

AMBASSADOR



**October
2012**



College of Fine Arts & Communication
inspire, create, achieve

**October
2012**

Upcoming Events

Monday, October 1, 2012

Violin Group 2 – Free Group Classes Begin
NFAC 290, 6:00 – 7:00 pm

Tuesday, October 9, 2012

Free Pre-Twinkle Group Classes Begin, NFAC 201
Group 1 – 5:00 – 5:50 pm
Group 2 – 6:00 – 6:50 pm

Saturday, October 20, 2012

Marathon, 9 am – noon

Sunday, October 21, 2012

Solo Recitals
Michelsen Hall, 2:00 and 3:30 pm

Thursday, October 25, 2012

Piano Book 2 – Free Group Classes Begin
NFAC 337, 6:00 – 7:00 pm

Saturday, October 27, 2012

Piano Halloween Recitals
Michelsen Hall, 11:00 and 12:30 pm

Monday, October 29, 2012

Violin Group 3 – Free Group Classes Begin
NFAC 290, 6:00 – 7:00 pm

Saturday, November 10, 2012

Music of the Masters
DUC Alumni Room

Saturday, November 17, 2012

Marathon, 9 am – noon

Sunday, November 18, 2012

Solo Recitals
Michelsen Hall, 9 am – noon

From the Director's Desk

By Pat D'Ercole

Welcome back for another year of music learning and music making!

We especially want to extend a warm welcome to the 44 new ASC students, including six new Suzuki guitar students and our first Suzuki harp student! We are delighted that you have selected our program for your child's music education. I know that experienced Suzuki families will also extend a warm welcome to our new families and help you to "learn the ropes." I especially would like to thank the American Suzuki Foundation for their sponsorship of the new student rebate offer. To date they have paid \$1,650 in tuition rebates.

We have a lot to look forward to in this academic year (and to read about in this installment of the Ambassador). Please see the accompanying article and mark your calendar for the visit of the Silk Road Ensemble and their workshop with our ASC students on Tues. Oct. 16 at 4:30 at the Theater @1800. This is one of the many benefits we receive because of our affiliation with UWSP and the Sentry Foundation for the Arts. As many of you know, the tickets for Yo-Yo Ma's concert are sold out, and while it certainly will be a thrill to hear him, contrary to most expectations, he will be performing as a member of the Silk Road Ensemble. It will not be a solo cello recital.

The next exciting event will be Nov. 7-9. Bassist and author of the *Inner Game of Music*, Barry Green, will be here at UWSP for a 3-day residency. Mr. Green's workshops will focus on how to practice and perform with confidence, giving participants tools for dealing with the "voices" of doubt that can be speaking while

one performs. Again, our ASC students will be invited to participate in these workshops which will be held after school. More information will be in the November Ambassador. You can view a video of the ideas you will hear at:

<http://www.greenartsnetwork.com/igworkshop>.

During the October Marathon, parents will have a chance to connect and support one another as we discuss the topic of listening--its implications for progress and how and when to do it. Bring your favorite idea to share. Coffee and donuts will be provided as usual.

On the last day of the American Suzuki Institute, I met one participant who has attended ASI for the past 20 years as a teacher, mother and now grandmother. She shared with me that she can't stay away; it's her bit of "tonic for her soul." She went on to say that despite all the bad things going on in the world, she comes here to be rejuvenated in her beliefs. She comes to be in an environment where everyone is focused on making the world a better place for their children by giving them a good education, by surrounding them with a positive environment and the best examples of people striving to be the best they can be.

We certainly have examples of that commitment here in our year-round program, too. We had 54 people who volunteered an hour or two and sometimes more to help us prepare for the 642 participants plus their parents who came from 38 states and including 35 who came from 8 foreign countries. Thank you, volunteers for sharing your time and talent to help create that environment for our guests. Secondly, we also have students at ASC who are doing great things academically and in a spirit of leaving the world better than they found it. Please be sure to read our new column, *Suzuki Make You Smarter; Suzuki Makes You Nicer*. Send us your stories of ASC Suzuki students who illustrate the title of this new column.

Lastly, be sure to read Mrs. Hofer's article on accompanists. They are often, (but should not be) the unsung heroes of a performance. Collaborating with other musicians is one of the prime areas where we can learn lessons about cooperation and compromise.

I'm eager to meet all the new families in our program. Please stop by and introduce yourself. Your experience in Suzuki education needs to be the best it can be. Please feel free to contact me anytime.

Yo Yo Ma and the Silk Road Ensemble Comes to Stevens Point!



Mark your calendars! Thanks to the Sentry Foundation, **The Silk Road Ensemble (SRE)** will present a **FREE** workshop for all ASC students from **4:30-5:30 on Tues. Oct. 16 at the Theatre@1800** (Sentry). Students of all levels and instruments are invited to attend. This will be a unique opportunity for our students and one that comes once in a lifetime. The objective of the residency is to offer participants a fresh and broad perspective on music-making and their lives in music, using personal examples and SRE repertoire as gateways for exploration, and drawing on the Ensemble's arts-integration experiences with the Silk Road Connect middle school initiative.

Twenty-five ASC string students will be selected by lottery to work with the SRE during the ASC workshop, but *all students and parents, regardless of instrument, are invited and strongly encouraged to attend.*

Other workshops open to ASC students are:

Interactive Concert with Silk Road Ensemble – "Music Along the Silk Road"

Note: Yo-Yo Ma is not scheduled to appear with the group at this time

1 p.m. – Sentry Theater @1800

Price: \$3

Masterclass Session with Silk Road Ensemble & Yo-Yo Ma -- "Creating a Life with Music"

Note: Tickets are being offered to observe the artists working with the students, this is not a concert.

The group along with Mr. Ma will be working with UWSP and SPASH ensembles that have been hand-picked by the Silk Road Ensemble to participate in the session titled "Creating a Life with Music."

4 p.m. – Sentry Theater @1800

Price: \$5

To get a taste of what the SRE is like on stage, check out this link to some great video of the group performing : <http://www.silkroadproject.org/tabid/445/default.aspx>



In Appreciation of Accompanists

By Mary Hofer

Accompanist: A person who provides a musical accompaniment to another musician or to a singer or supports others (Webster)... Someone who plays the supporting accompaniment while someone else plays the melody or main tune (Macmillian). Perhaps, we might want to follow the plan of some music schools and call our accompanists “collaborative artists” or “collaborative pianists.”

Last spring, after several days of Solo/Ensemble Festivals, Badger State Auditions and my fourth senior recital, I felt overwhelming gratitude towards our collaborative pianists. I decided a good way to thank them was to write an article this fall before we were into the full swing of the musical year. My hope is that: 1. We remember to appreciate our accompanists throughout the year. 2. We teach our students to value a fine pianist. 3. We make the time that accompanists work with our children more effective. 4. We create more wonderful musical experiences for all concerned.

One of the first things I learned in high school when preparing for Solo/Ensemble was to find the best accompanist as early as possible. I knew that a good accompanist would support me and help me to sing better. When I went to college to study voice, again one of my first missions was to find and hire the best accompanist. At that time, it was unusual to pay an accompanist for the semester. My fellow students would often wait until the end of a semester to find an accompanist for final exams. Not me! I quickly hired an accompanist who attended my lessons and rehearsed with me weekly. It took me forty hours of work, cleaning bathrooms and sweeping floors, to pay the fee. I never regretted it because I have always known that a good accompanist can make me sound great, and the joy I have making music with a fine musician is irreplaceable.

Many musical compositions are written as ensembles. While singers or instrumentalists have one line of music to read, pianists have two. Often, accompaniments are condensed orchestral arrangements and pianists are expected to bring out the intricate melodies and harmonic structure of the composer’s original intentions. Plus, an accompanist needs to allow a soloist to breathe, and support musical interpretation.

While accompanists usually enjoy the collaborative experience, few people understand the amount of time and effort that goes into their work. For instance, did you know that on the week of a recital it is not unusual for Mr. Yang and Mr. Becker to practice anywhere from three to seven hours beyond their regular teaching schedules? This does not include rehearsal time or the actual recital performance. Although rehearsal time with the student is scheduled at ten-minute intervals, both teachers often spend much more time with a student to enable them to feel secure. This takes enormous amounts of energy and concentration. Remember, too, that our accompanists have to perform a variety of music with several performers in the same concert. They have to “be on their toes” during the entire recital while the rest of us enjoy the show.

For Solo/Ensemble or Badger State Auditions, Mr. Yang and Mr. Becker may practice many more hours. They also rehearse with 20-25 students, and are on-site from 8 am to 4 pm the day of the competition.

Our accompanists are extremely dedicated. Mr. Yang was in his office rehearsing with students for a recital while his wife was in labor at the hospital!

Being a collaborative pianist can be extremely rewarding and fun, but it can also be a hair-raising nightmare if the soloist is not well prepared. Accompanists must follow a soloist if they jump measures or pages, miss an entrance, slow down or take a different speed. These are not good feelings for the performer or the pianist.

We are very fortunate at the Aber Suzuki Center to have such fine accompanists. In many programs, students and parents are expected to find their own accompanists. This can be a daunting task. Adjudicators at Solo/Ensemble often comment on our excellent accompanists!

Here is a list of reminders to make the collaborative musical experience between student and accompanist a rewarding event:

1. Be sure you have learned the music correctly. It is important to know your song or piece well, including the piano accompaniment. If you do not have a recording of the accompaniment, listen to several recordings. Count out the rest passages and know when to enter. Notice any differences between

the solo line and the accompaniment, such as dynamics.

2. Mark any changes you make with the accompaniment while you rehearse.
3. Be on time to rehearsals. One late student makes the whole day late.
4. If your child is unable to perform due to illness or unforeseen circumstances, please notify your teacher and accompanist as soon as possible.
5. Be sure to give a clean copy of the music to your accompanist well ahead of time. Include special instructions such as breath marks, ritardandi, etc. Include your name, email, and phone number.
6. If you are planning a senior recital, ask your accompanist when they are available to play for the recital. Then book the performance hall.
7. Please pay the accompanist at the rehearsal. Do not make them search you out for payment. They have practiced and provided you with a service.
8. Finally, always take the time to thank them for their time and effort.

Enjoy your musical experience with your collaborative pianist!



Parent Education Session October 20, 9:00 am

We are on Day 15/90 into the Big Ear Contest and we're looking forward to giving out our first certificates to students who have listened to their CD for 30 hours at the October Marathon. If you are a parent and wondering why listening is so important, or how to fit it into your family routine, join us for coffee donuts and discussion on Oct. 20, at 9 -10:15 am. Listening is our topic for the morning, answering the questions, why, how where and when. Bring your best idea to share!



Suzuki Makes You Smarter. Suzuki Makes You Nicer.

(Editor's note: This is the first of a monthly column to highlight the academic achievements, honors and the good deeds that ASC Suzuki students do in addition to making music. Please submit news to the Suzuki.Office@uwsp.edu by the 20th of the month. The ASC

reserves the right to edit and decide date of publication.)

- Kate Young was awarded 2nd place in the Wisconsin State Music Association/Department of Public Instruction Joint Composition project for 2011-12 for her wind band composition, *Daisy*. She received the award at the Wisconsin Center for Music Education in Waunakee on August 25th.
- M.J. DeBot, Alyssa Eiden, Rachel Ley and Trenton Seegert have been selected from among the sophomores in Portage Co. to be in a leadership development program, *Teen Leadership Portage County*.
- An essay by Rachel Ley about music, volunteering and 9/11 has been published by the Huffington Post's Impact page. Over 34,000 people visit this site each month. Visit this website to read it:
http://www.huffingtonpost.com/rachel-ley/a-violin-a-smile-and-a-li_b_1881945.html



"Margery Aber and Her Contributions to the Suzuki Method in the United States."

The Aber Suzuki Center just received a copy of Dr. Ana Maria Wilson's dissertation entitled, "*Margery Aber and Her Contributions to the Suzuki Method in the United States*." Dr. Wilson writes in her acknowledgements, "A final thank you to Margery Aber whom I never got to know well when she was alive, but who has provided me with much inspiration in going after goals with great determination. Attending the American Suzuki Institute as a child gave me that extra spark of interest, joy, and drive to practice the violin. Miss Aber truly touched thousands of lives for the better."

Dr. Wilson has provided the ASC and the UWSP Library, as well as the Suzuki Association of the Americas with a bound copy of her work. We are very grateful to her for honoring our founder and for extending her legacy through this research.



Thank You to our Many ASI Volunteers

How many volunteers does it take to do an Institute? We had 54 people that helped the ASI Staff do things like.... stuff envelopes, put labels on envelopes, stuff name tags, distribute packets, move furniture, move furniture back, pick up the snow cone machine, take back the snow cone machine, get ice for the snow cone machine, run the snow cone machine, move the store inventory to NFAC 201, move the store inventory back to the storeroom, enter meal tickets, get Friendly Places ads, take pictures, post on Facebook and the list goes on and on and on.... As one of the teens said while working, "I had no idea there was so much to do to get ready for the Institute!"

We all know that people volunteer out of the goodness of their hearts to help others and that they really don't expect to be paid. Their "pay" is the joy they receive in helping someone in need, but we did want to acknowledge all the volunteers. So, during the Marathon mini-concert time (10:15 am) on Saturday, Sept. 22nd in Michelsen Hall all the volunteers were called on stage to receive a small token of our appreciation – 100 Grand (candy bar, that is ☺). If you didn't receive yours, please stop by Prof. Pat's office to pick up your candy bar.

ASI Volunteers

Huba Bodor	Rosalind Kealiher
Tama Bodor	Brian Kurzynski
Zsanna Bodor	Marco Kurzynski
Bank Bodor	Daniela Kurzynski
Koppany Bodor	Dani Lai
Carole Cochrane	Sarah Niles
MJ DeBot	Jenna O'Connor
Mac DeBot	Cianna Rose
Tomi Dittburner	Gerald Sakamaki
Danny Dittburner	Erik Sands
Nicole Eiden	Sam Schmitz
Marie Eiden	Cathy Schroeckenthaler
Sawyer Eiden	Alyssa Schroeckenthaler
Alyssa Eiden	Robert Sell
Craig Felt	Anne Sell
Sam Ginnett	Carolyn Storch
Orsolya Gostony	Deborah Tang
Anna Hahn	Sabrina Tang
William Hahn	Tom Treder
Gene Hahn	Claudia Trimarco
Lee Harmon	Natalie Van Tiem
Elizabeth Hofer	Fredric Van Tiem
Tim Hofer	Luke Vayder
Cal Irons	Nicole Vayder

Anjali Iyengar Kate Young
 Abishua Kealiher Charles Young
 Tim Zander
 Barb Zander



Composer of the Month (Daniel) Frederick (Rudolph) Kuhlau

By Ann Marie Novak

Frederick Kuhlau was born on September 11, 1786 near the town of Hannover, Germany. His father was a musician in the regimental band. Young Frederick lived to see and hear his father's band march and perform in the streets of Hannover, but the Kuhlau family was not to remain there for long. The arrival of Napoleon's troops ended the peace and tranquility the family had come to appreciate. Herr Kuhlau's regiment (and therefore, regimental band) was ordered to move everyone to the town of Luneburg.

The young Frederick was quite enamored with music, and he was concerned whether or not Luneburg would provide an active musical life. He was not disappointed. In fact, he was particularly fond of the musical programs at St. Michael's Church, where, it is reported that, he heard a rehearsal of Telemann's *Passion*. He was so thrilled with the experience that he came home and played what he could remember on the piano for his mother.

At age 14, Frederick moved again; but this time he moved by himself, to the city of Hamburg. He went there specifically in search of a teacher who could help him refine his theory, compositional and pianistic skills. He found just such a teacher, and soon he was making his way in the musical world: giving recitals, writing, and performing some of his own compositions.

However, life in Hamburg was only temporary...once again, the war invaded his life. This time, he moved north to Copenhagen, Denmark. Here he performed his own piano concerto and in the process, he met a flautist who liked his work and who helped him with some of his chamber pieces for flute.

Copenhagen became Kuhlau's home. He frequently visited Sweden, where he taught young students and wrote piano pieces for them to learn (some of these are still used in teaching piano students around the

world...one of which can be found in Suzuki Piano Volume 3).

Kuhlau traveled to Vienna, where he was fortunate to meet Beethoven at a dinner party. The two pianist-composers reportedly enjoyed a wonderful evening discussing their common field. Upon returning to Denmark, Kuhlau was thrilled to receive a letter from the aging Beethoven. But it was much more than a letter: inside, he found a short song, using Kuhlau's name as text, with each section beginning with the notes that spell out the name B-A-C-H ("H" at that time was the name for B-natural). Needless to say, Kuhlau treasured this letter and composition for the great Beethoven for the rest of his days.

As director of the Royal Theatre in Denmark, Kuhlau wrote operas that were treasured by the Danish people. The most treasured of these operas, *Luhn* continues to be celebrated by Danes, because its overture contains the National Hymn of Denmark.

Source:

Kendall, C. W. (1985). "Stories of Composers for Young Musicians". Kendall.



Are You Listening? Report every ten hours of listening to your teacher and receive a Big Ear sticker. Each three Big Ear stickers (30 hours) earns you a Certificate of Achievement to be presented at the next Marathon!!



Student News

The following students attended the American Suzuki Institute: **Anna Hahn, William Hahn, Alexandra Lee, Marcy Kirsch, Carolyn Storch, Julia Storch, Revyn Abbott-Beversdorf, Brynn Beversdorf, Tom Felt, Craig Felt, Marco Kurzynski, Barrett Severson, Gwen Severson, Wade Dittburner, Eric Sands, Laura Prebble, Sarah Bauer, Gerald Sakamaki, Celia Patchett, Luisa Marion, Kate Young, Zsanna Bodor, Koppany Bodor,**

Alyssa Schroeckenthaler, Ada Sell, Zoe Sell, Aiden Simons, Adler Simons, Olivia Yang, Annie Yao, Amelia Beyer, Abigail Spaay, Anjali Iyengar, Sofia Cerro-Palomino, Elena Jimenez-McDermott, Anna Meilahn, Megan O'Brien, Ciana Rose, Lydia Ensminger, John Clifford, Karen Zach.

Bánk Bodor performed at St. Stanislaus School on June 5 for a violin demo with Mr. Soler.

These students performed at the July 21st Amherst Garden Parade: **Zoe Sell, Katie Huang, Olivia Yang, Toren Anderson, Trevor Carlson, Jiaxin He, Trenton Niles, Antony Van Tiem, Fredrick Van Tiem, Tatiana Van Tiem, Tom Felt and Ada Sell.**

Emily Horgan attended the Lakeland College Music Camp and performed in their honors recital. Emily also performed on her brother David's senior piano recital on May 25.

Krazy Days Performers on July 13 downtown Stevens Point: **Lucia Stephani, Hope Stephani, Karen Stephani, Landry Kirsling, Alyssa Kirsling, Ada Sell, Rachel Marten, Alexandra Lee, Annina LeCapitaine, Thomas Meronek, Tatiana Van Tiem, Lola Tauchman and Jace Yesse.**

Lensmire's Garden Performance: **Anna Hahn, William Hahn, Ada Sell, Cassidy Martin, Hope Stephani, Lucia Stephani, Faith Kluck, Carolyn Storch, Yuling Sun, Abishua Kealiher, Sarah Niles and Todd Niles.**

Waupaca Arts on the Square on August 18: **Natalie Berk, Lucia Stephani, Hope Stephani, Anna Hahn, William Hahn, Marcy Kirsch, Jacque Willie.**

Open House Strolling Violinists: **Revyn Abbott-Beversdorf, Marco Kurzynski, Rachel Marten, Ada Sell, Yuling Sun, Sabrina Tang.**

Art in the Park Strolling Violinists on Sept. 15: **Hope Stephani, Lucia Stephani, Alexandra Lee, Rachel Torgeson, Rachel Marten, Lola Tauchman, Jace Yesse, Todd Niles, Sarah Niles, Yuling Sun, Abishu Kealiher, Tom Felt, Cassidy Martin, Charity Hentges and Isa Mahon.**

Celebrate Amherst performers on September 8: **Nathaniel Meadows, Franklin Meadows, Faith Kluck, Annina LeCapitaine, Anna Hahn, William Hahn,**

Rebyn Abbott-Beversdorf, Kassidy Martin, Noah Kolinski, Landry Kirsling, Alyssa Kirsling



Faculty News

Dave Becker and Pat D'Ercole were clinicians at the Intermountain Suzuki Strings Institute in Salt Lake City in June.

Tim Mutschlecner released a new CD entitled *Continuous Improvement*.

Mary Hofer presented a session entitled "Music for Little People" at the *Leading the Way Early Childhood* Conference, Sept. 22.

Jenny Burton's Summer Activities: Taught at the Florida Suzuki Institute in Fort Lauderdale in June, DFW Suzuki Institute in Dallas in July, Hawaii Suzuki Institute in Honolulu in July, American Suzuki Institute at UW-SP in August. Led students in performances at Krazy Days, Waupaca Arts on the Square, Lensmire's, Celebrate Amherst and at the ASC open house. Conducted the annual meeting of the Suzuki Association of Wisconsin at the American Suzuki Institute. Attended several meetings of the Stevens Point Area Teachers Association.



May 2012 Graduations

Luke Vayder, Cello Twinkles
Lola Tauchman, Violin Twinkles
Koppany Bodor, Cello Book 2
Jason Smith, Violin Book 7
Sarah Bauer, Cello Book 10
Lily Odders, Violin Twinkles
Olivia Vandehey, Violin Twinkles
Lucia Stephani, Violin Book 1
Olivia Yang, Cello Book 3
Havilah Vang, Violin Book 6
Natalie Van Tiem, Cello Book 10
Gerald Sakamaki, Cello Book 10
Emily Clay, Cello Book 10

September 2012 Graduations

Jane Story, Violin Twinkles
Hope Mahon, Piano Book 1
Todd Niles, Violin Twinkles
Bánk Bodor, Violin Book 1
Jiaxin He, Piano Book 3
Luisa Marion, Violin Book 4
Marco Kurzynski, Violin Book 5
Keith Kunze, Piano Book 2
Marco Kurzynski, Piano Book 4



ASC is Developing a Musician Referral List

Are you interested in earning some \$\$\$ with your instrument? Are you at least in Book 6?

At least two or three times a semester the Aber Suzuki Center receives calls from brides looking for wedding musicians. We would like to develop a list of recommended players that we will send out in response to these requests.

If you have begun to develop a repertoire, are a soloist or play in a chamber group, complete the form on the following page and send it to the Suzuki Office. If you are a member of a chamber group, indicate the members of your group and the contact person along with their phone and email. If you would like to perform for weddings and need to develop your repertoire before you can be added to this list, talk to your teacher.



MUSICIAN REFERRAL FORM

Contact person _____ (Parent or person who will take the call)

Phone number _____

Email _____

Musician's name _____

Instrument _____

Soloist _____

Chamber Ensemble: Duet _____

Trio _____

Quartet _____

Group name: _____

List chamber ensemble members and instruments:

_____	_____	_____	_____
Contact person for Ensemble	Phone	Email	Instrument

_____	_____	_____	_____
Ensemble member	Phone	Email	Instrument

_____	_____	_____	_____
Ensemble member	Phone	Email	Instrument

_____	_____	_____	_____
Ensemble member	Phone	Email	Instrument