



## **Winter Festival 2022**

**Practice Partners Only!**

**January 7 and 9**

Coming to you **LIVE** on Zoom  
from the warmth of your own home!



**Friday and Sunday**  
**January 7 and 9**



**Back by Popular Demand!**  
**Clinicians' Concert Watch Party**  
**for the entire Family!**



### **Practice Partner Sessions:**



**Friday night:**  
“Developing Character in the Suzuki Student”  
featuring Christine Goodner



**Sunday afternoon:**  
**Practice Partner Gatherings Based on Student Ages**

**Online Registration begins in December**

**\$25 registration fee for non-Denison Suzuki Families**



**suzuki.denison.edu**



## Winter Festival 2022: “Practice Partners Only!” Clinicians



**Christine Goodner** is a dynamic and highly trained Suzuki teacher and the director of Brookside Suzuki Strings, a violin & viola studio in Hillsboro, OR. She also teaches Suzuki Early Childhood Education Classes in Hillsboro & Portland through Da Capo Suzuki Early Childhood Education. In both of the programs, Christine is passionate about helping her students develop their skills to the best of their ability, while gaining a life long love of music.

Christine grew up in a musical family started her violin studies at the age of 2 1/2, as a Suzuki student herself (studying with Betty Haag, and added the Viola in high school & college. She has a 4 year degree in Early Childhood Education and extensive teacher training through the SAA, including long term teacher training with Martha Shackford. She has also completed training with: Ellie Albers LeRoux, Susan Kempter, Yuko Honda, Sue Baer and Sharon Jones.

Christine has been teaching for over 18 years and spent a decade teaching at the Valley Catholic Music School in Beaverton, OR. There her students were consistently awarded scholarships in the school's scholarship competition and top marks in the OMEA Solo & Ensemble competition.

Christine is currently serving as President of the Oregon Suzuki Association. She has a passion for parent education, life long learning & building the Suzuki Community. She has had articles published in the American Suzuki Journal and is the author of the Suzuki licensed book *Beyond the Music Lesson: Habits of Successful Suzuki Families* (available on Amazon). Christine blogs at [www.SuzukiTriangle.com](http://www.SuzukiTriangle.com)



**June Huang** is the Director of Strings and Assistant Professor of Violin at George Mason University. Prof. Huang holds a Master of Arts in Violin Performance from the University of California at Santa Barbara where she was a member of the Young Artist String Quartet. She earned a Bachelor of Music in Violin Performance from Oberlin Conservatory and attended the Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music as an undergraduate. Prof. Huang studied at the Meadowmount School of Music, Aspen Music Festival, Banff Centre for the Arts, Music Festival at Round Top, and Kneisel Hall. Her primary teachers include Jens Ellerman, Stephen Clapp, Ronald Copes, and Marilyn McDonald.

An active performer in the Washington, DC area, she has performed with the National Philharmonic, Harrisburg Symphony, Richmond Symphony, Wolf Trap Orchestra, Washington Ballet Orchestra, and Amadeus Orchestra. She is a frequent chamber music collaborator and has appeared at the Staunton Music Festival, Red Lodge Music Festival, Chamber Music Society of Central Virginia, and Virginia Virtuosi. A specialist on the baroque violin, Prof. Huang plays and records with Opera Lafayette, Four Nations, Bach Sinfonia, and REBEL Baroque Orchestra. Leadership positions have included concertmaster of the Washington Bach Consort and the National Cathedral Baroque Orchestra.

Prof. Huang's passion for furthering the field of violin pedagogy led to the development of new degree programs at Mason. She is a guest clinician and lecturer at many camps, schools, workshops and clinics. She is certified by the Suzuki Association of the Americas and has received research grants from the Levine School of Music and the Music Teachers National Association. Prof. Huang is a faculty member of the Blue Ridge Suzuki Camp and was the Founder and Director of String Camp/Strings Plus at Levine Music in Washington DC, a summer program that celebrated 27 seasons. She is excited to be launching the new Chamber Music Intensive through the Mason Community Arts Academy.



**Zara Lawler** has a Masters from Juilliard and has had many years of Suzuki teacher training. She is on the faculty of Manhattan School of Music Precollege Division, Silver Music, and teaches from her private studio near W155 Street.

Her natural rapport with children and young people, great sense of humor, and ability to condense music down to manageable chunks make her a wonderful teacher.

As a performer, she is known for her adventurous solo program combining music with dance and theater (“**The Flute on its Feet**”) and her critically acclaimed duo with marimba, **Lawler + Fadoul**. She is also known for massed events for up to 100 flutists, including a

performance at the Guggenheim Museum in 2012 which brought together the entire flute community: world famous soloists, New York freelance performers, adult amateurs, and students ages 7 and up.



**Aubrey Faith-Slaker** holds degrees in piano performance and piano pedagogy from the University of Illinois and Southern Methodist University, where she also studied organ and Music Therapy. Trained as a Suzuki pianist, she returned to teaching the Suzuki method in 2007 and currently teaches Suzuki Piano and group classes to multiple instruments for children ages 3 and up in Oaxaca, Mexico.

Aubrey also works mentoring new teachers in piano pedagogy practices, pursuing further education and starting their own businesses. She teaches Masterclasses in Chicago and Latin America, is MTNA certified, and is a Suzuki Piano Teacher Trainer. Having studied Music Therapy in grad school, Aubrey continues to research and explore music study as a means of healing.



**Ann Montzka Smelser** began playing violin at the age of 3 with the help of her mother and father, Marilyn and Arthur Montzka. Later she studied under Kazuko Numanami and Sarah Hersh at the Oberlin College Suzuki Program and later with Rebecca Sandrok and Pierre Menard.

In between receiving her Bachelor of Music Education and Masters in Performance and Pedagogy at Northern Illinois University, Ann studied with Dr. Shinichi Suzuki at the Talent Education Institute in Matsumoto, Japan.

After college, Ann toured extensively with the Ruggieri String Quartet to all four corners of the United States through Columbia Artists Management. Ann has performed in many orchestras and chamber ensembles and is currently principal 2nd violinist with Camerata Chicago and concertmaster of the Kishwaukee Symphony Orchestra.

In 2003 Ann received the Hester Byron Excellence in Teaching Award and in 2013 was inducted into the Sycamore Music Booster's Hall of Fame receiving the Legacy Award and in 2019 was inducted into the DeKalb Music Booster's Hall of Fame receiving the MUSE award.

Ann is a lifetime member of the Suzuki Association of the Americas and has been invited to present at several SAA Conferences. Ann has served as coordinator of the Suzuki Youth Orchestras of the Americas in 2006 and 2008 and coordinator for Violin at the 2014 and 2016 National Suzuki Conferences held in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Ann became a Registered Suzuki Teacher Trainer in 2005 and currently teaches Suzuki Pedagogy at both Northwestern University and Northern Illinois University. Ann teaches about 40 private students and is director of the NIU, CSA Suzuki Strings Program at NIU and a teacher at the Music Institute of Chicago in Winnetka. Ann enjoys working with Suzuki families and teachers at Suzuki Institutes and workshops throughout the United States. Ann was a guest teacher at the 2010 International String Conference in Singapore and has given Teacher Training courses in Lima, Peru, Costa Rica and Mexico City.

Ann lives in DeKalb, IL with her husband, Linc, and her Golden Retriever, Chloe. Linc and Ann are proud Suzuki parents of their daughter, Genevieve, and son, Benjamin, who are currently pursuing music in college.