

THE SUZUKI METHOD FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD MUSIC EDUCATION

Yvette Goh

Nurtured By Love 
Suzuki Music School

<http://dalegoh.wix.com/nurturedbylove>

1. Does my child have the potential to learn music?
2. How to create an environment that optimizes the learning of music?
3. Comparison between Suzuki & Conventional methods
4. When is the best age to start learning music?

1. Does my child have the potential to learn music?

Any child can be developed, it depends on how you do it.

– Shinichi Suzuki



16th World Suzuki Convention

28 March 2013

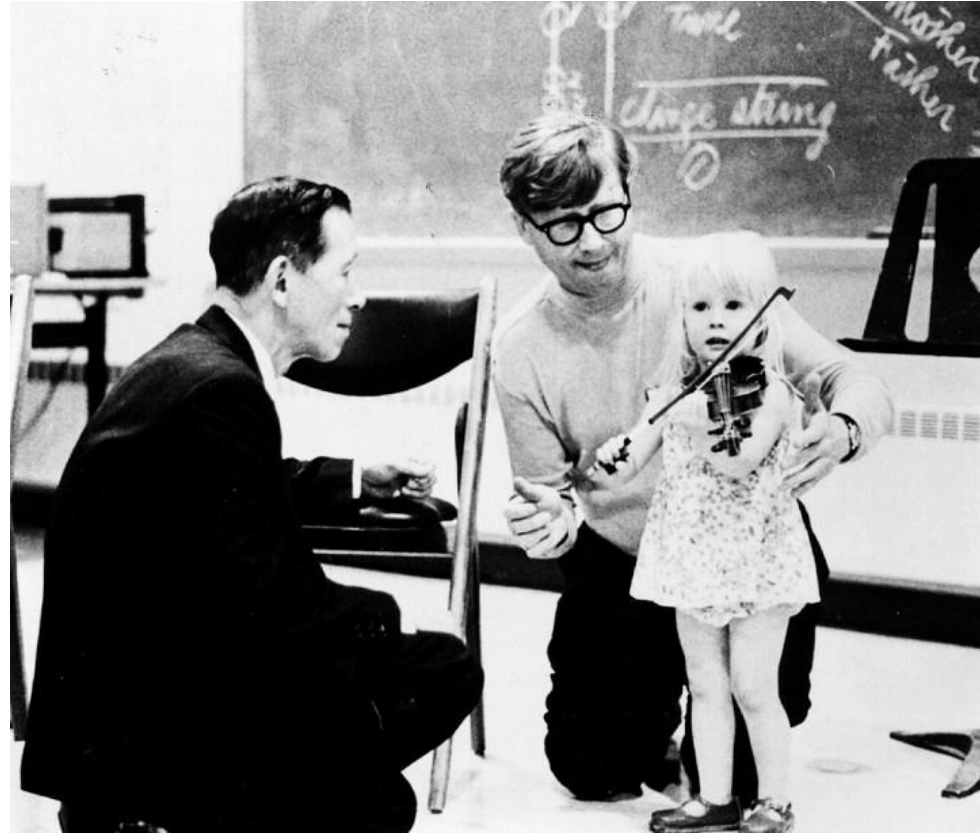


28th March 2013

Matsumoto, Japan — Children play the violin during the opening concert of the 16th Suzuki Method World Convention in Matsumoto. Some 2,000 Japanese and foreign children coming from 35 countries displayed their skills during the opening concert.

Who was Shinichi Suzuki (1898-1998)?

- “Beautiful Tone, Beautiful Heart”
- Named a Living National Treasure by Emperor of Japan, and nominated for Nobel Peace Prize
- “You are a student until you are 90, then perhaps you can call yourself a teacher”



Shinichi Suzuki -The Mother Tongue Approach

- Listen & Observe
- Imitate
- Repetition
- Encouragement
- Mastery
- Reading



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2) How to create an environment that optimizes the learning of music?

- **Listening (Ear Training before Physical)**
 - Children learn by listening and watching.
 - By listening to good-quality recordings of Suzuki method music every day, your child will develop ability to recognize beautiful tone, clear rhythm, proper intonation, and musical expressiveness from the very beginning
 - Music from the “inside” out
 - Self Error Recognition
 - Other Benefits



Repetition - Practice and Review

- *Knowledge is not skill.
Knowledge plus ten thousand times is skill.*
 - Shinichi Suzuki (Nurtured by Love - 1969)
- *Deep practice x 10,000 hours =
World-class skill.*
 - Daniel Coyle (The Talent Code - 2009)
- Daily practice is vital to the ability to play well.
- Brain & body develop fluency, skills are sharpened, musicality is improved and one's heart is inspired with confidence.
- Concept of playing Book 1 piece at Book 10 level



- Refine Setup, Handshape
- Memorisation

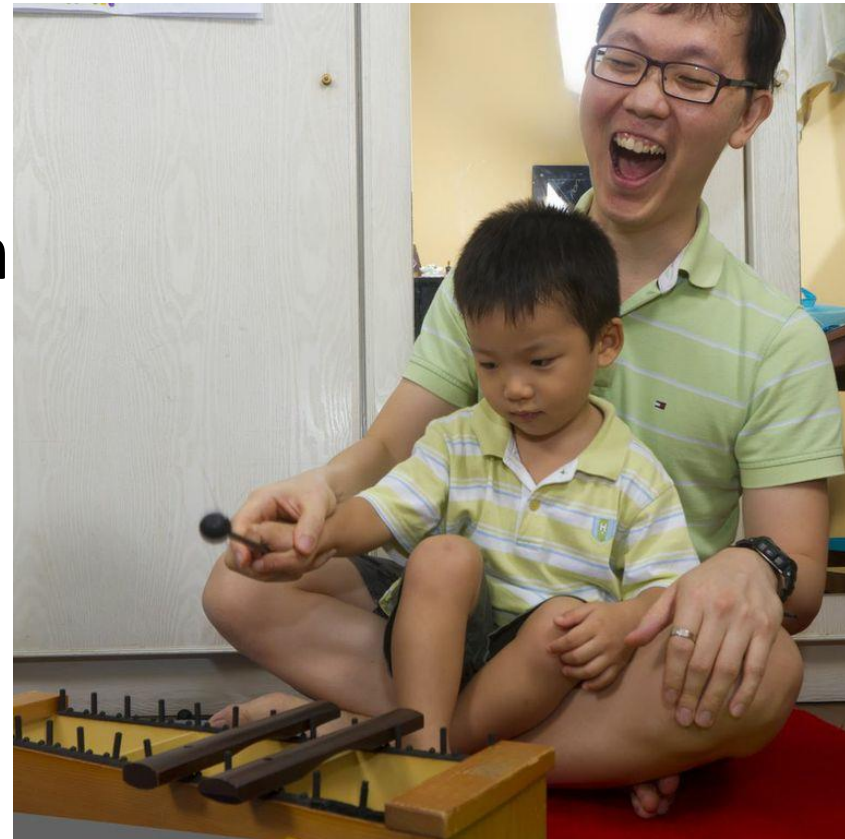
Absolute Mastery

- “Hear everything, overlook a lot, and fix one thing” – Shinichi Suzuki
- Many areas to work on
 - Body & Hand Posture, intonation, tone, expression, etc
- The ability to concentrate on one single point at a time is the first and most important step that your child will learn.



The Secret Ingredient

- Encouragement is essential
- Be specific & sincere with praise
- Praise the action and effort
- Each child learns at his/her own rate



Parental Involvement is Critical



The Suzuki Triangle



Child

Parent

Cheerleaders

Teacher

Environment

- Recordings
- Bring to lessons
- Practice Partner,
Home Teacher,
Role Model

Lesson

- Instructs child
- Provides model
- Teaches the
parent

Home

Individual
Lesson

Community

Group
Lesson

1. Does my child have the potential to learn music?
2. How to create an environment that optimizes the learning of music?
3. **Comparison between Suzuki & Conventional methods**
4. When is the best age to start learning music?

3) Differences between the Suzuki Method & Conventional methods

Conventional



Suzuki



Differences between the Suzuki Method & Conventional methods

Conventional

- Parents are not necessarily present during lessons
- Reading notes are taught in beginning lessons
- Pieces are given random
- Graded Exams
- Individual lessons
- Teacher motivated
- Work because they are told to

Suzuki

- Parents are a critical part of the Suzuki triangle
- Emphasis on Listening, before playing
- Children learn by visual demonstration at beginning
- Specific designed repertoire & order of learning with specific goals for each piece
- Recitals-ungraded
- Individual & Group Lessons
- Motivated by self, Parent & Teacher
- Work for joy of working and sense of self worth

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4) When is the best age to start learning music?

1. Why did I start the Suzuki ECE program?
2. How does it help my child progress in later years?



4) When is the best age to start learning music?

- Before the child is born, the foetus can hear voices and learns to distinguish sounds. The ear is the first organ to fully develop.



Suzuki Early Childhood Education: 0-3

SECE Class

- Early start, from birth
- Team Teaching Approach-2 Lead
- Child is given opportunity to perform activity to the group, every week
- Development of character and skill: Waiting for turn, listening..
- Thorough mastery with repetition.
- Child development is journalled
- No instruments
- Parent Education
- Calm focus. Teaching Class

Music & Movement Class

- Age based
- Single Teacher or Assistant
- It is alright for Child not to respond
- No Character emphasis. Child can roam in class
- Calendar/Term based curriculum
- No record of skill achieved
- Instruments pack
- Parent can be substituted by helper
- Could be noisy. Entertainment based

Suzuki Early Childhood Education: 0-3

- Parent Involvement is Critical
- Children learn from one another
- Success breeds Success
- Encouragement is Essential
 - based on real accomplishment builds real sense of worth
- Cumulative 0-3 year process-Builds layer upon layer
- Creativity



Reasons that parents gave in response to Why they enrolled their Child in Music

- Develop poise & ability to present themselves in public whether speaking/making music
- Gain a lifelong love of music
- Develop problem solving skills with healthy confidence in the face of struggles
- Learn to break complex problems into small, achievable steps
- Develop fine motor skills & good eye-hand coordination
- Gain a sense of endless possibility
- Find open doors of opportunity
- Healthy sense of self esteem tied to feelings of accomplishment
- Learn to strive with excellence
- Transfer music's unique skill set into other subject matters
- Develop individual voice on the instrument which they can use for self expression
- Self confidence
- Learn to create something beautiful
- Sensitivity to beauty to the world
- Share positive emotional experience with parents around the study of music
- Manage time effectively
- Choose social circle of friends who enjoy making music together (which will help them stay out of trouble in teen years)
- Enhance memorization skills
- Calm & centered

Beautiful Tone, Beautiful Hearts

Teaching music is not my main purpose. I want to make good citizens. If children hear fine music from the day of their birth and learn to play it, they develop sensitivity, discipline and endurance. They get a beautiful heart.

- Shinichi Suzuki



Q & A

For a free group trial class, contact me at
9199-2622

YvetteGoh@yahoo.com

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