

# Suzuki Music Association of Indonesia



A Quarterly Newsletter

Issue No. 1 Fourth Quarter 2009

## Strings Camp 2009

This annual camp for young string students was held in July at the Sekolah Pelita Harapan Lippo Village campus. Over 40 students, 10 guest teachers and 17 teacher trainees enjoyed a week of learning and fun.  
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## Feature Family

SMAI Vice Chairman Mrs. Fara Djohan



describes her life as a mother of three Suzuki kids.  
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## Upcoming Piano Teacher Training

We are excited to launch the first training for Piano Teachers from Nov. 30-Dec. 4 at the Suzuki Music Center in Kemang. Another round of violin teacher training is also anticipated in January.  
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## Membership Drive



We hope to increase our members before the close of 2009. Every new member is important!  
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## Upcoming Events

As internet access becomes more and more available in Indonesia, we will depend on our new website as a source of information, inspiration and as a forum of communication among our members.  
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## A Word from the Chair

Teamwork is what makes the Suzuki Parent Teacher and Student Triangle work. 'TEAMWORK BEGINS WITH ME!'

## Important Info

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# The Suzuki Method

by Michelle Siswanto

Over 50 years ago, Shinichi Suzuki (1898-1998) realized that children all over the world learn to speak their native language with ease and no child fails to speak its mother tongue. This thought follows on to the foundation of the Suzuki method: the way in which children learn to speak their native language is a perfect method. No one fails. Every child learns to speak his own language.

Music, like speaking, is a skill using the muscles of the body in order to produce ordered, complicated sounds. Both activities are difficult – both take years to learn.

The mother-tongue method, officially called "Talent Education", and popularly known as the Suzuki method, has many advantages over the traditional method. This statement doesn't suggest that the so-called traditional method is a failure. On the contrary, it is very successful. It aims to produce as many professional musicians as possible, and in that it succeeds.

The Suzuki method differs from the traditional method of teaching instrumental music because it involves the student at a very early age. This requires the participation of a parent in the role of a home teacher. The ideas of parent responsibility, loving encouragement, constant repetition, etc., are some of the special features of the Suzuki method.

The aims of Suzuki are to produce a child who loves and appreciates good music through the highly skilled mastery of an instrument; to ennoble children's souls through the appreciation of beauty; to help parents and children to love and respect each other; to develop the character of the child; to unite the world through the love of music; and occasionally to produce professional musicians.

The Suzuki Mother Tongue Method comprises the following:

**Constant Repetition** Suzuki chose a familiar piece that everyone knew. Like the word 'Mama', 'Twinkle Twinkle Little Star' is a familiar melody, it is easy to sing and easy to play.

**Recordings** No child is too young to listen to good music (Example: Bach, Mozart). The memory is developed with this early listening. If a baby listens enough he can identify tunes at 6 months of age. By listening a child grows up with correct pitch and tone quality. Children recognize the same repertoire played daily and make it a part of themselves.

**Praise the child constantly** As with language, a child's effort to learn an instrument should be met with sincere praise and encouragement. Each child learns at his/her own rate, building on small steps so that each one can be mastered. Always look for something good and positive. (Mothers who have tried to play the violin will better understand the child's problem).

**Learning with Other Children** Provide opportunities for a child to perform. Performing builds confidence. In addition to private lessons, children participate in regular group lessons and performance at which they learn from and are motivated by each other.

**Review** After a child has learned a piece, do not discard it. Make it part of the repertoire. This continues to improve techniques. Pieces in the Suzuki repertoire are designed to present technical problems to be learned in the context of the music rather than through dry technical exercises.

**Memorize** It has always been a custom for Suzuki students to give the music books to the teacher before playing. The Suzuki Method puts great emphasis on memory training. Suzuki students must know the music by heart and not refer to written notes. The ability to memorize is one of the most vital skills and must be deeply inculcated.

**Delayed Reading** Children learn to read after their ability to talk has been well established. In the same way, children should develop basic technical competence on their instruments before being taught to read music.

**Michelle Siswanto is a graduate of the University of Pelita Harapan in Violin Performance. She performs and teaches in the Jakarta area and is acting secretary for SMAI.**





## Strings Camp 2009

*Strings Camp 2009 was held July 15-19, 2009 on the Sekolah Pelita Harapan Lippo Village campus in Tangerang outside Jakarta. Over 40 violin students with their parents enjoyed the day camp program of violin lessons, group activities, performances, music lessons and games.*

An important part of the camp was the five-day Suzuki intensive teacher-training program for violin teachers with guest trainers from New Zealand and Korea. Teachers from all over Indonesia and from Singapore participated in 15 hours of lectures and discussion and at least 8 hours of observation over the course of the week. The goal of the training was to learn the teaching points of the Suzuki repertoire and improve teacher understanding of the Suzuki philosophy through demonstration, observation and discussion.

The President of the Asian Suzuki Association (ASA) and Mr. Hwang Kyung Ik and his assistant Mr. Jeong Cheol Woong publicly announced the appointment of the Suzuki Music Association of Indonesia (SMAI) to oversee the growth and development of the Suzuki Method in Indonesia. SMAI hopes to double its membership within the next year and raise funds to be able to reach more



teachers and students throughout the archipelago. We look forward to more 'Twinkles' and the positive change that starts in families when teachers, parents and students work together in a loving supportive environment.



## Feature Family

*Mrs. Fara Djohan describes her journey raising her children the Suzuki way.*

My introduction to the Suzuki method was back in 2003, when my husband, our three beautiful children and I moved to Perth, Australia. Knowing the advantages of learning music, I was determined to find a good music teacher for my children. I met this nice lady, telling me a lot about learning musical instrument with different approach compared to the times we learnt music in the past. She explained about parent involvement, nurturing, daily practice, lots of listening, weekly repertoire, numerous different concerts, workshops, etc. To me this sounded like a ton of work for both the child and the parent. However, when I looked at this beautiful Christmas Concert on one Saturday at the end of 2003, presented by the Suzuki Talent Education of Western Australia, I'd made up my mind that I should give it a go.

My days as a Suzuki parent of three children, 7, 5 and 3 years old; two boys learning the piano and my girl was learning the violin; were not easy. I realized that on a bad-practice-day, no matter how hard we tried to review pieces, we were not going anywhere. On the other hand, at times when my children and I were having a good day, learning new skills were just too easy. It was so obvious that bringing a piece into perfection or mastering new skills would only succeed if it comes from the child him/herself. As a parent, all we can do was giving them encouragement, trust and most importantly 'love', if possible try to create 'a good day' everyday. It was not an easy task, but every time we jumped off a hurdle, the excitement does not only belong to you, it is the child that experienced the most satisfaction. However, I should let you know of the dilemma of having your child learn a musical instrument with the Suzuki method: you can't get rid of the tune of the Twinkle from your head; be ready to hear it under the shower, while having your meal, preparing your financial report, during a board meeting, when you are driving, even in your deep sleep; you'll sing the melody.



## Suzuki Piano Training

*The First Piano Teacher Training Course will be offered this Nov. 30-Dec. 4.*

The Trainer from the Asian Suzuki Association is **Prof. Carmencita G. Arambulo** a leading musician and pedagogue in the Philippines.

She has a Masters degree in piano and theory from the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston, Massachusetts, USA and degrees in Early Childhood Education. She is active as the founder and President of the Philippine Suzuki Association.

She is the chief Suzuki piano teacher trainer of the Asian Suzuki Association and has been a guest faculty member in Suzuki conferences around the world. Prof. Arambulo is a member of the Suzuki International Piano Committee which has produced the new revised international editions of the Suzuki piano School Books.

How to enroll in the Suzuki Piano Teacher Training Course:

1. Complete the Application Form which can be downloaded from the website at:
2. Make an Audition CD of the 1st Movement of Mozart's Sonata in A Major, K. 331.
3. Transfer Rp. 250,000 registration fee
4. Submit all three items to SMAI at Jl. Kemang Raya 18C Jakarta 17230 before **November 4**.
5. **Active participants will be notified by November 11.**
6. This course will require teachers to have their own copies of the new international revised edition of the Suzuki Piano books 1,2,3 as a well as the CD recording. These items can be purchased at the Suzuki Music Center in Kemang.
7. For more information please contact Henny Waldemar and Stephen Cahyadi, Piano Training Program Coordinator at telephone number **0816 982 921 and 0818 895 552**.



# Become a happy member of the Suzuki family today!

*Discover the joy of teaching and learning with love!*

## Membership

The SMAI provides programs and benefits to members throughout Indonesia. With the International Suzuki Association (ISA) Asian Suzuki Association (ASA), the SMAI promotes and supports the spread of Dr. Suzuki's teachings and philosophy.

## Membership Levels

### ACTIVE MEMBERS:

#### Individual Rp. 350,000/ year

Any student/ individual is eligible for Individual membership if enrolled for tuition with a teacher member or shows interest in furthering the purposes and objectives of SMAI.

### ACTIVE MEMBERS:

#### Family Rp. 500,000/ year

A family is eligible for Family Membership when at least one child is enrolled for tuition with a teacher member.

### ACTIVE MEMBERS:

#### Teachers Rp. 350,000/ year

SMAI Teacher members are those who are pursuing to be accredited as a Suzuki Teacher and have the appropriate qualifications and background.

## PATRON MEMBERSHIP:

Patrons are supporters of SMAI and are entitled to all the privileges of membership in SMAI, and shall not be required to pay the annual membership fee. Patron status is determined at the Annual General Meeting.

## Benefits

### TEACHER DEVELOPMENT:

Short Courses, Workshops, Guest Teachers, Mentoring and Support for Teachers

### REGISTRY PROGRAM:

Register of Teachers and Members that allows for Suzuki Association members to network anywhere in Indonesia

### WORKSHOPS CONFERENCES AND GATHERINGS:

Members only program of events

### SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Subsidies for teacher training and students based on need and merit

### ORGANIZATIONAL SUPPORT

Support for teacher training and advice for developing Suzuki programs in schools and studios

## SMAI QUARTERLY JOURNAL

Email updates of events, opportunities and articles on parent education.

## Join or Renew

To join the SMAI or to renew your membership download the SMAI Membership Form to mail or fax or scan/ email in with a copy of the bank transfer slip. (Membership is not considered complete until a copy of the bank transfer slip is received.)

**A PDF file of Membership Application can be found on the website at: [suzuki-indonesia.org](http://suzuki-indonesia.org)**



# Upcoming Events

*Members!! Place these events on your calendar today!*

## October

Launch of the **SMAI website** and 1st Quarterly Newsletter. Take a look at:

**October 31 Violin Play In SMC- Kemang**  
12:00 Pre Twinkles & 1A  
12:30 Book 1B  
1:00 Book 2 and Up

This gathering will have a group performance and games using the Suzuki violin repertoire.

## November 14 SEMINAR DAY

12:00 Parent Seminar:  
**Tips on Suzuki Parenting from a Class Teacher.**  
Presenter: **Judy Williams.**

**2:00 Teacher Seminar: Teaching the Suzuki Student toward Music Literacy. A look at the Kodaly-Suzuki Connection.**  
Presenter: **Elaine Ding**

**November 20 Violin Play In SPH- Lippo Village**  
**Violin Play In**  
12:00 Pre Twinkles & 1A  
12:30 Book 1B  
1:00 Book 2 and Up

**Nov. 30- Dec. 4 9:00- 4:00 DAILY Piano Teacher Training Course** at the **Suzuki Music Center-Kemang.** Please see page 2 of the newsletter for more information.

## December 5

**Christmas Performance; SMAI Suzuki Violin Group.**  
Location: Plaza Indonesia  
Members need to attend the October and November Play Ins to join.

## January

**2nd Session of Violin Teacher Training with trainers from ASA. Violin Teacher members will be informed as soon as the dates are confirmed.**

## January

**Fund Raising Recital.**  
This event will be an evening of beautiful classical music donated by prominent Indonesian musicians in an effort to raise funds for the Association. All proceeds will go toward our Teacher Training

Fund.

## Donations

Our organization depends on membership fees, donations and volunteer support. Should you wish to make a financial contribution you may do so to:

**Suzuki Music Association of Indonesia (SMAI) at BCA Account Kemang I**  
286- 3017564  
**CIMB Niaga Account:**  
363-01-000-37002

## Volunteer Support Help!

We need help with the following:

1. Newsletter Committee
2. January Fundraiser Recital Committee Members
3. Distribution of Materials

and Networking for our Membership Drive  
4. Positive promotion of the Suzuki Method to increase awareness

## A Word from the Chairman



An important part of the Suzuki philosophy is the idea that no person is alone. The student does not learn in a vacuum, the teacher does not teach without support and certainly the parents are part of a broad community of learners and are acknowledged as an integral part of the method. In the Suzuki Association of Americas this year the theme is **teamwork**. How appropriate for our newly formed Association! Here are some of my thoughts on teamwork.

Teamwork begins with me. It is recognizing that as an individual I need other people and that I cannot do it alone. With a humble and open mind I listen to parents and students and teachers ideas and opinions and willingly let go of my own preconceived notions that might distract from the good of the whole. As a busy violin teacher and leader in our country association it means releasing parts of my work to those who have more time or better skills and abilities than I. It is also taking full responsibility for the work assigned to me toward a shared goal. It is a mutual respect for the unique talents and abilities of every person in the organization and a healthy dose of forgiveness and acceptance for the times when a person may not be able to contribute optimally. Teamwork means understanding that no single person has a 'better' position on the team than another or that one person might 'win' a decision or position because that means someone has to lose which in turn damages the team.

If each person in our community views him/herself as a team member, looks inwardly first and reflects on their own capacity to contribute and then takes the initiative to use their gifts then we can surely make a difference! I am so grateful for the tremendous support of others, through the Teamwork found in our Indonesian Suzuki Association. It is what provides the sustenance, the ability to go on toward our very worthy and noble goals. We are looking forward to more members joining our team this year!

## Management Board

**Therese Wirakesuma — Chairman**  
**Fara Djohan — Vice Chairman**  
**Lely Kurniawan — Treasurer**  
**Michelle Siswanto — Secretary**

## Members at Large:

Henny Waldemar, Steven Cahaydi, Lilis Djingga, Sandra Khouw, Kim Anton, Ninik K. Tjahjono, Frida Efrien, Maria Imanda

## Patrons:

To be announced in 1st Quarterly Newsletter 2010

## Contact Us:

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**Head Office at Suzuki Music Center- Kemang**  
**Moms and I**  
**Kemang Raya 18C**  
**Jakarta Selatan 12730**

**INDONESIA**