



The Suzuki Method: 10 Basic Points

- 1. Early Start**
Education begins at birth and lessons can start as early as age 3, but it is never too late to begin.
- 2. Every Child Can Learn**
Dr. Suzuki believes that every child can be educated. He believes that tests for so called "musical talent" are a waste of time because every child has the potential to achieve at a high level. The most important factor is a commitment to devote time every day to home practice and to listen to the recordings.
- 3. Parent Involvement**
One parent learns the basic skills on the child's instrument as well as techniques for home practice. Enthusiasm and patience are more important than musical experience.
- 4. Daily Listening**
Children listen for several hours each day to recordings of the pieces they are studying, as well as performances by concert artists, to develop memory and musical sensitivity. They learn the music naturally while doing other things.
- 5. Repetition For Mastery**
Students review their old pieces with the accompaniment CD daily to improve their technique as well as sensitivity to phrasing and musical feeling.
- 6. Developing Basic Skills**
Each child works at his/her own rate. The initial rate of progress has little to do with the final level of achievement. Many fine students have started very slowly. Students learn how to learn by using a patient and systematic approach to master new skills.
- 7. Positive Approach**
Enjoyment is a basic part of the learning process, not something added later. The teacher demonstrates constructive ways to praise the child's success as well as supportive and creative ways to work for further improvement.
- 8. Individual and Group Lessons Each Week**
In addition to the individual lesson, children learn ensemble skills while gaining confidence and enthusiasm through games, solos, and group practice at the weekly group lesson.
- 9. Music Reading**
Children learn to speak before they learn to read. Students learn to play with good tone, posture, and musical technique before learning the musical symbols for the sounds that they can produce. The Kodály music class teaches the basic skills of singing, ear training, and music theory through songs and games. This prepares students for music reading class and string ensemble.
- 10. Accompaniment CD**
After careful study of the teaching points of each piece, students practice with the accompaniment CD to improve rhythmic skills, timing, and musical expression. Ensemble students learn their parts much more quickly by working with the special ensemble practice CD of their own part.

How It Works: Violin Program for Age 3 and Older

Individual Lessons

The core of the program is the individual lesson each week. At the beginning, most of the time is spent helping the parent learn the basic skills on the child's small instrument so that they can help the child at home. Children gradually take over the lesson as their skills and attention span increase. We have never had a parent or child who was unable to learn the basic skills. Many parents enjoy it so much that they get their own full-size instrument.

West Roxbury, South Boston

Group Class

Students are grouped by age and ability for the weekly group classes. Reading and singing classes are scheduled adjacent to violin classes at each level. The teachers and director determine which class is appropriate for each student.

Students practice starting and stopping together, playing in tempo, and performing solos for each other. They see other students playing pieces that they will study later and are motivated to practice more at home. Group games demonstrate creative ways to practice basic skills.

West Roxbury Tuesday, Friday, Saturday

Kodály Music Class

In the Kodály music class, students learn a repertoire of songs and games. The basic elements of music; rhythm, pitch, intervals, dynamics, and phrasing, are drawn from these pieces and used to prepare the skills for reading and writing music.

West Roxbury Saturday morning

Traditional Method Piano Lessons

The Suzuki Institute also offers piano lessons using traditional approaches instead of the Suzuki Method.

West Roxbury Time and day by arrangement

Elective Classes:

String Ensemble

The String Ensemble gives Suzuki students a chance to develop reading and orchestral skills in a supportive environment, which respects their training in the Suzuki Method. They learn standard string orchestra literature by Bach, Handel, and Mozart, as well as contemporary composers. Ensemble students come primarily from the Suzuki Institute of Boston but other Suzuki students are welcome to audition. Viola and 'cello students are also welcome.

West Roxbury Saturdays - time TBA

Adult Ensembles

Parents and independent adult students are encouraged to form their own ensembles to be coached by faculty. There is a minimum class size for each group and students can choose pieces in the classical, fiddle, folk, or jazz literature.

Time and location by arrangement

Call for more information for these opportunities to learn music!

How to Join:

Observing Lessons and Classes

First, make an appointment to visit classes with your child at least two days in advance. Feel free to visit as many times as you want before you decide to join. Observing is free but you need to make an appointment. Then, talk with the director to decide your individual lesson and group class schedule.

Registration

Students are asked to complete the registration information with the director and make payment arrangements before the first lesson. Students are admitted for a specific individual teacher, lesson time, and group class. The individual lesson and group class do not have to be at the same location or on the same day. Tuition is based on the location of the individual lesson and includes group classes. There is a non-refundable registration fee of \$50.00 each year. Students joining in mid-term pay a prorated fee.

Lesson fees for a 16-week semester	
30 minutes	\$880.00*
45 minutes	\$1320.00
60 minutes	\$1760.00

*South Boston \$560 (not including Kodály)

Group class for additional children in the same family is \$220.00 per term.

String Ensemble, Chamber Music, and Adult String Ensemble: \$220 per term plus materials fee.

Scholarships

Some partial scholarships are available. Please call the director for information. We believe that every student who really wants to study should have a chance and ask students to pay at least part of the fee and help the school in some way. We ask parents to fill out a scholarship application form to help us evaluate assistance needs.

Instruments & Materials

Violin rentals are available from:
Johnson's String Instruments (JSI)
Rental rates range from \$75 for 3 months - \$230 for 12 months.
11 John St., Newton Center, MA 02159
Tel: (617) 964-0954, (800) 359-9351
www.johnsonstring.com

Materials for the Violin Program

Suzuki Violin School Vol. 1-10 (music book)
Suzuki Violin School Vol. 1-10 (CD)*
Scale CD (available from SIB or JSI)

***Important: Get the new CD for violin book 1 for repeated listening and piano accompaniment with William Preucil playing**

Music Reading Class Books

ABCs of Violin for the Absolute Beginner
by Janice Tucker Rhoda
Strings Fun & Easy
by David Tasgal

Reference Books – Recommended Reading

Nurtured by Love by Shinichi Suzuki
Dr. Suzuki's own story of his life, work, and philosophy of education for young children.

To Learn with Love by William Star
A parent's guide with helpful tips for motivation and home practice by one of the founders of the Suzuki Method in the United States.

Many additional practice CDs for scales, exercises, and ensemble pieces are available from the office.

Faculty

Donald Becker, Director *violin, viola, Kodály*

B.M. Ohio State University School of Music, M.M. Eastman School of Music, Founder and director of the SIB. He studied with Dr. Suzuki and Yuko Mori for over three years in Japan and supervises the violin teachers in using Dr. Suzuki's teaching points. He holds a teacher's diploma from the Talent Education Institute in Matsumoto, Japan and studied at the summer program of the Kodály Center of America.

Morgan Evans-Weiler, Program Director - *violin*

B.M. Western Michigan University, Music Composition, Music Performance. Attended Longy School of Music for Modern American Music. Mr. Evans-Weiler performs in experimental, avant garde, rock and folk events throughout the New England area. He is a member of the Metal and Glass ensemble, Grizzler, BodyDrama, Katze, and frequently performs as a soloist. Suzuki Institute of Boston training program.

Lijiong Liao - *violin*

B.M. Central Conservatory of Music, Beijing, China, M.A. violin performance, University of Iowa, M.A. M.M. Boston University. She was the winner of second prize in the violin competition at the Conservatory in China and two-time winner of the Bach Prize at Boston University. Suzuki Institute of Boston staff training program.

Kenneth Mok – Artist in Residence, *violin*

B.M. Hong Kong Baptist University, M.M. Boston Conservatory. Mr. Mok has performed with orchestras in both Hong Kong and the Boston area. Currently, he is a member of the Boston Chamber Orchestra and is principle second of the Video Game Orchestra. Suzuki Institute of Boston training program.

Morgan Scagliotti - *violin*

B.M. Cleveland Institute of Music, M.M. Boston University. Ms. Scagliotti was the winner of the Solo Bach Competition in 2008 at Boston University. Currently, she is a member of the Portland Symphony Orchestra and also performs with the Rhode Island Philharmonic. Suzuki Institute of Boston training program.

John Guarino – *violin, piano*

B.M. Manhattan School of Music, M.M. Longy School of Music. Mr Guarino was concertmaster of the Longy Chamber Orchestra and has performed with the Philharmonic Orchestra of the Americas. He is a student of Malcolm Lowe, concertmaster of the Boston Symphony and accompanies for Mr. Lowe's master classes. Suzuki Institute of Boston training program.

Our Philosophy

Dr. Suzuki said that the most important point of his philosophy is service to other people. The Suzuki Institute is committed to the idea that every student who really wants to study should have a chance. Every parent in the program is encouraged to dedicate himself or herself to the Suzuki Philosophy in this respect. Our commitment to outreach to low-income students and minority students is reflected in our faculty and studios.

Notice of Nondiscriminatory Policy

The Suzuki Institute of Boston admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarships and loan programs, and athletic and other school-administered