



Dr. Montessori + Dr. Suzuki = Free Violin Lessons for Lower Elementary Students

Montessori Academy is pleased to announce free Suzuki violin lessons for our 1st, 2nd and 3rd level students this fall. This class will be an elective. It is not required, but highly encouraged. With music education falling into despair in this country, it is more imperative than ever that we share a musical environment with our children. The Suzuki philosophy is an ideal counterpart to the Montessori philosophy. As respected colleagues and friends, both Dr. Montessori and Dr. Suzuki shared many of the same goals and philosophies.

From: “Montessori and Suzuki: A Comparison” by Wee Ling Sim

Montessori teachers are very careful in choosing the materials placed on the shelves because they know that children learn from their environment. Dr. Suzuki recognized that if children have a musical environment, music will be second nature to them. Many Montessori materials are self-correcting. Similarly, Suzuki students are encouraged to play by ear, figuring out the notes by trial and error. Teaching by demonstration and imitation, in small steps, movement in regards to cognition, and constant review are concepts shared by both approaches to learning. Individual and group classes, with different age ranges, are also shared by both.

From: The Suzuki Association of the Americas “Suzuki in the Schools”

Philosophy: Realize every child can learn
Create a positive, supportive learning environment
Encourage noble human values
Encourage positive personal, social and education values

The lower elementary Suzuki violin program will meet once per week, in a group setting of no more than 5-7 students, during the school day (exact schedule TBA). This class is taught by certified Suzuki instructor and Upper Elementary strings teacher, Cheri Drummond. Ms. Drummond has played with the Naples, Memphis and Nashville Symphonies. She has over 18 years of private, group (15 years as Suzuki violin instructor at Montessori Academy) and youth orchestra strings experience. Rental or purchase of an instrument is required (funding may be available if needed). Parents are educated about the philosophy and method. Purchase of the first method book and CD are required (approx. \$17). Practicing and listening at home is encouraged. Music reading is postponed until basic technique and intonation are developed.

The cost of music lessons is always increasing. Please consider this free program (valued at over \$125 per month) for your child. You may also wish to receive additional lessons (at a fee), so progress can be achieved even more quickly. For current Suzuki students, this class will be in addition to your current classes. If you have any questions or concerns, you may reach Cheri Drummond at cheridrummond@gmail.com.

“Where love is deep, much can be accomplished.”- Dr. Suzuki



Registration Form Lower Elementary Suzuki Violin

Child's Name: _____ Room #: _____

Parent Name(s): _____

Phone number(s): _____

Email(s): _____

I _____ agree to purchase/rent a violin for this class and pay for a book, CD and shoulder rest. A minimum of 10 minutes of practice for 3 days per week is required.

Parent Signature _____

Date: _____