# **DENISON SUZUKI REVIEW**



I am Kate, Hear Me Twinkle!!

Kate Cremean is happy to return as the Group Prep Class instructor. Kate joined the Suzuki Faculty last January. She is a trained vocalist with a MM in Choral Conducting. Kate specializes in working with young children and thoroughly enjoys strengthening the musical bond and understanding between children and their caregivers. Kate is also a piano Suzuki mom to her two children, David (9) and Emily (6).

The class Kate teaches, Group Class Prep, is for our beginning students and their Practice Partners. Within the group structure we will together learn the foundations of preparing our bodies to be musical, start learning musical vocabulary, and begin understanding musical concepts that will carry your child through their musical career.

If your child has been assigned to Group Prep Class, (or GCP), Kate will be meeting with you and your children on the following Saturdays in Bryant Hall: September 19, October 3, October 17, October 31, November 14, and November 21

Please also save November 15 and December 4th and 5th for 2 exciting performance experiences. Kate can be reached easily at k8.cremean@gmail.com or 614-595-8945.



#### Sunset on Summer 2015

What a beautifully purple sunset we saw outside Burton Hall this past summer. Fall lessons have begun. If you still need to register, please check our website, suzuki.denison.edu, and look for the post on the home page. That will take you to the link to online registration. Remember that when you register, you are automatically enrolled in the Winter Festival 2016, January 15, 16, and 17, so save those dates!

## Music at the Granville Farmers Market

Flute and string players from the Denison University Suzuki Program will be performing at the Granville Farmers Market on September 26 from 9:45 a.m. until 10:45 a.m. (The rain date is October 10.) We will be performing in one of the "stalls" at the corner of Broadway and Main Street. Check the fit of your red performance shirt and speak with your teacher if you need a different size. More information will be posted on our website as soon as it becomes available.

suzuki.denison.edu



## September 2015

#### Practice Partner Training September 12

9 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Burton 301

## Group Classes

September 14 Herrick Hall Ensemble September 18 Palmer piano September 19 Cello Flute Group Class Prep Kirsh Piano Violin September 28 Herrick Hall Ensemble

Granville Farmers Market September 26

## **Program Recital**

September 20 3 p.m Burke Recital Hal

All children grow. It depends on how they are raised. –S. Suzuki

## **Practice Partner Training**

Part one of our three part series, Practice Partner Training, will be held Saturday, September 12, 9-11 a.m. in Burton Hall, room 301. We will be discussing the Suzuki philosophy, what to expect in lessons, and the parent role in lessons. If there is time, we will also review parallel parking techniques. © Please contact Maryfrances Kirsh, 614.580.5220, kirshm@denison.edu, to register for this class. Parent/practice partners who are new to the Denison University Suzuki Program are required to attend as their students begin lessons. Tuition is \$55. Currently enrolled parent/practice partners are welcome to attend at no charge, to share wisdom. knowledge, and to be encouraged and rejuvenated.





## Group Classes Resume September 19

No, group classes have not gone to the dogs. Bandit, a Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen (a French scent hound), has visited the Kirsh piano group classes many times over the years. Her job was to sit with students and get treats for every question they answered correctly. She also brought a lot of laughter and smiles to group Saturdays. Unfortunately, Bandit and her human, Celia, have moved and won't be at group anymore, but Mrs. Kirsh is still teaching Celia on FaceTime and sees and hears Bandit on a weekly basis.

Even though Mrs. Kirsh's group classes are the only ones that include the occasional canine, all the group classes are filled with fun and laughter, hard work on building technique, incorporating music theory in our understanding of the music, and rehearsing for performances. It's important to be at every group class because things that are introduced in one will be reviewed and improved upon in the next class. If you have other activities planned for Saturday mornings, check with your teacher to see how you could work around them. We want to see everyone at group September 19!



## Spring 2015 Goodwill Ambassadors Tour

In May, the flutes, strings, and the Group Class Preppers went to Heath Healthcare Center to play for its residents. The pianists performed for residents of Kendal at Granville. We will be continuing our tradition of bringing music to those who are unable to get out to hear public performances, by visiting again in December.





#### **ETHEL Joins Us in December**

The ETHEL quartet will be returning to the Denison campus in December to continue its residency. It's members, Kip Jones, violin, Corin Lee, violin, Ralph Ferris, viola, and Dorothy Lawson, cello, will be collaborating with the Suzuki program on music for the Granville Christmas Candlelight Walking Tour.

During Spring 2015, the ETHEL quartet met with the Herrick Hall String Ensemble, and DUSP flutists and pianists for some improvisation on a Monday night. They also visited us during group class and stretched our musicality and imaginations. We are excited to be able to perform with them in December!





Rafi DeGenero, Max George, Nona Hunter, and Elena Knemeyer were among the students who performed for the August Talent Education Gathering



### **Talent Education Gathering**

In August, November, and April, we invite prospective Suzuki families and others in our community to visit and learn about the Denison University Suzuki Program. The name, "Talent Education Gathering", came about when the Denison Suzuki faculty was preparing posters to get the word out about our information meeting. We decided we didn't want to scare off interested families by calling it a "meeting" hoping a "gathering" might seem more intriguing. Dr. Suzuki believed children are not born with talent, but that it is developed. Suzuki said, "For the sake of our children let us educate them from the cradle to have a noble mind, a high sense of values, and splendid qualities." By following the philosophy of Dr. Suzuki, our program is more than a music school. We are helping parents develop noble human beings.

At the August gathering, we enlist some willing students and their practice partners to perform for us and describe how Suzuki lessons have impacted their lives. We schedule the November and April Talent Education Gatherings to begin right after the program recitals so that our guests can get an idea of the range of instruments and levels taught here.

We begin by showing a short excerpt from the documentary, *Nurtured by Love*, which gives a brief overview of the Suzuki philosophy and features well known Suzuki teachers discussing the method. After the lights come back on, different aspects of our program, such as group classes, performances, Winter Festival, and the website are described. Kate Cremean, Group Class Prep teacher, gets us singing and moving, and Linda Habig, flute teacher, has us spitting rice. (Not your typical Sunday afternoon activities!) We give our guests a chance to ask questions and to meet with the faculty and staff to arrange observations. Finally, we send them home with a lot of information and the dates of Practice Partner Training.

The Talent Education Gathering has been very successful in its mission to inform and guide new families through the beginning stages of becoming a Suzuki family. All are welcome to stay after the November program recital to review their Suzuki knowledge!



## Herrick Hall String Ensemble Performs Benefit Concert

It was a beautiful, warm, sunny spring Sunday last May when the Herrick Hall String Ensemble gave a benefit concert for an Afghanistan music program. The United Church of Granville was the venue where "Herrick Hall" presented a variety of music chosen by the musicians themselves. The concert program included pieces from the Suzuki repertoire as well as some fiddle tunes and an arrangement of Afghan folk tunes.

The Afghanistan Nation Institute of Music was founded just four years ago and teaches boys and girls Western as well as Afghan instruments. As stated on their website, "ANIM has a strong commitment to supporting the most disadvantaged members of Afghan society—orphans and street working children—designating fifty percent of our enrollment and providing scholarship assistance for them. The ANIM Sponsorship Program covers their tuition costs and school meals, and provides a family stipend, as many of these students themselves and their families are working on the streets as vendors. The stipend serves as a compensation for the loss of daily income they incur by attending school."

The Herrick Hall String Ensemble was thrilled to be able to support two students at ANIM, whose tuition this year will be paid in full.

## Fall into a Routine

Fall is a great time to renew the determination to make practice a daily habit. Practicing the same time each day provides routine and structure and the results will show.

Good times for listening are when driving to school or an activity, at mealtimes, during bath time or nighttime routines.

Good times for practicing are before school, right after a snack, and homework breaks.

Keep track of consecutive days of practice—give a reward when your musician reaches 10, 20, etc.

## Denison University Suzuki Program

#### Our Mission...

...to create a positive musical learning partnership among faculty, students, and their parents/practice partners by following the philosophical principles and educational methods developed by Dr. Shinichi Suzuki can grow into loving and respectful who will have a positive effect

For more information about our program, please contact:

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