

NEWSLETTER

A Message from the President, by Bonnie Roesch

Group classes are in full swing, and we hope your student is finding his or her group lesson experience enriching and motivating. Because review is our focus for group classes this year, it seems appropriate to revisit the benefits of daily review. The progress that happens within review is often harder to recognize than the progress of learning new pieces. When developing excellence as a musician, however, learning new pieces is secondary to the development of good position, tone, and technique. When students are working on a new piece, they are thinking about getting the correct fingerings, rhythms, and bowings. When playing review pieces, a student can concentrate on a new skill or a challenging focus without becoming overwhelmed.

In addition to developing new skills and improving technique, daily review enhances musicality. While reviewing, the student can move beyond the notes, rhythms, and bowings, and concentrate on making beautiful music. While we don't ignore dynamics, phrasing, and tone production in the initial process of learning a piece, habitual review allows a student to master, polish, and maintain excellence in his playing. The familiarity and ease of review pieces allows for this enrichment and improvement to occur. Time spent reviewing is what brings quality to your child's playing. It is definitely time well spent!

For those new to VSSA, our Review Contest drawing takes place during the recital time at each Group Lesson until we run out of prizes. Between group classes, keep a record of the days your child reviews during his practicing – hopefully this is every day and will therefore be easy to track! Have him enter a ticket into the drawing for each day of review completed since the previous Group Lesson.

Parents, we are holding a Parent Class for you on October 3 during the second class time (movement and reading classes). Come benefit from new and reiterated ideas on how to apply the many components of the Suzuki approach - be encouraged and inspired. Upcoming events to note are our Halloween class on October 31 (students are invited to wear their Halloween costumes to group class that day) and our Book Promotion Concert to be held at the LDS Church Building at 1221 W Howe St, Tempe on November 14, 2015. Please note that even though we call this our "Book Promotion" Concert, it is not only the students participating in Book Promotion who are involved. **All students perform in this concert!** See details for this event below.

Book Promotion Concert

Date: Saturday, November 14th

Location: LDS Church Building, 1221 W Howe St, Tempe (Cross Streets- Priest & University)

Directions: From US 60 and Priest Dr., travel north past Broadway. Turn right on W. 12th St. (7th right). Turn left on S. Margo Dr. and right on Howe.

Concert Dress: White tops, black bottoms

Schedule: 8:50 – Students arrive, find the room where their repertoire class is meeting, get unpacked and tuned.

9:00 - 9:20 – Repertoire classes rehearse while family and other guests arrive.

9:30 -Book Promotion Concert – all students will perform with their repertoire classes

Instrument cases may be left in the rooms where the repertoire classes meet, but please carry any other personal items with you. Many thanks to the Turley family in helping us schedule a building for this event.

Book Promotion Participants only: Mandatory Rehearsal reminder

Date: Saturday, November 7 (same day as group class)

Location: CEE gym

Time: 8:00 am, or as stated by our Book Promotion Coordinator on your acceptance letter

Class Schedule

2015-2016

October 3*^o

October 31*

November 7*

November 14 Book Promotion/
Winter Concert

January 9

January 23*

February 6*

February 20 VSSA WORKSHOP-
Full day schedule

March 5*

March 26 Final Concert

* indicates recital days

^o indicates parent class days

Special Events

October 23-24 ASA Workshop

VSSA RECITALS

Notes for Parents:

- Recitals take place in the gym between classes at VSSA group lessons.
- Your child's piece should be polished, performance-ready, and approved by your private lesson teacher. *Remember that the best recital piece may not be your child's most recent; consider a piece your child learned several months ago and has had the chance to really polish.*
- Your private teacher will be contacted approximately two weeks prior to your child's recital to confirm the piece that your child will play. You will be cc'd on the email if you provided an email address for parent and teacher.
- Performers are encouraged to dress nicely, but black and white is not required.
- Piano accompaniment is available. Should you need to rehearse prior to the recital, contact Martha.
- If your child is playing a piece that is not in the Suzuki literature, please bring the piano part with you.
- If you need to reschedule or would like to add a recital for a student who did not sign up by the deadline, contact Martha to be placed on a waiting list.
- Please remind children in the audience of proper recital etiquette. Please exit and enter between pieces. If you need to use the restroom during the recital, please enter from the doors outside the gym.
- If your child's name is spelled incorrectly below, please let Martha know so it can be fixed for the recital certificate! Also, please let me know if your child's name is missing, and we will get it right into a recital. Thank you all for preparing your children for recital success!

2015-2016 Recital Schedule

October 3, 2015

Anna Batchelor	Sophie Poulson
Katie Poulson	Camie Poulson

October 31, 2015

Paige Bukovszky	Jeremiah Bukovszky
Luciana Rosano	David Roesch
Lovey Gallagher	Owen Weldy

November 7, 2015

Jairus Wong	Cassia Wong
Cadence Payne	Catherine Ross
Joshua Leung	Ruby Heavens
Rosemary Heavens	

January 23, 2016

Willem Weiss	Ellie Weiss
Alex Davi	Megan Davi
Sarah Davi	Tessa Letham
Audrey Fees	

February 6, 2016

Joshua Turley	Rebecca Turley
Hannah Turley	Kate Christensen
Hannah Hill	Karlie Wilcox
Madison Wilcox	

March 5, 2016

Sam Ellingson	Khloe Sundaram
Heather Vogler	Lisa Vogler
Jessica Vogler	

Questions?

Contact Martha Vogler at vogler9@gmail.com (preferred), 480-207-1159, or 480-233-3769.

Many thanks to parent volunteer Sara Turley for providing piano accompaniment

IMPORTANT DATES FOR VSSA FAMILIES

Parent Class

On **October 3**, veteran teacher Eunice Elie will be leading a parent class during the second class period of group lessons. This class will be a great opportunity to get valuable information about the Suzuki method and to ask any questions you may have. This is for all parents who are new to Suzuki, or who have not attended a parent class in the past, or who just want a refresher and renewed inspiration.

ASA Workshop (not a VSSA event)

This year's workshop held by the state Suzuki association, ASA, will be on **October 23-24**, in Phoenix. Please note that you do need to be a member of ASA to attend; discounted family memberships can be purchased through VSSA.

Halloween

On **October 31**, students are welcome to wear their Halloween costumes to group lessons.

Book Promotion

Thank you to all who have submitted book promotion materials. Please watch for a response to your submission via email. As a reminder, if your child will be participating in Book Promotion, please note the following:

November 7: Mandatory dress rehearsal before group lessons, 8:00am or as stated in your email.

November 14: Book Promotion/Winter Concert at LDS Church Building, 1221 W Howe St, Tempe
Report time: 8:50am

Winter Concert

November 14's concert, in addition to being the Book Promotion performance, is also VSSA's winter concert. All students will be performing with their repertoire class. Please note the dress requirements and different location in the President's message on page 1.

Composer Festival

On **January 9**, we will have a "Name that Tune" follow-up as well as a Composer Costume Festival, in which the students are invited to dress up as and/or share facts about a composer of their choice.

VSSA Workshop

This year's VSSA Workshop will be held on **February 20**. It is a fun whole-day event you won't want to miss, so save the date! More information to come in January.

Final Concert

This year's final concert will be on **March 26**. Save the date, and more information will be provided closer to the date.

DON'T FORGET!

CEE has recently replaced their carpets; therefore, **no food or drink** is allowed inside. Thank you for your cooperation.

Prize Donations Requested

VSSA is in need of prizes for our review contest. If you are able to donate classical CDs, music-themed trinkets, or other related small items for prizes, please bring them to group lessons at any time. Thank you!

**Newsletter Input/Classifieds**

(from the VSSA Parent Handbook)

Input is welcomed about subjects you would like to have covered in the Newsletter, or calendar events such as concerts in the area, studio recitals, or individual book recitals. A free Classified Ad section is also available for use by VSSA members. If you wish to sell or give away a used instrument (if selling, include your name, instrument and size, price, and contact information), shoulder rest, black and white performance outfit, reading book, or other appropriate item, make your submission to our Newsletter Coordinator, Katie Davi, at thekatiedavi@gmail.com

VSSA Leadership**Teacher Members**

Kristine Ehlis – V 480-730-0452
 Eunice Elie* - V, A, C, P 480-220-3146
 Andrea Gordon - C 480-296-5445
 Sarah Hartman- V 480-338-3933
 Lani Hill - V 480-722-2851
 Marilee Kellis - C 480-278-1333
 Megyn Neff - V 928-863-0572
 Dorene Pool - A 480-855-6199
 Bonnie Roesch - V 480-924-6692
 Martha Vogler - V 480-207-1159
 Heidi Wright* - V
 Alexandra Young* - V 602-616-8235

*Accepting New Students

V- Violin A- Viola C- Cello P-Piano

Board Members

President – Bonnie Roesch
 Treasurer/Membership - Kristine Ehlis
 Secretary - Dale Ross
 Group Lesson Coordinator - Andrea Gordon
 Book Promotion Coordinator - Dorene Pool
 Workshop Coordinator - Lani Hill
 Recital Coordinator – Martha Vogler
 Information Table - Rebecca Wilcox
 Newsletter Editor/Webmaster - Katie Davi

Volunteer Positions

ASA Liaison - Eunice Elie
 Recital Accompanists - Sara Turley & open

You can find the newsletter and other VSSA information on the website, at www.valleysuzuki.org