
WINTHROP SUZUKI VIOLIN PROGRAM 2015-2016 school year

Sponsored by the Suzuki Institute of Boston www.suzukiboston.com

For information, text or call Donald Becker, director 617/566-0002 suzukiboston@earthlink.net

Tuesdays and Saturdays at the E.B. Newton School and Cultural Center 45 Pauline St.

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.

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 to practice every day and listen to the recordings.

3. **Parental 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, to develop memory and musical sensitivity. They learn the music naturally in the background.

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. **Both Individual and Group Lessons**

In addition to the individual lesson, children learn ensemble skills while gaining confidence and enthusiasm through games, solos, and weekly group practice.

9. **Music Reading**

Children learn to speak before they learn to read, and students learn to play with good tone, posture, and musical technique before learning the musical symbols for the sounds that they can produce. Note reading is introduced later using The ABCs of Violin for the Absolute Beginner by Janice Tucker Rhoda.

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

Violin Program Individual Lessons and Group Class Saturdays and Tuesdays as well if enrollment permits

The core of the program is the individual lesson each week. At the beginning, most of the time is spent training the parent to play 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. At group class, 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.

Registration Information

Lessons on Saturdays 10:30-3:30 and Tuesdays 2:30-7:00 (enrollment permitting) at the E.B. Newton School and Cultural Center 45 Pauline St. The 15 week term Feb. 20 to June 11 has 3 tuition options:

1. \$675.00 (\$45.00 per week) and includes a 30 min. individual lesson and 60 min. group class.
2. \$450.00 (\$30.00 per week) includes a shared 30 min. lesson and 60 min. group class
3. \$225.00 (\$15.00 per week) includes a 30 min. group class only for three students per class

Note: registration for shared lessons and group class only options depend on the availability of groups of students of appropriate age and ability levels. Adult students are welcome.

There is a \$40.00 registration and materials fee. Students who join in the middle of a term pay a prorated fee based on the number of weeks left. Tuition can be paid in advance, or monthly. Students who pay by the month pay at the end of the month for the following month. Students need to pay for weeks that they miss. Lessons missed by the teacher will be made up or credited. In case of long term illness of three weeks or more, students will receive a medical leave from the first week of illness. Snow days and vacations will follow the Winthrop Public Schools Schedule. Saturday snow days will be decided by 9:00 A.M. by the Winthrop site administrators.

Admission is ongoing and you can sign up any time after visiting. You can visit as many times as you want before signing up, observing is free. The pre-registration form is available online at www.suzukiboston.com. Please email, text, or call the Suzuki Institute of Boston for more information.

Violin rentals are available from: Johnson's String Instruments (JSI)

1029 Chestnut St., Newton Upper Falls, MA 02464 Tel: (617) 964-0954, (800) 359-9351

www.johnsonstring.com Best quality violin rentals in greater Boston, ready to play.

Rental **costs**: 3 months \$84.00, 6 months \$162.00, 9 months \$234.00, 12 months \$260.00

These rates include insurance. There is also a deposit which can be made by credit card.

Pickup and delivery by the Suzuki Institute of Boston available for \$25.00.

Violin Purchase Central Music 685 Pleasant St. No. 4 Brockton, MA 02301 508/586-4970

They can ship the violin to your house for an additional fee. Violin outfits for \$130.00.

Violin Purchase online at www.kkmusicstore.com 877/262-8880 outfits for \$90-\$130 plus shipping.

See detailed information on recommended models at www.suzukiboston.com

Note: purchased violins come in shipping condition and require additional setup by the teacher for \$20.00 before your first lesson in order to be adjusted to playable condition.

Materials for the Violin Program available from JSI Suzuki Violin School Vol. 1 (music book)

Suzuki Violin School Vol. 1 (CD), Scale CD (available from SIB or JSI)

Optional Reference Books

Nurtured by Love (Shinichi Suzuki) Dr. Suzuki's life, work, and philosophy of education for children.

To Learn with Love (William Starr) A parents' guide with helpful tips for motivation and home practice

Violin Teachers

Sonia Voskuil. She studied the Suzuki Violin Method as a child and went on to study at the Longy School of Music, Harvard Extension School and the Suzuki Institute of Boston staff training program. She has taught in various settings including the Cambridge Adult Education Center. She teaches in Winthrop on Saturdays.

Tigran Dolukhanyan. He started violin at age 6 and graduated from the Speniaryan School of Music in Yerevan, Armenia and is active in the Suzuki Institute of Boston staff training program. He has 15 years experience teaching students of many ages and levels. He has played with numerous orchestras both here and in "Europe. He teaches violin and viola in Winthrop on Tuesdays.