

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 2005

From the Director's Desk

By Dee Martz

The Suzuki program will move to its wonderful new headquarters sometime in May. I am sure that when you read Dr. Leviton's article you will start to feel the same kind of excitement that the faculty members have been experiencing the last few months. Discussions about an addition to the Fine Arts building started long ago. In fact it was listed as the highest building priority on the campus in 1984 but we learned that things do change. The Health Enhancement Center and the addition to the Natural Resources Building somehow got in front of Fine Arts on the Building projects list. As a result for about twenty years I have been saying that I wouldn't believe that we were actually going to be into new facilities until the moving van pulled up to the Suzuki House and started loading boxes. It turns out that I didn't have to wait quite this long for reality to sink in. Even though we do not have an exact moving date I must confess that I am absolutely positive that we are actually going to move and that we are going to do it soon.

At about the time of the ground breaking ceremonies in the Fall of 2003 we had good discussions in the Suzuki faculty meetings about all the things that we will be able to enjoy in large studios with good sound separation. We also talked about the benefits of having the Suzuki program in the same building with all the college programs and students. As we got more and more excited about all the possibilities this change in location brings it started us thinking about the importance of having the entire program in the same place.

I know that the word is out but I want to make an official announcement to confirm that once we are settled in the new studios we will no longer be offering outreach lessons in Marshfield or Waupaca. The change will happen when the summer lessons begin, assuming that we will move before that. I know that this will prove challenging to the families that currently have lessons closer to home but the teachers will be as flexible as possible when setting up schedules to make the transition a bit easier.

In the early days of Suzuki in Wisconsin, people from UWSP taught in Wausau, Wisconsin Rapids and even in Shawano. As the outreach program closed in each of these areas almost 100% of the ASTEC students managed to come to Stevens Point for lessons and then continued in the program for many years. I feel certain that the same thing will happen with the current Suzuki families in Waupaca and Marshfield.

You might be interested to know that there is an extra benefit to having all lessons and classes in Stevens Point. Faculty members who have been receiving work credit for travel time will be able to take a few more students from the waiting list. Many of these families have spent four years or more waiting for a teacher. Just imagine the smile on a young child's face when they hear the applause for their very first bow.



Come One, Come All!

Parent Information Session for first or second year parents in the program, as well as "experienced" parents in the program. Stop in and enjoy a lively discussion and indulge in the "Angel Food and Decaf" experience.

April 19, 2005, 7:30 pm
Suzuki House, Room 107
Topic: The Practicing Environment

Brief presentations will be followed by Q & A and discussion. Bring your questions and your ideas.



Festival Concert Violin Review List

Book 8 Eccles Sonata, 4th mvt
Book 6 Handel Sonata in F, 2nd mvt. no 2nd repeat
Book 4 Seitz Concerto No. 2, 3rd mvt.
Book 3 Gavotte in gm
Book 2 Witches Dance in G
Hunters Chorus
Book 1 Minuet 2 in C
Minuet 1
May Song in D
Twinkles in D

Noel Fine Arts Center

By Lawrence Leviton

Several weeks ago the ASTEC Faculty had their first chance to tour the new Noel Fine Arts Center.



After many years of teaching in the venerable, but admittedly long in the tooth Suzuki House, the joyful anticipation of moving into shiny new digs was apparent in the smiles on everyone's faces as they got ready for their first glimpse of the new building.



The new ASTEC facility will be named the Aber Suzuki Center after Margery Aber who was instrumental in the creation of both the year-long ASTEC program and the American Suzuki Institute in the summer. The Suzuki Center will be housed in the North wing of the new facility on the first floor.



Each ASTEC faculty member will have a spacious teaching space that will easily accommodate students, parents, and other family members. The expanse of windows in each office will provide a

sense of openness and airiness that will be a joy for both teachers and students alike.

Here a few faculty and Dean McKenna take it all in:



We'll have to resist the temptation to gaze at the hubbub of campus activity taking place outside of our offices. Here's a view from some prime real estate, Mary Hofer's new corner office:



In addition, to our offices, the Suzuki administrative staff will have their own space and ample new storage facilities. There will be a waiting room for parents and students and a public restroom as well.

The Suzuki program isn't the only UWSP program to benefit from the new Noel Fine Arts Center. The dance program, which has had to make due for many years with makeshift facilities in the physical education building, will have a sparkling set of offices and dance spaces adjoining the Suzuki wing. The theater program will also have state of the art performance spaces and costume shops in the new wing.

The UWSP music program will take up portions of the second and third floors of the new building. Three new rehearsal halls will be the rival of any in the state. You can see the nearly completed jazz rehearsal room in the picture below:



In addition to the studios and rehearsal areas there will be several magnificent public spaces. The new atrium will create a grand first impression as you enter the building.



I'm sure all of you react as we did in seeing how the architects created a new structure that seamlessly blends into the preexisting parts of the building. One could hear the collective gasps in the "old" Fine Arts building last week as the workers removed the temporary barrier separating the second floor balcony from the new addition, opening the courtyard up to a beautiful new vista. The newly created public space on the second floor is a marvel and I'm sure it will be a popular gathering place for college students, Suzuki students during cookie break, and theater patrons during the intermissions of performances.

I'm particularly looking forward to the opening of the new building; I'll be moving down into the new Suzuki wing along with the rest of the ASTEC faculty. The allure of the view and beauty of that office was too much to resist (Of course I get a chance to work alongside my wonderful colleagues too!).

I'm confident that the new building will be as big a hit with Suzuki families and the Stevens Point community as it is with us. As this newsletter comes off the presses we are packing our boxes and getting ready to move and we can't wait! Here Dave Becker and Pat D'Ercole look like they're ready to help speed the construction process along:



We're all looking forward to working with you in the new Noel Fine Arts Center. See you there in a few weeks!

(you can view these pictures in color by visiting our website and opening the April 2005 Ambassador file)



Voila Viola

By Dee Martz

The Festival Concert is rapidly approaching and Mr. Becker and I have selected a nice variety of pieces for the viola group to perform. Because we have two ensemble pieces we need to divide the parts in a way that will lead to good balance.

Shostakovich: Praeludium

1. Hessler, H. DeBauche, Iwanski
2. Munck, S. DeBauche, Banovetz
3. Mitchell, Droske, Kamps
4. O'Reilly, Peck, Neville, Qutaishat

Martin: Celtic Dance

1. Mitchell, O'Reilly, H. DeBauche, Droske, Banovetz, Kamps
2. Munck, Hessler, Iwanski, S. DeBauche, Peck, Neville, Qutaishat

We will also play the second movement of the Telemann Concerto in G (single), Chorus from Judas Maccabeus, Allegretto, Song of the Wind and Variation A.

The pieces that we will play with the other strings are: Witches' Dance, Minuet 2, May Song and Twinkles.

The ensemble pieces will be played with music and the pieces that are in the Suzuki Repertoire will be played from memory.

The Marathon preparation time for this performance is right after cookie break at the April 23 Marathon. The violas will be meeting in the Suzuki House. This should be our last Marathon in my studio!!!

If you are available to perform at Dean McKenna's retirement party we will play the Celtic Dance, May Song and Twinkles. The performance is at 2:00 p.m. on Friday April 29. Please let your teacher know if you will be able to get out of school to participate in this special event which will take place in the gorgeous atrium of the new building.



Notes from the Endpin

By Lawrence Leviton

Spring is here and that can only mean one thing; the festival concert is around the corner and we need to get our pieces ready!

Here's the list of pieces for you to review:

Squire Tarantella
Lully Gavotte
Witches Dance
Chorus From Judas Maccabaeus
Minuet no. 2
May Song
O Come Little Children
Song of the Wind
Twinkle Variations

The concert will be taking place on Sunday April 24th. You should have your pieces polished and ready to go well ahead of that date. We'll be going over the concert repertoire at the Marathon on April 23rd.

Emily Gruselle and **Jamie Davis** are giving their senior recitals this month. Mark your calendars and be sure to attend these exciting performances. Emily be performing at 4:30 pm on Saturday April 9th in Michelsen Hall. She will be accompanied by David Becker. Please note the unusual starting time. Jamie's recital will take place at 7:30 pm on April 30th in Michelsen Hall. He will be accompanied by Tom Yang.



Student News

Congratulations to the participants in the Solo and Ensemble Competition:

Kiel Hausler
Ethan McKnight
Jamie Davis
Emily Gruselle
Chris Peck
Will Mitchell

James Banovetz
Matt Walton
Peter Munck
Jesse Nummelin
Christopher Patchett
Stacey Rolak
Kelley Rolak
Ann Marie Kosmoski
Lawrence Andersen

Lawrence Andersen was a member of the SPASH Musical Pit Orchestra for *Titanic*

Kelley Rolak played in the orchestra which accompanied the Central WI Chamber Chorale in three performances of Mozart's *Requiem*.

Lauren Lila (5 year's old) completed 50 days of practice in a row!



March 2005 Graduates

Christina Marchel, Violin Book 1
Alexander Reeser, Violin Book 3
Chris Peck, Cello Book 4
Lawrence Andersen, Violin Book 6
Maria Marchel, Violin Book 6
Alex Buehler, Violin Book 3
Nakisa Vaezzadeh, Violin Book 6
Allison Patchett, Violin Book 7



Upcoming Events

Saturday, April 9th, Marathon Saturday (piano only)

Sunday, April 10th, Solo Recitals, 2:00 and 3:30 pm, Michelsen Hall

Saturday, April 23rd, Marathon Saturday (except piano)

Sunday, April 24th, String & Voice Festival Concert, 2:00 pm, Ben Franklin Junior High School

Saturday, May 14th, Solo & Ensemble Concert, 2:00 and 3:30 pm, Michelsen Hall

Saturday, May 14th, CSCO Concert, 7:30 pm, Michelsen Hall

Sunday, May 15th, Piano Festival Concert, 2:00 and 3:30 pm, Michelsen Hall.