

The Willey Lyceum Suzuki School and Orchestra Program
with the
Suzuki Association of the Americas
and the Suzuki Association of Utah
Suzuki Method Teacher Training
Denise Willey, Registered Teacher Trainer

Books 1- 3 Teacher Training March-June 2013

In my opinion, the Suzuki method of teaching strings is the BEST way to start beginning students, and definitely the ONLY way to teach younger students (toddlers through pre-teens.) It is, hands down, the single most influential trend in music education in the last 50 years. I love teaching in the Suzuki style, and my students get MUCH better results than with the old, traditional teaching I used to do. I have become a teacher trainer in order to “spread” this wonderful way of nurturing children, by teaching the Suzuki method to teachers.

The eight violin, and eight viola books are divided up into teaching units, usually consisting of one book per unit, but Book 1 is now one large unit, and has a pre-requisite: ECC (Every Child Can). The violin and viola books are practically identical for the first four units.

SAA (that’s Suzuki Association of the Americas) has a definite plan and regulations for taking teacher training. The Every Child Can course is six hours long. Book One is 28 hours class time with 15 hours of observation required. The other units (Books 2-on) require 15 hours class time each, taught over at least five days, plus at least 8 hours of observation. 100% attendance is required by SAA in order to “register” the training. Seek to comply with the 100% attendance requirement, since I must charge for make-up classes, a flat fee of \$50 per hour, and I have very little/no time to schedule make-ups.

Every Child Can	6 instructional hours
Book 1 (equivalent of 2 units)	28 instructional hours/15 observation hours
Book 2 (1 unit)	15 instructional hours/8 observation hours
Book 3 (1 unit)	15 instructional hours/8 observation hours

There are two ways to take the training: as a participant, or as an auditor. If you just want the training, and not go through the acceptance and registration process, you may take it as an “auditor.” The same amount of class time, observation, tuition, and class work is required.

If you want to be an official “participant” in the class, (which I highly recommend) you must learn two specific concerti movements from Book 4, (violin or viola is okay), or a concerto from book 7, 9, or 10, record yourself in front of a video camera, and send it along with a registration fee to SAA in Boulder, CO. (Please see SAA’s website for all details—<http://suzukiassociation.org/> When you are accepted and give me a copy of the permission letter, I can change your status from “auditor” to “participant” and you will be able to register

the class with SAA. As long as you are in my class or completing your observations, you may send in the video and upgrade your status, up to 8 weeks before the class ends. I urge you to start early, because they do take time at the office.

There is a stipulation that you have to be a high school graduate (or the equivalent) to register Suzuki, but I am willing to train you in the Suzuki method as an auditor, even if you are still in high school. They have you take the courses again when you get out of high school in order to register it. There is a stipulation that anyone taking Suzuki training from Book 1-on, needs to be a member of SAA. They also require you to register the first two books in order. When you join Suzuki Association of Utah, you are automatically in SAA. Plus you get on the teacher referral list and can get all the students you want very quickly.

For full-time students, the SAU fee is \$300/year. If you are under 18, it's called a sponsorship, with an advanced active teacher sponsor (me.) If you are over 18, it's called an apprenticeship. The SAU just started this apprenticeship status, and it is a fabulous opportunity to get students fast. I get calls EVERY week for Suzuki teachers; many parents want to find teachers with this training, so you can cultivate a healthy-sized studio rather quickly once you get on their "list." It's a wonderful and fulfilling part-time job, working as much or as little as you want, while in school working on a degree, or at home with your children, and you can still earn a very professional wage. My own children started teaching seriously a several years ago, and took training from me and at Institute, (through Bk 5 & 6,) and now they have full studios, all the students they can manage right now, and they get calls literally every month to be on their waiting list.

Teacher Training Offered this Year: Every Child Can and Books One through Three

Books 1 Composite (two units,) "Every Child Can" and the Twinkles AND Teaching Techniques for Book 1, plus Book 2 and Book 3, which will be taught every Saturday with a ½ hour lesson during the time to observe each week.

Almost all of the violin books will be taught at the Intermountain Suzuki Institute next June, Juan Diego High School in Draper. Cost is \$470 per unit and \$720 for Bk 1 which is considered a double unit, plus a \$50 - \$125 registration fee, depending on when you register. The Institute offers a variety of violin teacher training, 1-8, and an occasional viola book, albeit at a much higher cost than mine. You can take two units in the ten days from extremely reputable teachers from all over the world.

Tuition for my classes will vary:

A. If only one person signs up, private study, (or if you want to do make-ups), my hourly rate of \$50 will apply, plus the \$75 SAA fees for registration and Every Child Can.

B. If there are 2 or 3 in the class, the cost will be \$25 per hour each, plus SAA fees.

C. If at least 4-6 participants register and pay in advance, by the first day, and are committed to do all three books, 1, 2, & 3, the cost will be \$800, a magnificent deal of \$200 for each unit, plus \$30 for the Every Child Can, and a \$15/unit SAA registration fee. All four units cost just over a Book 1 course at Institute. This is the most economical training I've ever seen advertised. This can be worked out with payments, if you wish, thus: \$100 now to order the books and pay the SAA registration, \$400 by the first day of class, \$235 the first day of the next month, and \$120 by the first day of the 3rd month, which is where you get the discount. **There are no refunds for drop outs.** Talk to me about family discounts. Remember, 100% attendance is required by SAA.

My opinion is that observation of my teaching, for which there is no cost for teacher trainees, is more valuable than the classes themselves. Thirty-one hours are required, about eight per unit; this is a minimum. I will require you to watch at least 8-12 consecutive weeks of lessons given by me of one or two students, plus I will recommend other teachers in the Salt Lake area if you are from SLC, or you can do all of the observation w/ me. The teachers in Salt Lake are Jeanne Grove, a teacher trainer in Bountiful, or Deborah Moench 278

5749, 3723 Astro Way, in the Holladay area just east of Wasatch Blvd and 3800 South. Call and make arrangements with them individually. I hope you will take advantage of this MOST important part of learning to become a Suzuki teacher, by taking copious notes. I also require observation sheets to be turned in. I will give one or two little children lessons each Saturday, hopefully your own children, which you can observe. Watching a teacher trainer teach your own child, and practicing with him yourself, is by far, the BEST teacher training in the world. Email me if you want your own child (5-6 years old) to be THE observation lesson child. He/she will need to observe at least two months prior to lessons.

Some housekeeping items: My studio cannot accommodate infants and toddlers during teacher training. Please seek to find a sitter. The exception is the observation child. If yours is this child, it would be best if you could have someone drop off him/her at the correct time. E mail if you have questions. After the first four classes, please bring your instrument, music stand, the first Suzuki book, pen, notebook, and a highlighter marker to class. You will also need a loose leaf binder and several plastic sheet covers. I will have some copies for you of important material which you need to purchase for the cost of copying, approx. \$15. There are little teaching tools, magic wands, twinkle violins, etc., that are extremely handy to have, or you can make some of your own. You can decide how much you want to spend on these.

There are several must read books for this class, *two of which must be read for the first unit. I would REALLY like you to buy your own copies of these two. You can get these at Day Murray Music, 266 3537, toll-free is 1 (866)329 1946. If you've got a credit card, they will ship them to you the day you order; sometimes you can receive them the next day. Or they will ship them to the new store in Lehi, cost free, and you can pick them up there. Music mail order companies, Shar's, Young Musicians, Southwest Strings, etc, have them, also.

They are: *Suzuki, Shinichi: Suzuki Violin or Viola School, Book 1, 2, & 3, REVISED editions, plus CDs

*Suzuki, Shinichi: Nurtured by Love (READ by the 1st class, if possible.)

*Kreitman, Ed: Teaching from the Balance Point

Starr, Wm: To Learn With Love

Suzuki, Shinichi: Ability Development from Age Zero

Other suggested books for Suzuki readings:

Suzuki: Where Love is Deep

Sloane: They're Rarely Too Young and Never too Old to Twinkle

Ibuka: Kingergarten is Too Late

Starr: The Suzuki Violinist

Wilson/ Willey: I LOVE to Read Music! Easy Steps to Music Reading Handbook for Parents & Teachers

Mills/ Murphy: The Suzuki Concept

I own all of these which you are certainly welcome to borrow for a week to read, but please purchase the two starred texts, the music and CD. It would be in your best interest to purchase all nine books if you can. You are required to read two for each unit, a total of eight, plus give me a written book response to them, and how they affected your teaching/life. You must be familiar with the music of the entire Book 1 by the first class; just play it through and listen to it on the CD. Memorizing the books is required to complete the course. This will help you immensely, especially if you were not a "Suzuki kid." There will be small assignments each week which will NOT take a great amount of preparation, plus two/three short papers, one due near the end of each book. In addition, you must be able to play Book 1-3 from memory, and write the teaching points of each piece (open-book) for the written final exam. Many teachers have you play EVERY book from memory. This is EXTREMELY helpful for your teaching, but I know how busy all of you are. We'll work it out. At least get the CD and start listening. This will help you to learn it faster, anyway. For those of you who were Suzuki-trained, it will be a snap.

I'm so excited to be offering this invaluable training. I've been teaching Suzuki-style nearly thirty years now. I think it's the only way to go. I think you will find the Suzuki method fascinating, and worthy of your full attention, as well as wonderfully helpful in your own studio teaching, and in raising your family. In addition, you will be in great demand in the astronomically growing market of string teaching. Welcome to the wonderful world of Suzuki!

Most sincerely,

Denise Willey

P.S.

Two years ago, we did a wonderful experiment: Book 3 in five days, three hours each, during the Christmas holidays, Dec. 26 - 30. Someone brought dinner each night; we were able to discuss and ask questions during dinner, so we didn't even have to lose that time. It was WONDERFUL. The class members, in just a few days, completed Book 3. It was REALLY enjoyable training, much less stressful. If you want to consider this during April or May, please speak up. Bring your calendar/planner to the first class.