

The Suzuki Piano Studio of Nena LaMarre

“Every child grows; everything depends on the teacher.” ~ S. Suzuki

Blue Jean Jamboree

Congratulations to everyone who participated in the Blue Jean Jamboree. It was a great concert, and such a treat to perform on the beautiful Yamaha grand piano donated by the Barrie Jazz Festival. My sincere thanks to the sneaky people who managed to surprise me with the beautiful flowers and great shirt. You know who you are! I will always remember your kindness and the wonderful surprise you put together. I would also like to thank Shamus for the photos below and many more that he shared with us.



Thanks to everyone who helped contribute to the potluck picnic, always a highlight of this event. The birthday cakes by Maria and Sarah were much appreciated. David did a great job presenting Gran with her bouquet.



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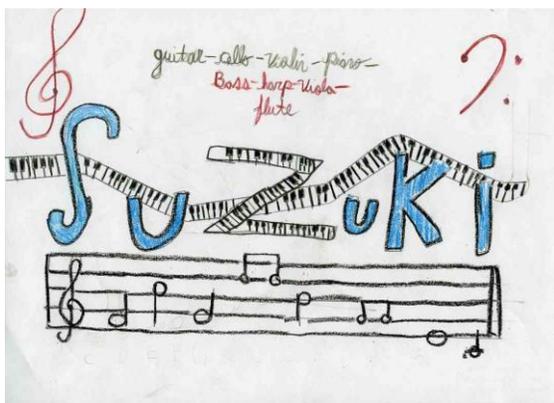
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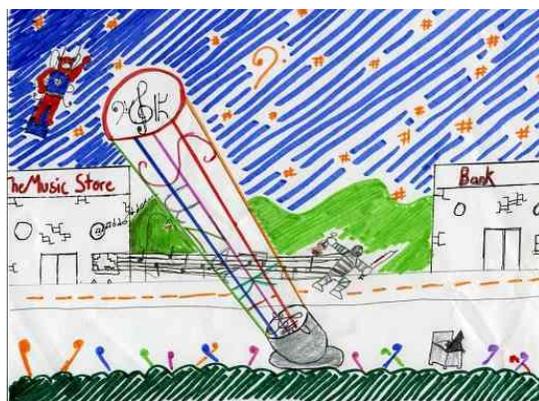
Cover Contest Congrats!

Four students who participated in the 2016 Minijournal Cover Design Contest had art that was chosen as the best in a particular category. Here is their work for you to enjoy. For more beautiful art, go to: <https://suzukiassociation.org/media/tags/minijournal/>

William – Best Suzuki Name Design



Tomos – Best Cartoon



Mollie – Most Colourful



Evelyn – Most Fun



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Summer Lessons

Thanks to the majority of you who have committed to summer lessons; you will be glad you did. The students who check in with the teacher periodically over the summer months will better retain their work from the year, as well as moving forward with new repertoire. No refunds are issued due to cancellation. Don't forget to pick up your ice cream treat in the freezer when your lesson is done!

Grade Eight Grads

Congratulations to Joshua, Mollie and Elsa, who have graduated from grade eight and will begin their high school years in September. I'm sure all of you will thrive in your new environments, with many new friends and activities to choose from. We look forward to hearing about the musical life of your high schools.

Save the Dates

You will receive information regarding the 2016 - 2017 musical school year in August.

Provincials



Congratulations to Elsa and Tomos, who were chosen to represent Barrie at the Provincial Finals in June, Elsa in grade eight and Tomos in the grade seven classes. 'Shout out' to Tomos, who placed second in the province at this competition, held in Peterborough this year. He is pictured here with the adjudicator.

The classes were very large. Tomos performed against 38 competitors, with the first movement of Kuhlau Sonata Op. 55, No. 3 and Rondo-Toccata by Dimitri Kabalevsky, in the grade seven classes. Elsa performed the third movement of Sonata in C Minor by Pescetti and Etude Allegro by Nakada. We were all privileged to hear these pieces performed impeccably.

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Awesome Adults

The Awesome Adults and some AA Alumni had a gathering at the home of Wendy and Peter to finish off the year with some beautiful music and a movie that you might be interested in viewing yourself. 'The Lady in Room Six' will move you and inspire you. You can find it on Netflix; check it out.

Many thanks to Wendy for her warm hospitality, and all of you for yet more birthday surprises. What a month of parties it has been!

Where is She Now?

I am often asked where my graduating students end up. Most of you will still remember Kristin, pictured to the right. She just graduated from Western and is off to University of Waterloo for the Masters of Climate Change program in September.

Kristin has a job in her field for the summer. As a Community Ambassador for 'Georgian Bay Forever' she will undertake dock visits in Honey Harbour, Cognashene, and Go Home Bay to educate property owners on how to identify and eradicate invasive Phragmites on their property, map invasive Phragmites and organize community cutting activities.



Here's what she has been up to at University of Western Ontario since she left Barrie:

- ❖ Music Performance Diploma - Three-year program with distinction
- ❖ Bachelor of Science - Honors Double Major - Environmental Science and Ecosystem Health
- ❖ Western Gold Medal - Honors Major in Ecosystem Health
Awarded by the University Board of Governors for the highest standing in the Major of an Honors Double Major Degree.

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Professional Development

Suzuki Association of the Americas ~ 'We Are Suzuki'

My heart is full and my spirit refreshed after attending the Suzuki Association of the Americas Conference held in Minneapolis this May. "We Are Suzuki" was the theme, and I feel so privileged to be able to include myself, my family, and my studio families in this category. Canadian participation was evident everywhere, and it was particularly exciting to count a record 33 teachers attending the Canadian meeting, affectionately called the "S, eh, eh" session. Two years ago a brand new Facebook page entitled "Suzuki MUSIC in/au Canada" was initiated at the Conference. From its start of 67 people we now have 344 people interacting on this page. This is an increase of 513 per cent! If you haven't joined this page yet, take a moment to do so. Be sure to invite your friends to join as well. It's a great way to stay in touch across this vast country of ours. You will find many articles and photos in the SAA newsletter from members who attended the SAA Conference: www.suzukiontario.org (click on summer newsletter).

Los Angeles Suzuki Institute

What a whirlwind trip to the Los Angeles Suzuki Institute (LASI) I had immediately following our June Bluejean Jamboree! It's hard to express what an incredible experience this was, from the daily classes with ten fabulous Teacher Trainees, to concerts and expeditions to 'The Village', a charming downtown area just south of the College. Diana Galindo was my mentor for the week, and I was so pleased to have her to guide me through my internship. I am now officially a 'Suzuki Piano Teacher Trainer' and will be expanding my work to teach teachers this wonderful method of learning.



At the 2016 Los Angeles Suzuki Institute by LeftyImages

Here is a photo of the Faculty, with whom I was so privileged to spend an unforgettable week.

Special thanks to each one of you who have helped to make my continuing training possible with your generous monetary gifts. These help defray the costs of ongoing training. I appreciate your kindness more than I can say.