

Music Institute of Chicago

September 2019 MIC Suzuki Sentinel

"Tone has the living soul." - Shinichi Suzuki

Greetings, Suzuki families! Welcome to MIC's Suzuki e-newsletter. Each month, we'll be sending you the latest news and information from MIC's Suzuki program. For more information about any of the items in this newsletter, please contact your private teacher. You may also contact Avi Friedlander, Director of the Barston Suzuki Center at afriedlander@musicinst.org or Sarah Montzka, Associate Director of the Barston Suzuki Center at smontzka@musicinst.org.

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Suzuki Family Resources

For information about the MIC Suzuki program including group classes, free practice consultations, and more, please visit our Suzuki Family Resources page at <https://www.musicinst.org/suzuki-family-resources>

Teacher Spotlight: Joseph Spoelstra

The following is an excerpt of an interview with Suzuki guitar teacher Joseph Spoelstra. To read the full interview on MIC's website, please click [here](#).

Joseph Spoelstra is joining MIC as a Suzuki Guitar teacher this fall.

What led you to become a Suzuki teacher?

All through my undergraduate and graduate degrees, I had been surrounded by peers who were amazing guitarists and had grown up in the Suzuki philosophy. After graduating with my Master of Music degree from the University of Southern California, I reconnected with colleagues and mentors who were the Suzuki teachers of my peers. Observing lessons with teachers like Alan Johnston in Minneapolis convinced me that this was not only a great path to musicianship for young students, but also a community of professional teachers and dedicated families who believed that the journey of musical mastery fosters the development of a kind, curious, and loving human. And I wanted to be part of that community of families, students, and teachers!

Suzuki Sunday

The next Suzuki Sunday will take place on Sunday, October 13, 2019 in Thoresen Performance Center at the Winnetka campus, 300 Green Bay Rd. For more information, please contact your private teacher.

- 1:00 Piano/Guitar jamboree
- 2:00 Cello/Flute jamboree
- 3:15 Solo recital
- 4:00 Violin/viola jamboree

Register now for the MIC Suzuki piano workshop

The MIC Suzuki piano workshop will take place November 9-10 at the Evanston East Campus, 1490 Chicago Avenue. Students will strengthen and learn new skills while fueling friendships. Led by internationally recognized Suzuki teachers, special activities include master classes and enrichment.

The final registration deadline is Friday, October 25, 2019. The first 60 registered students will secure a spot in the workshop. Online registration is available by clicking [here](#).

Wallace Foundation Suzuki piano master class with Dr. Sylvia Wang

This year's Wallace Foundation Suzuki piano master class will feature Dr. Sylvia Wang. The master class will take place on November 10, 2019, 3:00-5:00 at Nichols Concert Hall, Evanston East, during the Suzuki Piano Workshop.

Current MIC Suzuki piano students Book 5 and above may be selected by teacher's recommendation to audition by video by October 20.

All students and teachers are invited to attend the master class. It is a wonderful opportunity for all to learn and experience how guidance from an artist teacher improves the students' performances.

MIC student adventures at Suzuki Summer Institutes and Music Camps

- Summer Suzuki Institutes are a fun and inspiring experience for Suzuki families. Students have the chance not only to improve their skills but also to meet teachers and students from across the globe. Here are some of the MIC Suzuki students who attended Suzuki Institutes and music camps this summer:
- Violin students of Karin Addis: Kay Richards, Maya Williams, Chicago Suzuki Institute (CSI).
- Violin students of Erin Cano: Ilana Fisher, CSI. Hannah Reichenbach and Simeon Reichenbach, Blue Lake Suzuki Family Camp and Csehy Summer School of Music.
- Cello student of Tanya Carey: Elan Friedlander, San Diego Suzuki Institute.
- Cello students of Avi Friedlander: Luke Ponko, Justin Chang Stauffer, Chicago Chamber Music Festival. Simon Updegraff, CSI and Cincinnati Young Artist Chamber Camp. Micah Chan, Colorado Suzuki Institute. Elliot Ahn, Kate Kang, Sara Kaplan, Olivia Kim, Avery Oppenheim, Nykolas Rekasius, Meir Rogers, Hartt Suzuki Institute.
- Piano students of Yumy Kim: Elise Ahn, Antonia Aliferis, Noah Kim, Jayden Kim, CSI
- Violin and viola students of Sarah Montzka: Leo Pensinger-Sok, Mia Pensinger-Sok, American Suzuki Institute. Ben Kim, American Suzuki Institute and CSI. Evan Mueller, Charlie Oppenheim, Shira Slotar, CSI. Stefanija Rekasius, Hartt Suzuki Institute
- Violin student of Gretchen Rebar: Alina Schultz, CSI
- Violin student of Aki Tanaka: Wesley Sullivan, CSI
- Piano students of Christina Tio: Matthew Hahn, Michael Hahn, Grace Mueller, Edie Park, Karnik Prasad, Kashyap Prasad, Ethan Riddle, Nathan Writh, CSI. Aleksandar Acimovic, Ray Wang, Colorado Suzuki Institute
- Violin student of Vannia Phillips: Ingrid Updegraff, CSI.

- Cello students of Nina Wallenberg: Julia Aliferis, Emilio Colon, Julia Durham, Dillon Leong, Oliver Mah, Peter Scheidt, Margaret Smith, Sarah Smith, Caleb Tang, CSI. Eli Trokenheim, CSI and Interlochen Arts Camp



Ray Wang and Aleksandar Acimovic (piano students of Christina Tio) ventured out to Copper Mountain, Colorado by themselves as independent teens, and had a blast at the Colorado Suzuki Institute in the mountains. Aleksandar (center) and Ray (right) are pictured above with a new friend they made at the Institute (left).



Piano master class with Marta Aznavoorian at the Chicago Suzuki Institute: Noah Kim, Matthew and Michael Hahn, Jayden Kim

MIC Suzuki student/faculty news

- MIC Suzuki violin teacher Gretchen Rebar taught at the Intermountain Suzuki String Institute in Utah and the American Suzuki Institute in Stevens Point, WI.
- MIC Suzuki piano teacher Christina Tio will be presenting a paper to the teachers at the Naperville Music Teacher Association at their monthly meeting on October 10, 2019.
- Kay Richards (violin student of Karin Addis) won first place in the 12 and under division of the fiddle competition at the Catskill Mountain Feis, where she performed Britches Full of Stitches.



Hannah and Simeon Reichenbach (violin students of Erin Cano), accompanied on piano by their mother, Christy, presented a recital in their home for their family and friends on August 18, 2019. Hannah played all of the Twinkle Variations, and Simeon played all of Suzuki Violin Book 3 in addition to several piano pieces.



Ella Wimbiscus (cello student of Sanghui Wimbiscus) performed the Hungarian Rhapsody, Op. 68 by David Popper with the Sinfonia da Camera in Champaign on September 14, 2019 as a result of winning their Concerto Competition. Ella is pictured above with Ian Hobson, the conductor of the Sinfonia.

2019-20 Suzuki Events Calendar

- **Suzuki Sundays (Thoresen Performance Center in Winnetka – unless otherwise indicated)**

Sunday, October 13, 2019

Sunday, November 10, 2019

Sunday, December 8, 2019

Sunday, January 12, 2020

Sunday, February 9, 2020

Sunday, March 8, 2020

Sunday, April 19, 2020 **Nichols Concert Hall (Twinkle Graduation)**

Mixed Instrument Jamborees – Evanston East Room 9 at 3:00 & 4:00 pm

Sunday, November 24

Sunday, March 1

Sunday, June 7

Suzuki Workshop Dates

- Piano Workshop (Evanston East)
November 9, 2019 10:00-6:30
November 10, 2019 12:30-6:30
- Violin Workshop (Evanston East)
January 25, 2020 10:00-5:00
January 26, 2020 12:30-6:30
- Flute Workshop (Winnetka)
January 26 10:00-5:00
January 27 12:30-6:30
- Flute and Viola Workshop (Winnetka)
January 25, 2020 9:00-5:00
January 26, 2020 9:00-6:30
- Cello Workshop (Evanston East)
February 22, 2020 10:00-8:45
February 23, 2020 12:30-6:30

Suzuki Level Graduation Recitals

Sunday April 5, 2020 Nichols Concert Hall

1:45-2:45 Rehearsal

3:00-4:00 Performance and trophy presentation

Suzuki Festival Concerts

- Saturday May 16, 2020 Nichols Concert Hall
Cello Rehearsal 9:00
Cello Concert 11:30
Flute Rehearsal 1:00
Guitar Rehearsal TBD
Guitar Concert 2:00
Piano Concert 3:00
Piano Concert 4:15
Piano Concert 5:30
- Sunday May 17, 2020 Nichols Concert Hall

Flute Concert 12:30
Violin/Viola rehearsal 2:00
Violin/Viola Concert 4:30

100-Day Challenge Celebration

Saturday June 6, Time and Location TBD