




# Neenah Joint School District Suzuki Program Enrollment Screencast

Enrollment screencast



Welcome to our Suzuki Screencast! This presentation will be covering the following information:

- Suzuki Methodology
- Small Group Lessons
- Large Group Classes
- Renting An Instrument
- Other Equipment, Accessories, and Supplies
- Student Expectations
- Parent Expectations
- Performances
- Student Enrollment
- Suzuki Program Staff





# Suzuki Methodology

## Every Child Can Learn

More than fifty years ago, Japanese violinist Shinichi Suzuki realized the implications of the fact that children the world over learn to speak their native language with ease. He began to apply the basic principles of language acquisition to the learning of music, and called his method the mother-tongue approach. The ideas of parent responsibility, loving encouragement, constant repetition, etc., are some of the special features of the Suzuki approach.

## Parent Involvement

As when a child learns to talk, parents are involved in the musical learning of their child. They attend lessons with the child and serve as “home teachers” during the week. One parent often learns to play before the child, so that they understand what the child is expected to do. Parents work with the teacher to create an enjoyable learning environment.

## Early Beginning

The early years are crucial for developing mental processes and muscle coordination. Listening to music should begin at birth; formal training may begin at age three or four, but it is never too late to begin.



# Suzuki Methodology (Continued)

## Listening

Children learn words after hearing them spoken hundreds of times by others. Listening to music every day is important, especially listening to pieces in the Suzuki repertoire so the child knows them immediately.

## Repetition

Constant repetition is essential in learning to play an instrument. Children do not learn a word or piece of music and then discard it. They add it to their vocabulary or repertoire, gradually using it in new and more sophisticated ways.

## Encouragement

As with language, the child's effort to learn an instrument should be met with sincere praise and encouragement. Each child learns at his/her own rate, building on small steps so that each one can be mastered. Children are also encouraged to support each other's efforts, fostering an attitude of generosity and cooperation.



# Suzuki Methodology (Continued)

## Learning With Other Children

In addition to Small Group Lessons, children participate in regular Large Group Classes and performances at which they learn from and are motivated by each other.

## Graded Repertoire

Children do not practice exercises to learn to talk, but use language for its natural purpose of communication and self-expression. Pieces in the Suzuki repertoire are designed to present technical problems to be learned in the context of the music rather than through dry technical exercises.

## Delayed Reading

Children learn to read after their ability to talk has been well established. In the same way, children should develop basic technical competence on their instruments before being taught to read music.

For more information, please visit the Suzuki Association of the Americas website:

<https://suzukiassociation.org/about/suzuki-method/>



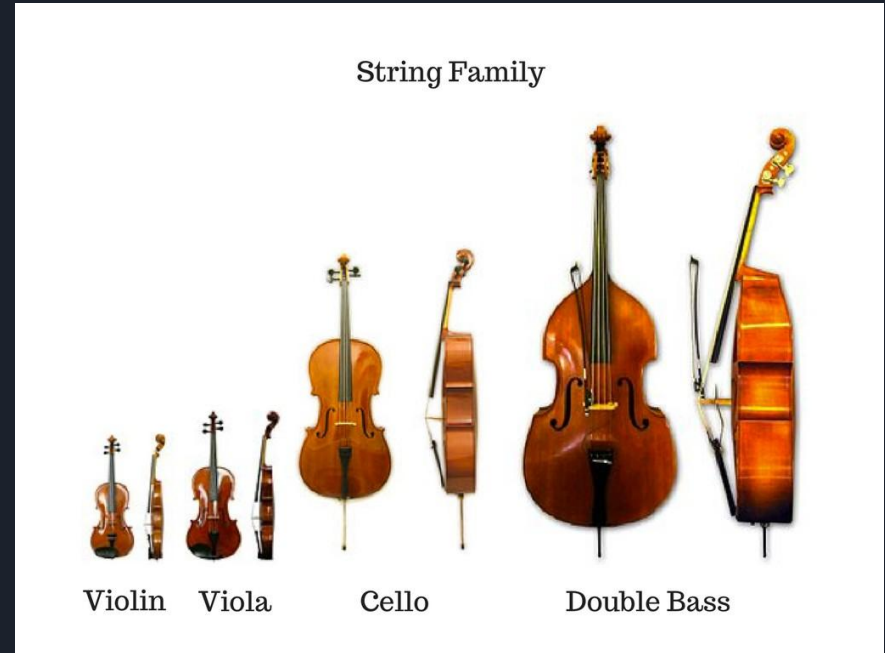
# Small Group Lessons

- Lesson Location
  - NEW NEENAH MIDDLE SCHOOL.
    - 1275 Tullar Rd, in the music suite.
- Lesson Times
  - 3:30-8:00 PM, Monday-Friday
  - Paired Students (2 per lesson) = 30 minute lesson
  - Solo Students (1 per lesson, special circumstances only) = 20 minute lesson
- Lessons run through the entire school year, from September through May.
- Parents and/or guardians **MUST** be present at the Small Group Lessons at **ALL** times. Any exceptions to this rule must be discussed with your instructor.
- Students are paired with a partner on a like instrument (example: a viola student with another viola student).

# Small Group Lessons (Continued)

Small Group Lessons are semi-private lessons that occur weekly with your student's dedicated instructor. These lessons are where your student will first learn the basics of their instrument, followed by the repertoire (performance pieces) for that instrument. Parents and/or guardians of the students attending these lessons must attend each and every lesson with them, since they are the 'home teacher,' meaning they have the responsibility to take time at home to practice and work alongside their student.

Beginning students may choose to play one of the following instruments:





# Large Group Classes

- Class Location
  - Neenah Middle School. Room TBD
    - 1275 Tullar Rd Neenah Wi
- Class Time
  - Beginning students. Arrival 5:30-5:45. Class 5:45-6:15
  - Continuing Students. Arrival 6:15 Arrival to tune-7:00
- Large Group Classes also run through the entire school year, from September through May.
- Parents and/or guardians **MUST** be present at the Large Group Classes at **ALL** times. Any exceptions to this rule must be discussed with your instructor.
- Students work with different instructors depending on the focus of the evening (example: students could be grouped by ability level, by which Suzuki Volume they are currently studying, by instrument, by grade level, etc.)
- The purpose of this class is both practice playing for all students as well as equal part listening and observing older more experienced students.



# Large Group Classes (Continued)

Large Group Classes occur once per week with any of the current four Suzuki instructors. These lessons are meant to assist and accentuate the knowledge, skills, and repertoire gained in the Small Group Lessons but in a large group setting. The Small Group Lessons help students work at their own pace, whereas the Large Group Classes provide unique ensemble and repertoire experience and the enjoyment and fun of making music with their peers and teachers. The purpose of these Large Group Classes is to teach the student to play with others, blend their sound, and to gain an understanding of group dynamics.

Large Group Classes are designed to be age and skill appropriate, and go hand in hand with the Small Group Lessons. Large Group Classes are an integral part of the Suzuki method.





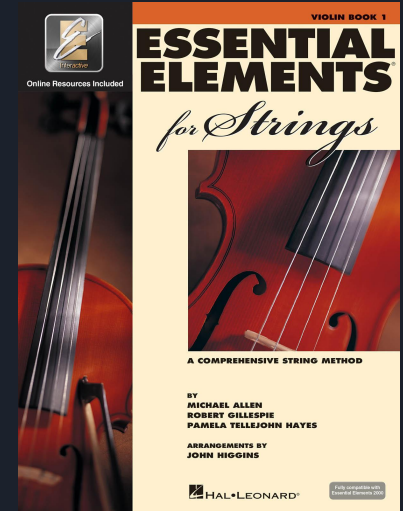
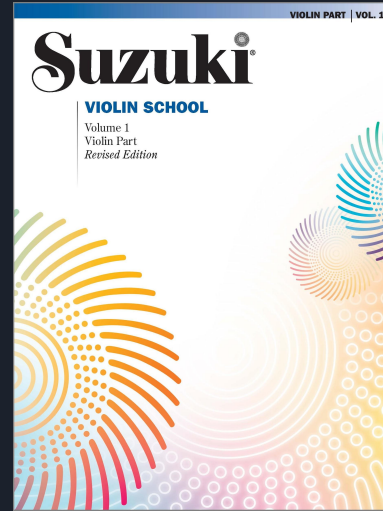
# Renting An Instrument

- Heid Music
  - Appleton Location: 308 East College Avenue, Appleton, WI 54911
  - Oshkosh Location: 1750 West South Park Avenue, Oshkosh, WI 54902
  - <https://www.heidmusic.com/rental/store/orchestra/>
- Island Music
  - 858 Fox Point Plaza, Neenah, WI 54956
  - <http://www.myislandmusic.com/rentals.html>
- Please note: We HIGHLY suggest renting an instrument and not buying an instrument since students need to grow with their instruments. Instead of needing to buy a new instrument every 1-2 years, you can instead just exchange it for a bigger one!
- Do not be fooled into purchasing an instrument that is a “Good Deal” online unless you chat with an instructor first. You may end up with an instrument that has many issues and will cause problems learning for your child.
- Both music stores will be available by appointment to size students appropriately for the fall school year.
  - Charging Rental for new instruments will not begin until we begin our lessons in september.

# Other Equipment, Accessories, and Supplies

Most students will also require the following for lessons:

1. Suzuki Book and CD
2. Essential Elements Book
3. Rosin
4. Shoulder Sponge/Rest (Violin and Viola ONLY)
5. Rock Stop (Cello and Bass ONLY)

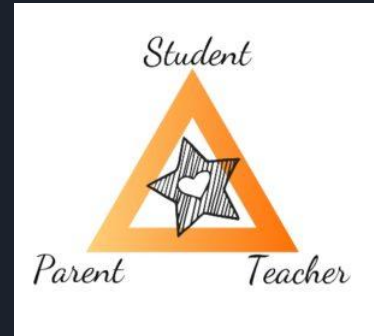


# Student Expectations

For the Suzuki Program, these are the expectations for all Students:

1. Practice 2-3 times per week (or more).
2. Listen to the CD of their repertoire music every day.
3. Assist their Parent and/or Guardian in filling out the practice sheets each week to track better practice habits.
4. Work with their Parent and/or Guardian while practicing since they are the 'home teacher,' meaning they are the instructor and most knowledgeable person at home to assist with excellent practice habits.
5. Attend their Small Group Lesson *and* Large Group Class each and every week.
6. Attend all performances throughout the year.
7. To always try their very best, no matter what!

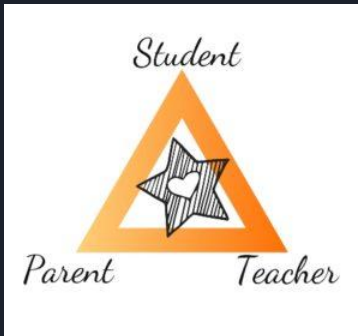
The "Suzuki Triangle," showing students are supported and encouraged in all that they do by their Parents and/or Guardians and their Suzuki Teachers!



# Parent Expectations

For the Suzuki Program, these are the expectations for all Parents/Guardians:

1. Assist your student in practicing 2-3 times per week (or more).
2. Listen with your student to the CD of their repertoire music every day.
3. All Parents and/or Guardians are the 'home teacher,' meaning they take an active rather than passive role in making sure their students grow as musicians.
4. Take concise notes in lessons to assist with practicing at home.
5. Attend the Small Group Lesson *and* Large Group Class with their student each and every week.
6. Attend all performances throughout the year with their student.
7. To always try your very best to help your student succeed, no matter what!



The "Suzuki Triangle," showing that Parents and/or Guardians and the Suzuki teachers/instructors are there to always support the student in their endeavors.



# Performances

Several times per year, all students in the Suzuki Program will host public performances in and outside of the school district. For example:

1. **Pre-Concert Performances** = Students will be able to perform and show off their new skills for students and parents of the different schools in Neenah. Before a different concert begins (elementary holiday performance, middle school orchestra concert, etc.) Suzuki students will stand outside of the performance space and entertain people as they enter the concert space.
2. **String Fest** = Every other year, the Neenah Joint School District hosts a district wide performance for all students in Grades 1-12 that perform on string instruments. It allows students to showcase their talents from an early age as beginners to high school graduates who have matured into amazingly talented musicians.
3. **Spring Recitals** = At the end of each school year, we host a final Spring Recital for all students, in all grades, at all ability levels. These performances not only showcase the hard work students have put in throughout the year, but celebrate those students graduating into Grade 6 who have grown with us through several years and are moving forward in their musical journey.
4. **Volunteer Opportunities** = Students will have the choice to participate in performances outside of the school district, to showcase their talents to the Neenah community and beyond. While these performances are optional, they are a lot of fun and emphasize Dr. Suzuki's philosophy of creating well rounded, kind, and thoughtful people.



# Student Enrollment

The Suzuki Program Open Houses are meant to be informative regarding the program, but also to finalize your student's registration.

- Watch this webinar. The following areas will be available for you and your student to peruse:
  - Video Presentation (About the Suzuki Program)
  - Instrument Demonstration (Suzuki students performing on the violin, viola, cello, and bass)
  - Instrument Rentals (Speak with local music stores)
  - Speak with Suzuki Program Staff (Have any questions you have answered!)
- Finalize your registration using the google form. *(Please note: any student not registered by Monday June 19, 2022. will be automatically put on our Wait List.) Our goal is to not have a waitlist at all so the sooner you sign up, the better.)*

# Suzuki Program Staff

Here are our four Suzuki Program Staff who oversee our Small Group Lessons, Large Group Classes, and the administrative side of the program! Please send an email to one of our administrators with any questions

Phil Smyth, Suzuki Program  
Administrator and Staff

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Teresita Marchel,  
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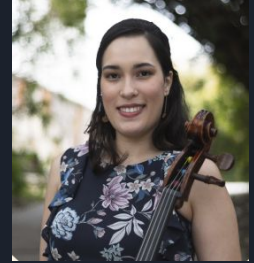
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Brian Beiser,  
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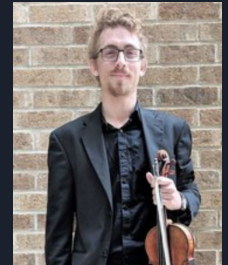
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Thank you very much for watching  
this Suzuki Screencast.

We hope you have enjoyed this small  
presentation, and we look forward to  
working with you in the Suzuki  
Program next September!