

NEWSLETTER

Dear VSSA Families,



Thank you so much for another fantastic year of VSSA! I can hardly believe that today is our last recital, and the Ensemble Concert and Annual Workshop are fast approaching. It is always rewarding to see the students' progress during these two events.

During our last day of group classes on March 26th the usual schedule will be altered so the classes can rehearse for our final Ensemble Concert. All children will be participating, and the schedule will be as follows:

First Class: 9:00 – 9:20

Second Class: 9:25 – 9:45

Ensemble Concert: 9:50

****The “Play n’ Swap” and the 50/50 Workshop Raffle Ticket Sale will be directly after the concert. ****

We are planning a lot of fun and exciting activities for our annual workshop, “Suzuki in Space” on April 9th. Your children will have the opportunity to work with motivating guest clinicians and most importantly, have fun! You won't want to miss it!

There are so many people to thank for volunteering many hours that make VSSA run smoothly. The parents, teachers, board members, accompanists, and The Center for Excellence in Education all work together in creating this experience for our children. I am sincerely grateful for all the extra things people do behind the scenes to make this organization great. Thanks again! I look forward to seeing you next year!

Holly Andersen
President

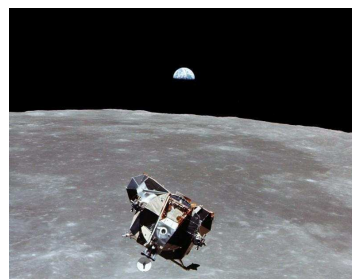
Class Schedule

2010-2011

March 5*

**March 26 Ensemble Concert &
Play & Swap**

**April 9 VSSA WORKSHOP-
Full day schedule**



* indicates recital days





Suzuki in Space

VSSA Workshop 2011

SAVE THE DAY, Saturday, April 9, 2011

8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

On Saturday, April 9, 2010, please plan on joining guest clinicians for a day of fun and learning. Our Theme this year is the Suzuki in Space. You will need to fill out a short registration form and pay a small fee to participate. Please remember that the majority of the workshop fee has already been paid with your group lesson tuition. Registration materials will be distributed at group lessons and by email. We look forward to the motivation this fun day provides!

Please **volunteer** for a workshop job! To help keep costs down we need lots of help for this event. Hosts to provide **housing and meals** for our clinicians, volunteers to make up **gift baskets** to present to your guests, **lunch organizers** and helpers for many other tasks. Please return the volunteer form and help in whatever large or small way that you can!

At the workshop we will also have our only fund-raiser of the year. The **50/50 raffle** is distributed 50% of monies collected to VSSA 50% toward 2011-12 group lessons tuition. The **general raffle** is a fun event – please participate by donating any type of item AND by BUYING raffle tickets.

Suggestions for raffle items – food, toys, services, gift certificates, musical items – out-grown shoulder rests perhaps? Please remember that we are a non-profit 502(c)(3) organization and any donation of items may be deductible. Get your creative minds going!

Questions? Please ask Kristine Ehlis 480-730-0452, KristineE@cox.net



VSSA Play and Swap

Got any old shoulder rests that are too small lying around your house?

At our **March 26th** group lesson after our ensemble concert, we will be sponsoring a **VSSA flea market**.

Bring any music items that you don't need but would like to sell.

Ideas: old shoulder rests, duplicate CD's, violins, violas, cellos, music stands, old music books you have too many copies of, cello stools, music bags, outgrown black pants, skirts, shoes, white shirts or blouses. Anything that is VSSA or music oriented.

Meagen Winter with a few other **volunteers** will man the sale (PLEASE EMAIL MEAGAN IF YOU ARE ABLE TO HELP--meagwinter@aol.com). *You must have a price marked clearly with your last name.* Be prepared to write a list of your items or bring a list with your items. We will not be responsible for "lost" items and will do our best to manage the sale. We will collect for you and present you with your money that day.

You will need to pick up all your left over items at the end of group lesson. Anything left over and not picked up will be donated to a charity that day. We do not have the means to store left items.

Have fun scouting for your items!



Purposes of Group Classes

The purpose of group classes:

1. **Motivation-** when the students see the more advanced players they often are inspired to achieve a higher level.
2. **Self Esteem-** when the students see less advanced players they feel a sense of accomplishment for themselves. They empathize with the others and appreciate their own work. Students feel better about themselves when they see others making the same mistakes they do.
3. **Feeling Part of a Group-** without the group experience, students can feel like they are the only one in the world who plays violin. We should show our students that music is a social art that can be shared with others.
4. **Musical Development-** matching bow strokes, phrasing, tone colors, intonation, etc..., all help the students become sensitive musicians.
5. **Reinforcement for Private Lessons-** many times a student hears another teacher say the very same thing that you have been saying in the lessons and finally realizes that you have a good idea.

Through the Eyes of a Child

By Ben Hill, age 10



One of the things I like learning about is how to play in an ensemble. In my reading class at group lessons, we have been playing "Ode to Joy". First we practiced reading the notes. All of us learned how to play all the different parts. Then the fun really started! We played the whole piece, with everybody playing a different part. It was kind of challenging, but it sounded really nice. Then we switched parts and played it a few more times. Whenever we stopped playing, we could hear the Ensemble class

practicing. Their piece sounded really good and lots of fun. My cousin McKay is in that class.

Last Christmas, I played in an ensemble in church. We played "Silent Night". There were lots of musicians playing. There were about eighteen violins, two violas, six cellos and one string bass. There was a beautiful piano part, too. All the people at church sang "Silent Night" as we played. I had to concentrate very hard to get my part right. Lots of people afterwards said it sounded really great.

I'm glad that I am learning how to play in ensembles.

Summer Institutes & Camps

For information about summer institutes go to www.suzukiassociation.org and click on Quick Links-Summer Institutes.

***The Chaparral Musicfest Suzuki Academy 2011**, now in its second year, is a newly recognized Suzuki Association of the Americas Summer Institute. The Suzuki Academy will take place in Prescott, Arizona on June 8-11, 2011 and is open to violin and piano students in Books 1 and 2. Co-Directors Henry Flurry (Piano) and Laura Tagawa (Violin) will lead the Suzuki Academy along with other teachers offering master classes, group and repertoire classes, musicianship and theory and enrichment classes (duets, composition, drumming and recitals). More information including a brochure and registration form is available at chaparralmusicfest.org

***For information regarding Mesa Violin Studios 2011 String Quartet Camp & Bass Workshop** please visit www.mesaviolinstudios.com and click on STRING QUARTET CAMP. This is open to ages 10-18 and younger than 10 with permission.

***For information regarding Metropolitan Youth Symphony's 2011 Summer String Camp and Brass Choir** go to www.azmys.org and click on quick link - Summer String Camp and Brass Choir 2011. This is open to all string and brass students through 9th grade.

Teacher Members

Andrea Gordon*- C, 649-6218

Bonnie Roesch- V, 924-6692

Camille Phillips*- V, A, 610-6848

Dorene Pool*- A, 855-6199

Eunice Elie*- V, A, C, P, 220-3146

Holly Andersen- V, 214-3676

Kristine Ehlis*- V, 730-0452

Lani Hill- V, 722-2851

Linda Gashler- C, 813-4557

Rachel Jurkowski*- C, 283-5441

Rebecca Sanders- V, 266-0952

Sarah Hartman- V, 338-3933

V= Violin, A= Viola, C= Cello, P= Piano

* accepting new students



"Tone has the living soul."

~ *Dr. Shinichi Suzuki*

Support Members

Astasia Patel

Cynthia Baker

Hisami Iijama

Joyce Ilvain

Leslie Turner

Marna Bowling

Board Members

President – Holly Andersen

Treasurer/Membership –

Kristine Ehlis

Secretary – Naomi Goldstick

Group Lesson Coordinator –

Bonnie Roesch

Book Promotion Coordinator-

Lani Hill

Information Table Coordinator –

Rebecca Wilcox

Newsletter Editor –

Kerry Cumpston

Members-at- Large- Dorene Pool,

Meagan Winter

Volunteer Positions

ASA Liason- Eunice Elie

PHX Symphony Ticket Coordinator-
Karin Moffitt

Recital Accompanist- Sara Turley 517-1438
Debi Blau 634-3862

Recital Coordinator- Molly Pont-Brown

Website Coordinator- John Manaloto

Future Newsletter Dates:

TBD

View newsletter online at
www.valleysuzuki.org

