

A Guide to your 2011-2012 SSP Schedule

Individual Lessons: Along with parent education and group classes, individual violin and cello lessons are the core of the Suzuki Strings Program. After completing Stage I of fall term, observing lessons and group classes and selecting violin or cello, you will be assigned a member of our experienced faculty to serve as your individual teacher. In weekly lessons, the individual teacher works with parent and child to learn to play the violin and cello through fun, developmentally appropriate games and skill-building exercises. In so doing, we seek to develop the student's love of music, self-discipline, and self-expression, as well as strengthening the working relationship between adult and child.

Parent Class: Our first session, on Tuesday, October 4th, will begin our 3-week series of **parent-only** education sessions with Lillie Wells. This education helps the attending parent or family member understand his or her role in Suzuki music education: how to help the child be successful at group class, individual lessons, and home practice.

Guided Observation: Beginning October 8th, **parent and child together** have the opportunity to observe our 9:00 Suzuki group classes and/or individual lessons. This experience is an invaluable motivator for the young child: observation helps to set parent and child expectations about group class and lesson behavior, as well as generating infectious excitement about making music.

Pre-Twinkle Group Class 9:10 (violin) or 10:30 (cello): Beginning October 29th, after completing Stage I, **parent and child together** begin their own "Pre-Twinkle" Suzuki group classes. In group class, we play pieces, sing songs, and play games with the goals of working together, refining technique and gaining comfortability playing with and for each other. Group class serves to motivate the young child by providing a fun, social learning environment and peer modeling, as well as serving as an educational setting for the review of techniques introduced in individual lessons and the acquisition of ensemble and musicianship skills.

Performance Class (10:00): Beginning October 29th, **parent and child together** attend the CMI performance class, a semi-formal gathering where the whole Saturday program enjoys the performance of solo and chamber music. New students have the opportunity to learn what is expected of music performers and audience members, and enjoy hearing peers from kindergarten through high school, as well as faculty guests, present polished performances in a friendly setting.