

Spring '17 Newsletter

West County Strings

Hello, everyone and welcome to the second half of the Spring '17 Semester! We hope that you enjoyed a restful and relaxing Spring Break, and we're looking forward to diving back into working together. As we head into the second half of the semester, here are some things to keep in mind:

Student Highlights

Congratulations to all of our **top practicers**: Tricia Carey, Andrew Kang, Irene Ko, Steven Yang, Eric Zhang, and Nathan Zhou have all averaged 6-7 days of practice/week throughout the school year thus far!

And congratulations to all of our students who participated and earned high scores at this year's **Solo & Ensemble Festival**! Your preparation and performance are commendable!

Spring Festival & Solo Recitals

Every school year, we look forward to our group concert—the **Spring Festival**. This year's Festival will be held on **April 23**. We have been preparing for this event in group classes since last fall, and it promises to be a wonderful performance. Please invite your friends and family! Here is the schedule for the day's events:

2:00-3:30pm - MANDATORY Dress Rehearsal
4:00pm - Concert
5:30pm - Pizza Party!* **

*Please bring \$5/person for food & drinks.

**Please email if you're available to volunteer!

In order to allow for a little more time to prepare, we have rescheduled our **Spring Solo Recitals** from April 9 to **May 7**. Please mark your calendars! More information regarding time and location will be forthcoming.

Summer Registration Opens Soon!

When the school year ends, our **Summer Semester** begins! (**May 29**)! Summer is a great time for students to take lessons, as there is often more free time and less stress from school and other commitments, which can lead to really significant progress!

One other great thing about the summer is that it's flexible—you can sign up for as many or as few weeks as you would like, as we know that families are often in and out of town. Registration will be made available April 10 and due no later than May 13.

Here are the weeks summer lessons will be available:

May 29 - June 2

June 5-9

June 12-16 (*all lessons w/ Brad*)

June 19-23 (*all lessons w/ Brad*)

June 26-30

July 3-7 (n/a)

July 10-14 (*all lessons w/ Brad*)

July 17-21

July 24-28

July 31 - August 4

July 7-11

Summer Enrichment Opportunities

Springer Violin Camp (June 5-9): Held at Kirkwood United Methodist Church, SVC offers students a fun, friendly, fantastic intensive learning experience. Sharpen your individual, ensemble, and music theory skills with some of St. Louis' most excellent Suzuki teachers. For more information or to register, contact Elizabeth Welsh at ewelsh388@gmail.com.

Colorado Suzuki Institute (June 12-17, 19-24): Set in beautiful Beaver Creek, CO, CSI offers two one-week sessions of group technique, group repertoire, private lessons, chamber music, and orchestra based on students' level. If you're looking for a fun family getaway, come join us in Colorado this summer! For more information, visit <https://www.coloradosuzuki.org>.

Chicago Suzuki Institute (July 2-7): Held at Trinity International University on Chicago's North Shore, CSI is a world-class Suzuki experience just a few hours away. Join us for new perspectives, new challenges, and a lifetime of memories. To register, visit <https://www.musicinst.org/csi>.

SCCYO Summer Music Workshop (July 11-14): An outreach of the St. Charles County Youth Orchestra, the SCCYO Workshop gives advanced students an opportunity to focus on developing their individual and orchestral abilities through private lessons, technique classes, and orchestra sectionals and large group rehearsals. For more contact Khrystyne Bunselmeyer at khrystynes5@gmail.com.

SIUE Suzuki String Camp (July 18-21): Just a hop, skip, and a jump over the Mississippi River, the SIUE Strings Camp offers a week of Suzuki fun and learning. For more information or to register for this excellent opportunity right here in our own backyard, visit <https://www.siu.edu/artsandsciences/music/community/suzuki-string-camp.shtml>

American Suzuki Institute (July 16-22, 23-29): The first and oldest Suzuki Institute, the American Suzuki Institute is held on the campus of the University of Wisconsin—Stevens Point. If you're looking to really get away from it all and enjoy a week or two of focus on music and family, the American Suzuki Institute may be just right for you. For more information or to register, visit <https://www.uwsp.edu/suzuki/Pages/asi/default.aspx>.

Thank you, and we look forward to seeing you all again this week! - Brad & Kirby