be substantial. But soon she organized her new schedule and responsibilities just as I noticed in our first phone conversation. Daily practice was never missed. She always writes the lesson notes diligently and her children bring their own video tapes to record their lessons so as not to forget or misunderstand instructions.

Now this family has continued in the ASTEC program for five years and they are still as fresh with excitement as their first day. Isaac Stern was once asked how he could keep playing the same repertoire so many times over so many years and not get tired of playing them. He responded, "I play each piece as if it were the only music that ever existed in the whole world, and I appreciate them and enjoy them." I see this mother has the very same attitude. She looks at her children's lesson as if this is the only lesson they ever can take. She appreciates and values it like a precious jewel. She is the most gracious Suzuki mother I ever met! Her wonderful attitude is very much reflected onto her children. It is parents like these, and so many others besides, that fulfill Dr. Suzuki's popular words "where love is deep, much is to be accomplished."



#### **Aber Children's Scholarship**

**By Tim Zander**

One of the best parts of being a member of the American Suzuki Foundation Board is the opportunity to recognize and reward excellence. Therefore, the American Suzuki Foundation is pleased to announce the winners of the Aber

Children's Scholarship awards for 2003. This year's winners include the families of **Dwight and Gretchen Anderson, Greg and Jean Marchel, Len and Leslie Markman, Thomas and Beverly Furdek, Ken and Janet Kamps, Steven and Jennifer Thames, David and Agnes Chan, Kurt and Nicole Van Tiem, and Jon and Tricia Marion.** Our congratulations go out to each family.

Each of these families applied for the scholarship, wrote their answers to a specific question related to the Suzuki philosophy, obtained a teacher recommendation, and had an interview with the ASF scholarship committee. This year's question asked about the role of reviewing in the families' musical education. Each of the winning families showed a special understanding and application of the Suzuki philosophy.

Awarded funds may be applied to the cost of ASTEC lessons or the American Suzuki Institute. The awards are funded by a special grant established by Margery Aber in honor of her parents.

The Foundation Board would like to encourage ASTEC families to apply for the next Aber Children's Scholarships. Participating families and the scholarship committee report that the process is painless and fun, and that they all learned something from it. Watch your ASTEC mailings next fall for the next application announcement.



#### **Voila Viola**

**By Dee Martz**

This year the ASTEC Voice and String Festival Concert will be on April 27 with rehearsal at the Marathon on April 26. All viola students who plan to perform in the concert need to participate in the rehearsal on Saturday. We will start as usual at 9:00 and at that time we will rehearse everything but the Telemann Double. All violists should plan to stay after cookie break for the logistics rehearsal in Michelsen with the entire group. That should be finished by 11:30. Then the violists who are playing the Humoresque/Swanee River will return to A-204 to rehearse that. The Marathon will end with a rehearsal of the Telemann Double. We will finish the rehearsal by noon.

Mr. Becker and I will work on the review pieces as well as Sakura and Swanee River at individual lessons. Only students in Book 5 and above will be considered for Swanee however some advanced students with big violas will need to play Humoresque to assure good balance. Please be flexible.

Violas and singers

Sakura

### Violas

Telemann double-- 4<sup>th</sup> movement  
Humoresque/ Swanee River  
Witches Dance  
Bohemian Folk Song  
Variation A

### Violas and cellos

May Song arr. Nordstrom

### With entire group

Long, long ago book 1  
Song of the Wind  
Twinkles (all)



### **Notes from the Endpin**

By Lawrence Leviton

Our Festival Concert is approaching fast. It will take place on April 27th. Here is the list of pieces that will be on the concert. Please review them carefully at home. We will also go over them at your lessons in the next few weeks.

Jurassic Park-John Williams

Concerto No. 4 in G Major-G. Goltermann-Book 5

Musette-Bach with violins

Minuet no. 2

Allegro Goes to Arabia

Twinkle Variation One



### **Violin Festival Repertoire Review List**

Beyond: Anderson, *The Typewriter*

Book 4: Seitz, *Concerto No. 5, 1st mvt.*

Book 2: Schumann, *Two Grenadiers*

Bach, *Musette* in G with cello

Book 1: Bach, *Minuet 2*

Bayley, *Long, Long Ago* in D with all instruments

Folk Song, *Song of the Wind* in D with all instr.

Suzuki, *Twinkle* in D with all instruments



### **Student News**

**Kristine Henry** is giving her Senior Violin Recital on 2:00 pm, Saturday April 12 at the West Junior High School, Wisconsin Rapids. Piano accompanist Tom Yang, String quartet player **David Cecil**, **Madeleine DeBot** and **Matt Ziehr** assist her program.

**Bryce Marion**, **Jenika Marion**, **Jonathan Kamps**, **Jake Kubisiak**, **Brian Turner** attended the Oshkosh Suzuki Workshop.

**Kelley Rolak**, **Tyler Millican**, **Lawrence Andersen**, **Evelyn Andersen**, **Navneeth Iyengar**, **Kristen Henry**, **Matt Ziehr**, **Jessica Ryan**, **Wyatt Dittburner**, **Christian Czernicki**, **Ross Moore**, **Kristen Mocadlo**, **Billy Jenkins**, **Peter O'Reilly**, **Margot Debot**, **David Cecil**, **Jamie Davis**, **Emily Gruselle**, **Ethan McKnight**, **Spencer Millican**, **Katherine Dahm**, **Jill Iwanski**, **Anna Leutmer**, **Jane Mitchell**, **Katherine Munck**, **Quinn O'Reilly**, **Adam Qutaishat**, **Nadia Qutaishat**, **Lyndi Benz-Dean**, **Sally DeBauche**, **Chris Droske**, **Brad Hessler**, **Will Peck**, **Sarah Zahn**, and **Michael Crump** participated in the WSMA Solo and Ensemble Festival. **Forrest Fleishauer** participated in the 6th grade solo and ensemble festival.



### **Faculty News**

Pat D'Ercole was a clinician for workshops in Hartt School Suzuki Workshop in West Hartford, CT on Mar. 21-22 and attended a teachers' workshop given by Alice Joy Lewis on Mar. 23. Pat also presented a lecture entitled "*The Components of Tone Production and How to Teach Them*" for teachers and taught children at the Oshkosh Suzuki Workshop on Mar. 21-22.



### **March, 2003 Graduates**

Rachelle Werth, Piano, Book 3

Forrest Fleishauer, Violin Book 3

Lawrence Andersen, Violin, Book 5

Christina Marchel, Violin, Twinkle

Teresita Marchel, Violin, Book 1

Emily Clay, Cello, Book 1



### Upcoming Events

April 5, 2003, Piano Marathon, COFA

April 6, 2003, Suzuki Recitals, 2:00 and 3:30 pm, Michelsen Hall, COFA

April 26, 2003, Marathon Saturday (except piano), COFA

April 27, 2003, String Festival Concert, Ben Franklin Junior High School Auditorium, 2:00 pm

May 10, 2003, Suzuki Ensemble and Solo Recital, 2:00 and 3:30 pm, Michelsen Hall, COFA

May 10, 2003, Central State Chamber Orchestra Concert, 7:00 pm, Michelsen Hall, COFA

May 11, 2003, Suzuki Piano Festival Concert, 2:00 and 3:30 pm, Michelsen Hall, COFA



### Help Wanted

The ASI Retail Store, which is open during the two weeks of the American Suzuki Institute, is looking for 1-2 people, age 14-adult, who would be interested in working in the ASI Store August 3-16. The store features a wide variety of books, music, cassettes, CDs, souvenirs, mementos, apparel, figurines, jewelry and fine gift items.

Anticipated hours would be, Sunday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, 3-5 pm; Monday thru Friday, August 4-8 and August 11-15, 8 am – 5 pm; and Saturday, August 9<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, 8-11 am. These hours of operation are tentative at this time.

If you are interested, please leave your name and phone number at the Suzuki Office (715) 346-3033, and we will pass the information on to our store manager.



### Road Construction

The Stevens Point Public Works Department website shows the following information:

“Phase 3 and 4 of the Highway 10 Project are scheduled to begin in mid-April and end around November.

Phase 3 of the project includes the section of Main Street from Minnesota Avenue to Rogers Street. During construction, this portion of the roadway will be closed to traffic. This phase will also affect the Division Street and Michigan Avenue intersections. The intersection at Division Street will be closed for approximately six weeks and the intersection at Michigan Avenue will be closed for about five weeks. However, both intersections will not be closed at the same time.

Phase 4 of the project will include the area from Minnesota Avenue to the Target Store on Highway 10 East. Phase 4 will be done under traffic, leaving only one lane open in each direction. This could result in some heavily congested traffic during the busy hours of the day.

Once again, the detour for the Highway 10 Project for eastbound traffic will be: Highway P to County Trk. HH, to Interstate I-39, and back to Highway 10. For westbound traffic, the detour is just the opposite.

Thank you, in advance, for your cooperation and understanding on this matter.”

Our understanding is that the first portion will be Phillips Street to Illinois, then from Rogers to Phillips, and finally from Illinois east to Minnesota. The intersection of Division and Main (Business 51 and Highway 10 westbound) will be closed for six weeks.



A firm timeline has not yet been established, but the City anticipates that they will begin the project with the area that the Suzuki House falls in (Phillips to Illinois). While Main Street is closed, signs will go up on Reserve and Clark saying Reserve is closed to thru traffic. It will be open to local traffic going both north and south, giving us access to the Suzuki House parking lot from Clark Street (Highway 10 eastbound). You should plan to allow yourself extra time to get around road closures.

Look for a road construction update in the May issue of the Ambassador.

