

# Boulder Suzuki Strings News

Volume 18, Issue 4

“For after all, the best thing one can do when it is raining is let it rain.”

-Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

## Dear Boulder Suzuki Strings Families,

Congratulations to our seniors and their families on their recent high school graduations. We wish you luck in the adventures that await you. Come back and visit!

Heather, Christie and I just returned from the Suzuki Association of the Americas leadership retreat held outside of Columbus, Ohio. It was a fantastic opportunity to reconnect with colleagues from all over the country and Canada. We shared ideas and attended sessions on various topics. We came back motivated and ready to share what we learned. We are looking forward to the Suzuki Association of the Americas biennial conference to be held over memorial day weekend in 2016.

Thank you all for a fabulous weekend workshop in April and solo recital weekend in May. I am always so impressed with the level of playing displayed by our BSS students. I especially love the sense of community at these events. We are all working together to make these events happen. I want to thank the silent auction committee who works so tirelessly behind the scenes to raise money for BSS. I also want to thank the many parents who volunteer to cook the delicious lunch that the faculty and guest teachers enjoy. Many thanks to the parents who help with set up before and clean up after the workshop. We cannot hold these events without you!

The faculty is busy planning a great 2015-2016 for you. The dates for many of these events (including group, recitals and spring workshop) are in this newsletter. Get them on your calendar now!

Be sure to sign up for summer lessons. Plan a daily practice routine, which is much easier to schedule in the summer months. Attend an institute. Go to concerts! There are so many opportunities to hear live music in the Denver/Boulder area. Go! There is nothing like an amazing concert to motivate and inspire.

Have a safe and relaxing summer.

See you all soon.

Sincerely,  
Amy Gesmer-Packman  
Director, Boulder Suzuki Strings

## Colorado Music Festival's Young People's Concert

This concert is a fabulous opportunity to perform on the lawn outside of Chautauqua's auditorium as a pre-show to the professional presentation of a kid-friendly work that the entire family can enjoy by the CMF Orchestra! We would love to have a great showing of our talented musicians to get the crowd excited about music making! Afterwards, the students can join the Music Fair where there will be face painting, balloon tying, snacks and more.

There are 2 concert opportunities open for BSS participation- details below. Sign-up with the link below. Please fill out one form for each student.

Date: Friday, June 26

Date: Saturday, June 27

Time to arrive: 8:45 a.m.

Location: Chautauqua Park Lawn, 900 Baseline Road in Boulder. Meet near the drinking fountain outside of the Dining Hall. Please allow plenty of time to park!

Dress: BSS T-shirts

For : All BSS Students: Violins - Pre-Twinkles through advanced. Cellists and Violists too :) Harmony welcome!

To purchase tickets for the performance by the Colorado Music Festival (immediately following our outdoor performance) please call 303 440-7666 or order online at [www.COMusic.org](http://www.COMusic.org)

Tickets are \$8.00

<http://goo.gl/forms/Ydqii6g5jm>

## Scholarships

Reminder: all forms (directory, release and deposit form) + \$50 deposit are due Friday, June 1<sup>st</sup>.

Forms are available on our website:  
[www.bouldersuzukistrings.org](http://www.bouldersuzukistrings.org)

Scholarship applications are available for the 2015/2016 school year. Completed applications are due no later than June 30<sup>th</sup>. Incomplete applications will not be eligible for scholarship money. Please apply today. Forms are available from your teacher or online at [bouldersuzukistrings.org/current-students](http://bouldersuzukistrings.org/current-students). Click the "For Students" link at the top of the page.

## 2015/2016 Important Dates

Please add the following dates to your calendars for the 2015/2016 school year. Times for group classes are 4:15 pm – 6:15 pm. Group classes are held at Mountain View United Methodist Church – 355 Ponca Place, Boulder, CO 80303

### Fall Semester 2015

- Friday, September 11<sup>th</sup> – Group
- Friday, September 25<sup>th</sup> – Group
- Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> - Group
- Friday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> - Group
- Saturday, October 31<sup>st</sup> – Halloween Concerts – Location and time TBA
- Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup> – Solo Recital Run-throughs
- Friday and Saturday, November 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> – Solo Recitals
- Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup> – Group
- Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup> – Holiday Concerts – Location and time TBA
- Friday, December 11<sup>th</sup> – Group/Dinner/Ensemble Concert
- Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup> – Holiday Concerts – Location and time TBA
- Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup> – Holiday Concerts – Location and time TBA

### Spring Semester 2016

- Friday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> – Group
- Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup> – Group
- Friday, February 19<sup>th</sup> – Group
- Friday, March 4<sup>th</sup> – Group
- Friday, March 11<sup>th</sup> – Group + Costa Rica Tour Group concert immediately following group
- Friday, April 1<sup>st</sup> – Group
- Saturday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> – Senior Solo Rehearsal at Boulder Valley Christian Church – for seniors and students in their orchestras - TBD
- Friday and Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> – Spring Workshop at Boulder Valley Christian Church – 7100 South Boulder Road, Boulder, CO 80303
- Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup> – Solo Recital Run-throughs
- Friday and Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> – Solo Recitals

**[View these dates on our Google Calendar:](#)**  
**[BSS Calendar](#)**

## Tour Group 2016

Our 4th semi-annual musical-eco-tour to Costa Rica is set for March 19 to 28, 2016. Our trip will include a water preserve, a coffee plantation, volcanoes, beaches, rain forests and more than a half dozen concerts. For the first time on this tour we will explore some of the Caribbean side of the country in Tortuguero national park. In past tours we have seen turtles, sloths, howler monkeys, crocodiles, parrots and the resplendent Quetzal. It is fitting that Costa Rica's national bird is the somewhat plainer looking clay-colored thrush (**yigüirro**) which is prized for its song as it welcomes the coming rains. We look forward to sharing our songs and welcoming the new season with our friends in Costa Rica.

## Boulder Suzuki Strings Billing

Dear families,

Please consider signing up for automated withdrawal payments for next year to make your to-do list a bit shorter! Just talk to your private teacher if you have not already signed the form to make this happen. Also, please remember that summer payments go directly to your teacher and not through BSS. Lastly, our hourly rates are going up by \$1 starting at the end of August. For most of you this will mean a \$8-16 increase in your semester bill. Thank you for being a part of our BSS community!

Sincerely,  
BSS Faculty

## Boulder Suzuki Strings World Peace Fiddlers performance 7/26/15 at the Colorado Shakespeare Festival GREENSHOW

The BSS World Peace Fiddlers performing for the Colorado Shakespeare Festival's GREENSHOW Sunday, July 26th at 5:30 pm in the Shakespeare Garden near the Mary Rippon Outdoor Theater on the University of Colorado campus. Check-in and fiddle jam at 4:15. Weather permitting! A limited number of comp tickets are available for the evening's 6:30 production of Much Ado About Nothing. All fiddlers who have played in Emily's fiddle group over the years are welcome to join. The performance set list will be compiled from fiddler requests. Bring a picnic! Please sign up by July 10<sup>th</sup>  
<http://goo.gl/forms/9nHrXD9eLQ>

## Peaks to Plains Suzuki Institute and Advanced String Camp

A summer institute is a wonderful way to enhance your child's musical skills in a fun and nurturing environment. We are fortunate to have Peaks to Plains Suzuki Institute so close to us! We bring well-respected Suzuki teachers from different parts of the country to work with students and parents for an amazing week of music. We also offer an Advanced Chamber Music program for advanced musicians interested in chamber music. Sign up now! Registration has been extended to Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup>. For more information and to register, log onto our website: [www.ppsicolorado.com](http://www.ppsicolorado.com)

## Boulder Suzuki Strings Concert Attire Clothing Swap

**What:** Swap/Exchange BSS concert attire and t-shirts

**When:** Look for this in early March, 2016

**Where:** The drop off and swap will take place just outside the front doors of Mountain View United Methodist Church, weather permitting, or it will be held inside the front foyer entrance.

Start collecting your outgrown performance clothes and plan to participate next spring! Event has been moved to March 4<sup>th</sup> by popular request as this is closer to the time of year when all students look in their closets to see if their black and white clothes still fit.

## BSS Ballpark Players

BSS Ballpark players will be performing the National Anthem at the Rockies Game on Wednesday, June 24<sup>th</sup>! The players auditioned for this event and are excited to share this with all of the people at the game!

If you are unable to join us in person, please take note:

The performance will be uploaded to [www.Rockies.com/rockievision](http://www.Rockies.com/rockievision) during the game. This link can be shared with friends and family. This is also the location of the order form to purchase a DVD copy of the performance.

Please log on to share your support of this fun event!

The game will begin at 6:40 pm, so the performance will be around 6:35 pm. Please log on before 6:30 pm to catch the action.

## Writers Wanted!

We have had requests to have articles in our BSS newsletters written by parents and students. If you love to write and have something important to say, please volunteer to write a column for the newsletter! Contact Amy at [amyges@bouldersuzukistrings.org](mailto:amyges@bouldersuzukistrings.org) if you are interested.