

To Potential Suzuki Families:

Thank you for your interest in our Suzuki program. We are beginning the 30th year of Suzuki at Meredith and have worked hard to develop a quality program based upon the teaching philosophies of Shinichi Suzuki, who developed his method in post-war Japan. Using the violin as the tool for positive teaching and learning, the “mother tongue” experiment expanded worldwide and has touched millions of lives, filling string sections of the world’s top professional orchestras. Our basic goal is not, however, to start your child on the road to becoming a professional musician, but to build confidence, enhance academic learning and nurture a love of music. Following Suzuki’s example we want to help build beautiful human beings.

The Suzuki approach uses the Suzuki Triangle, which emphasizes the equal importance of student, parent, and teacher – all working together, and does require time and commitment from the Suzuki parent. We want you to be fully aware of that commitment and require that you come for four observations of private or group lessons prior to being put on a waiting list. When you have completed your observations, you may begin lessons as soon as we can fit you into a teacher’s schedule. To further educate yourself, go to the Web or the public library and find any and all information about the Suzuki Method. **Required reading is Suzuki’s *Nurtured by Love*.**

The most important part of your daily practice will be listening to the music you will be learning. Many Suzuki parents begin the listening before or at the time of their child’s birth. We encourage you to get the Vol. 1 tape or CD and begin your listening now in preparation for becoming a Suzuki family. In Raleigh these may be purchased at Montgomery Violin Shop, Burrage Music, Burt’s Music, and possibly other music stores, as well. (Call ahead to make certain they are in stock.) **Do not purchase a cello, guitar or violin until your teacher has instructed you to do so.**

Our semesters are 14 weeks long. You will have 14 private lessons, twice a month groups, once a month solo recitals, plus various group performances. When you are at the proper levels we offer fiddling for the violin students and chamber music. Remember, Suzuki lessons are a commitment, and if you become a part of our program, we expect you to fulfill your part of the commitment. We are not trying to discourage you -- we are trying to prepare you for the activities involved. Yes, it is a lot of hard work, but it also fun and rewarding!

Call the teachers on the back of this letter and get started now with your observations. Remember, you need to do at least four observations. Please prepare your child to observe *quietly*. Our students enjoy having an audience, but we do not want them to be distracted.

Sincerely,
Wilinda Atchley
Coordinator, Suzuki Program
760-8638 (atchleyw@meredith.edu)

SUZUKI OBSERVATION FORM

MEREDITH COLLEGE SUZUKI TALENT EDUCATION PROGRAM

Welcome to our studios! Your being here shows your commitment to quality education for your child. Suzuki lessons are built on the “Suzuki Triangle” (student, parent, teacher) and your attendance at each lesson is a requirement. With our help and guidance you will be your child’s “home teacher.”

Please start listening to the Suzuki Vol. recording NOW. Your child’s progress will depend upon many factors, one of the most important being daily exposure to the music to be learned.

When you have completed your four observations, please return this OBSERVATION FORM to Wilinda Atchley. We will get you into the program as soon as a space is available.

Student’s name: _____ Age: _____ Date of birth: _____

Parent(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ When are you available for lessons? _____

Do you have any special needs? _____

SUZUKI INSTRUCTORS

GUITAR: Judy Dunson, (760-2822 or 468-8817); P 18 Jones; *mowdave@aol.com*

VIOLIN: Wilinda Atchley, (760-8638); 207 Wainwright; *atchleyw@meredith.edu*

Margaret Garriss, (760-2871); 118 Jones; *meg333@earthlink.net*

Joey O’Donnell, (760-2845); 204 Wainwright; *erfael@nc.rr.com*

Georgia Schmidt, (760-2845); 204 Wainwright; *schmidtg@meredith.edu*

OBSERVATIONS

	Date	Time	Student	Teacher
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				

Please submit this completed form to Wilinda Atchley in Room 207, or put it in her mailbox across the hall from the Music Office.