

Boulder Suzuki Strings News

Volume 18, Issue 2

“Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time.”

~Thomas A. Edison

Dear Boulder Suzuki Strings Families,

As we approach the hustle and bustle of the holiday season, we start to think about family and friends, near and far. Sometimes we get caught up in the frenzy of shopping. Black Friday, Small Business Saturday, and Cyber Monday - it can get crazy.

We have opportunities in the upcoming weeks to relax and enjoy our students' music.

The holiday concerts are a time to bring joy and happiness to people in retirement homes as well as folks in Boulder and the surrounding communities. Please see page 2 for concert details and sign up information.

It's back! The potluck is back after a year off due to the flood in Barker Hall. This is a great way to visit with old and new friends before the 10th(!) annual ensemble concert on Friday, December 12th that highlights the fall semester of the students' work. Please plan to attend this special evening. See page 5 for details.

Congratulations to all the students and parents and faculty on a great weekend of solo recitals. I am always so inspired by these recitals, from the youngest beginners to our most advanced players. It is wonderful to see the progress and excitement these recitals bring.

See you at these upcoming events. All the best for a wonderful holiday season and a happy and healthy 2015.

Amy

The secret of getting ahead is getting started

-Mark Twain

BSS Remaining Dates

- Friday, December 5th – Group
- Friday, December 12th – Group/Dinner/Ensemble Concert
- Saturday, December 13th – Holiday Concerts
- Sunday, December 14th – Holiday Concert at Barnes and Noble, Book fair/fundraiser for BSS
- Friday, January 9th – Group
- Friday, January 23rd – Group, 2016 Tour Meeting immediately following group.
- Friday, February 6st – Group
- Friday, February 20th – Group
- Friday, March 6th – Group
- Friday, March 13st – Group
- Saturday, April 4th – Senior Solo Rehearsal at BVCC, time TBA
- Friday and Saturday, April 10th and 11th – Spring Workshop at BVCC
- Friday, May 1st – Solo Recital Run-throughs
- Friday and Saturday, May 8th and 9th – Solo Recitals

View these dates on our Google Calendar:

<https://www.google.com/calendar/embed?src=bouldersuzukistrings%40gmail.com&ctz=America/Denver>

Don't forget to sign up for Holiday Concerts*

Saturday, December 13th

- **11:30 a.m., Flatiron Crossing Mall Sounds of the Season Event.** Just inside the Nordstrom entrance, on the lower level, we will play for about an hour. All instruments and all levels. Remember your instrument, music and stand. Arrive by 11:15 a.m.
- **3 p. m., The Meridian**, 801 Gillaspie. This concert has limited space, so violinists and violists only please. No cellos or pre-twinklers. Arrive by 2:40 p. m.
- **4:00 p.m., Golden West Senior Residence**, 1055 Adams Circle (Main Dining Room) Pre-Twinklers and all violinists and cellists are welcome. Any level violinists as well. Arrive by 3:40 p.m.

Sunday, December 14th

- **2 p.m., Barnes and Noble**, 2999 Pearl. This concert has limited space, so sign up early. All instruments and all levels welcome. Arrive by 1:40 p. m.

*For more information and to sign up, please click on this link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1cqLofR_AxnrRHCFFycvaly1inrR4jE6KSgYDt7tS12U/viewform?c=0&w=1

2016 Tour Meeting

Friday, January 23rd, 2015 6:15 p. m. immediately following group. Find out exciting details about the upcoming tour! For parents and students in the 4:15 Starr group and 5:15 Starr/Amy Group who will be in 8th grade or higher in 2015-2016 school year – you are invited to attend. Cellists and violists in the advanced group are encouraged to attend too. Room TBA – look for signs on the door entrance.

Upcoming Community Concerts

- Greater Boulder Youth Orchestra Winter Concert, Sunday, February 8th, 2 p.m., Macky Auditorium featuring the music of Boulder High School student Leigha Amick and Symphony musician Brett Omara as well as music by Bizet, Tchaikovsky, Handel, Sibelius, and Wagner.



Looking for inspiration and guidance? Don't miss this unique learning opportunity! The Suzuki Association of the Americas presents the online series Parents as Partners. Beginning January 15th the SAA will air a total of 50 new videos available to view through June 30.

One of the videos is by our own BSS faculty, William Starr, Amy Gesmer-Packman, Heather Hadley and Florence Muller. Registration information coming soon!

BSS Silent Auction | Spring Workshop | April 10-11, 2015

By popular demand, the BSS silent auction is back! Boulder Suzuki Strings will once again hold its annual Spring Workshop and silent auction fundraiser this coming April 10th and 11th. This auction helps support the entire program, including the scholarship fund, guest faculty appearances, special events, faculty education, music purchases, and sundry performance expenses. Please look for more details and donation forms in January!

If you already know of a business that may be interested in participating or if you would like to be on the auction committee – please contact Michelle Segal or Ophelia Livingstone for more information.

Michelle Segal |
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Ophelia Livingstone |
opie1canopie@gmail.com

Spring Workshop and Final Celebration Preview:

Spring Workshop and Final Celebration Concerts will be held at Boulder Valley Christian Church, 7100 South Boulder Road, on Friday, April 10th and Saturday, April 11th. We will have classes with guest teachers on Friday afternoon and all day Saturday. Guest faculty includes:

- William Starr
- Everett Goodwin
- Christie Felsing
- Jeremy Dittus

The two-day workshop will culminate in final concerts.

On Friday evening April 10th, we will feature our graduating seniors and other group performances to be announced. Please stay for a reception honoring graduating seniors immediately following the concert.

The Saturday afternoon concert will feature all groups and instruments.

We are happy to announce that Robertson and Sons Violins from Albuquerque, New Mexico will again be joining us for all of your instrument needs.

Highlights of Fall 2014:

What a treat for the students and parents of Boulder Suzuki Strings when the Cavani Quartet from Cleveland, Ohio, visited us in October. We all remember Goldilocks and how she found the instrument that fit her just right! The students were mesmerized by the Cavani Quartet's performances of movements of Mozart and Mendelssohn quartets. The BSS chamber groups learned from master class coachings with members of the quartet. We were all brought to smiles and laughter by their antics and jokes ending in a mass play-in led by the Cavani. Certainly an afternoon to remember!

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BSS Billing:

Dear Families, Final fall payments were due on December 1st. If you still have a balance due, please get that payment in asap. Spring statements will be mailed by the beginning of January. If you ever have questions and/or concerns, please feel free to contact Stacey at alpbrady@yahoo.com.

December 12th Group Schedule Changes and Concert:

Group on December 12th will have a modified schedule in order to accommodate our annual ensemble concert.

Regular group classes will run from 4:15 - 5:00 p.m., and from 5 - 5:45 p.m. The Pre-Twinkle class will meet at its usual time of 3:45 p.m.

Stacey and Flori's 5:15 groups will meet in the View Room. Anna's 5:15 group will meet in Room 109.

The Potluck will start in Barker Hall at 5:30 p.m. The concert will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. See page 5 for more details. Invite friends and family to hear these amazing groups.

Friday, December 12th, 2014 Potluck and Group Concert

Everyone is invited to a fun-filled highlight of the Fall semester. We hope you will be able to join us after group for a potluck dinner and this special concert. These students have been working since September to perfect their musicality in orchestra, fiddle and supplemental music. Please stay to support them and hear great music. All group classes will meet as usual. There are slight changes: **Classes will be 45 minutes instead of an hour** so we can start the concert at 6:30. Class times are 4:15 to 5:00 and 5:00 to 5:45. Pre-Twinkle class will still meet at 3:45. If you only have a 5:15 class, that class on the 12th will begin at 5:00pm.

5:30pm – The Potluck in Barker Hall – This is where we need your help. Please read carefully to know what to bring to share. We are feeding many hungry students and families – **Please, each family bring a main dish to feed a family of 6 and a side dish or dessert to feed 8 to 10 people.** The program will provide plates, napkins, utensils and drinks.

6:15 Clean up and Concert at 6:30 – The most important part, of course, is the socializing and then enjoying our students' performances. Since the timing of dinner and the concert is so tight, we will need the cooperation of all families, parents, students and siblings. We want to make sure all the student performers get fed. They will be first in line – then everyone else. At 6:15 the performers will leave to change, tune and get ready to play. We are requesting that ALL the parents remain in Barker Hall at this time to help with clean up, as this must be done quickly and efficiently. The concert will begin as soon as Barker Hall is clean! **Please label your bowls, plates, utensils, etc. and remember to collect them before the concert begins.**

Clean up requests:

Mr. Starr's 4:15pm Group and Emily's Fiddle: Wipe down tables.

Mr. Starr's/Amy's 5:15pm Group, Anna's Chamber Group & Veronica's Orchestra: Put tables and chairs away.

Carla's Chamber Group and Carla's Fiddle: Sweep floors.

Chloe's Chamber Group & Kathleen's Chamber Group: Collect garbage.

Advanced 5:15 Cello Group & Veronica's Chamber Group: Take garbage outside to dumpster near playground.

All other families: Please pitch in and help wherever needed — wipe down tables, sweep floors, put away tables and chairs, collect garbage, take garbage outside to the dumpster.

BSS World Peace Fiddlers support volunteer firefighters

The BSS World Peace Fiddlers performed for the Boulder Handmade on November 8th to support the volunteer Boulder Mountain Fire Protection District. Emily Bowman led twelve fiddlers in a performance of tunes from around the world while parading through the aisles of the art displays and on stage at the Watershed School in Boulder. The BSS fiddlers were the first of many performing groups at this event, including McTaggart Irish Dancers, Boulder's Broadway Boomers, singer songwriter Sandra MacDougall and vocal group 3 Story Limit. The fundraiser is a 40 year tradition supporting the firefighters. The event presents work by nearly three dozen artisans from Boulder. Proceeds from the event benefit the Boulder Mountain Fire Protection District which is the volunteer fire department serving West Linden to Lee Hill, North Boulder's line of defense against wildfires. This was Boulder Suzuki Strings first performance at the event. The performance was received enthusiastically by volunteers, artists, shoppers and BSS parents!



Photos by Michael Kazanjian

Highlights of Fall 2014

(Continued from p. 4)

This past October, 7 of the BSS Faculty took a week long, intensive course on Suzuki Early Childhood Education. Master teachers from Canada were brought to Boulder to teach this successful course for our faculty and for many teachers from around the United States. If you know parents interested in a Suzuki education for their kids, please share with them that we do offer classes from birth through age 4! The link to Prelude Music, LLC can be found at the BSS website.