

Back to Basics, What Every Teacher Wants You to Know: LISTENING

By Lucy Shaw

From the video series **Parents as Partners Online 2013.**

I am Lucy Shaw, and I run a private Suzuki studio just outside of Seattle in the state of Washington. My talk today is called Back to Basics, What Every Teacher Wants to Know.

I recently started a new studio after an extended move. Many of the families I am teaching have come from different programs and teachers, each with different backgrounds and parent education. It has occurred to me that in order for my student to reach their full potential, it is extremely important that we are all on the same page with lots of information. So I thought to myself, "What do I really want these parents to know?" There are so many topics to choose from.

As usual, our main concern is success at practice time. So today I would like to go over some of the basic, need to know items related to your practice time as your working relationship develops. Here are some thoughts that may help your journey. I would like to cover six different areas today.

1. Listening
2. Getting lesson information home correctly
3. Goals of practice
4. Scheduling
5. Some points to ponder over practicing
6. Review

Let's start with listening. This topic cannot be emphasized enough.

One good thing to do is make a list of what we gain from listening. And you can do this on your own or with your child. Let's think of some of the things we do gain. When we are listening, we hear the style of a piece. We hear intonation and tone quality, articulation and bowings. We hear what kind of options are available to us. We get inspired. We hear phrasing, timing. It helps us with memory. We can do score study and think about interpretation. We hear dynamics. We hear the accompaniment.

At home play the CD many, many times every day. If you have one piece you are focusing on, listen to that piece alone at least ten times in a row. And listen to the CD with your child. Often times now with iPods and earbuds, we have children listening and not parents, but it is really important for you to know the repertoire as well so you can be really helpful at practice time.

Know the difference between active and passive listening. For teens, active listening is a must. This should be scheduled into their practice day. Active listening is when a teen may sit down and really study the score while they are doing their listening. With younger children, it is important to move to the music, dance and sing the pieces. This helps to internalize basic pulse rhythm. Describe the music, describe the mood, or think about how a story may go with the piece of music you are listening to. You could draw pictures to describe the music or create a storyboard.

Be able to sing all the pieces and sing them with your child.

Play classical music in your home and all kinds of music. Talk about what you hear.

We will share this article over the course of several Gavotte Issues

Congratulations to students in the Suzuki Violin and Viola Studio of Tamara Gonzalez

Frances McDonald

State Certificate of Excellence, Level 1 Violin
Center Certificate of Excellence, Level 1 Violin

Alyssa Tsu

State Certificate of Excellence, Level 2 Violin
Center Certificate of Excellence, Level 2 Violin

William Zuo

State Certificate of Excellence, Level 3 Violin
Center Certificate of Excellence, Level 3 Violin

Samuel Tsu

State Certificate of Excellence, Level 4 Violin
Center Certificate of Excellence, Level 4 Violin

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS!



Anna Rosen
900 Days of Practice



Charlie Kim
500 Days of Practice



Elsa Artemiuk
600 Days of Practice



Henry Kim
300 Days of Practice



Jack Hinrichs
100 Days of Practice



Mina Call
600 Days of Practice



Natalie Christ
800 Days of Practice



Oliver Czaplicki
100 Days of Practice



Ruby Delaney
500 Days of Practice

**SUZUKI PIANO BOOK GRADUATIONS GALORE FROM CINDY MALMIN'S STUDIO
CONGRATULATIONS!**



Anna Rosen, Book 3



Oliver Czaplicki, Book 1



Asha Murugesan, Book 2



Hannah Lynn, Book 1



Charlie Kim, Book 1



Mina Call, Book 1



Mitch and Alex Hinrichs, Book 2



Maheeya Bhattacharya, Book 3



Stella Kelliher, Book 3

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Friday, October 12:

All Instrument Department Recital

6:00 pm, Antonello Hall

Sunday, October 14:

Suzuki 2019 Spain Summer Tour Meeting

1:15 pm, Antonello Hall

Friday, October 26:

All Instrument Department Recital

6:00 pm, Antonello Hall

Sunday, October 28

Heather VanderLey Suzuki Violin Studio Recital

1:30 pm, Antonello Hall

Ruth Bergman and Alison Fahy Suzuki Violin Studio Recital

3:00 pm, Antonello Hall

Friday, November 2:

Piano, Guitar and Harp Department Recital

6:00 pm, Antonello Hall

Kathy Wood's Suzuki Violin Studio and some friends took a day trip to Northfield to play violins at an Alzheimer's Facility and the Northfield Outdoor MarketFest this summer!



Submit artwork, photos and stories, practice tips and instrument jokes to be included in a future issue of the Gavotte Newsletter:

LaRusso.Kamini@macphail.org

HALLOWEEN PLAY-IN

Saturday, October 27
See Flyer Below!

Send Pictures to Larusso.kamini@macphail.org

New Parent Class**New Parent Class**

De La Salle High School,
11:00 am - 12:15 pm,
Room D 104

Enter the building under the clock tower.
Parking is free!

Saturdays:
October 13
November 3, 10 and 17

This class is for new practice parents who joined our program in the summer and fall of 2018.

PLANT SALE ORDER FORMS DUE SOON!

The MacPhail Suzuki Association sponsors various fundraising opportunities for students who plan to participate in Suzuki Program tours. Our next MacPhail Suzuki tour is to Spain in June of 2019. We have a wonderful group of 50 students, parents and teachers registered for the trip!

Please help support our students by buying some holiday plants. Funds raised by students will be applied directly to their personal trip account and will offset their tour expenses. Information, photos and order forms have been emailed to your family email account.

Plant Sale Order are due soon!
Monday, October 15, 5:00 pm
at the MacPhail Minneapolis Front Desk

2019 SPAIN TOUR MEETING

Spain Tour Kick Off Meeting
Sunday, October 14th at 1:15 in Antonello Hall.

Attendance at this meeting is very important, if for some reason not every traveler from your family is able to attend, we need at least one person in attendance so that everyone is on the same page. We will have more information about our rehearsal schedule, repertoire, fund raising, airline and hotel arrangements.

Feel free to contact Jeff Goldsmith if you have any questions about your account. His contact info is: jgoldsmith@grandtoursinc.com

We're going to be taking a group picture! Please wear a MacPhail t-shirt (any color or design will do). If you don't have a MacPhail t-shirt, or if you've outgrown it, we'll have shirts available.

I look forward to seeing you all at our first meeting!

Hasta Luego,

Joe Kaiser
Spain Tour Director

“Whine and Cheese”

Annette Lee, Suzuki Piano teacher hosted her annual parent party at her condo in September that she calls “Whine and Cheese”. The parents and Annette ate hors d’oeuvres and sipped on wine and beer. After chatting, they spent time talking about Christine Goodner’s book, “Beyond the Music Lesson.”

Parents who attended are Janet Keel, Liz and Craig Miller, Danny Sachs, Kristin Geer, Thien Nguyen, Janal Petersen, Paul and Elise Werger, Heather VanderLey and Mary Maurice,

Annette applauds these parents for making time for this event and taking time for their children during a very busy time in most households. Annette stated, “It was a really special time.”



Suzuki Piano Groups Are Off To A Great Start!



Halloween Weekend

Suzuki Play-Ins

Date: Saturday Oct 27

Location: DeLaSalle High School

Violins- Florence Center*

Cellos – Room 202

Violas – Go to your regular room

*Violin Groups 1(Kamini 11:00) & 3 (Heather 9:15) – Go to your regular room

When: Come at your regular group time

Costumes Welcomed!!!. . . *but please no masks or face paint*

*Orchestras and Note Reading meet
at regular time and place*

