

Coming up...

30

AUGUST

5:30 pm -SAK picnic/pot
luck/play-in
Oshtemo Park

30

AUGUST

LAST DAY TO SUBMIT
REGISTRATION PAYMENT
(payable to SAK)

1

SEPTEMBER

LAST DAY TO SUBMIT
TUITION PAYMENT
(payable to Suzuki
Violins/Violas)

4

SEPTEMBER

SAK private lessons begin

6

SEPTEMBER

SAK classes begin

9

SEPTEMBER

6 p.m. - SAK board meeting
Winchell Church

20

SEPTEMBER

5 p.m. Parent's Meeting re.
SAK international trip
Winchell Church (basement)

29

SEPTEMBER

4 p.m. - solo recital
Winchell church

17

NOVEMBER

4 p.m. - FALL CONCERT
Winchell church

22

DECEMBER

Winter break begins
(program resumes Jan 7)

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Suzuki Academy

of Kalamazoo

Welcome SAK families!

By DANA DUNCAN

On behalf of the teachers and board, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome returning as well as new students to SAK! It is always exciting to begin a new program year, and we are all excited to work with you in making it a resounding success! Parents - be sure to communicate closely with your teacher, encourage your students, and make your tuition payments by the first of the month (we count on this for our operating income). Students - tell us (parents and teacher) if there is something bothering you - we are here to help! Playing an instrument is hard work and practicing regularly is not always easy; we understand that and want to work with you in making your experience with SAK as personally rewarding as possible. Let's have a great year!

Learning by Listening

By DANA DUNCAN

How do we learn our native language? By immersion, mainly. From birth we are constantly hearing our language spoken all around us and begin speaking as babies. We never stop listening to our native language and we never stop speaking it.

The Suzuki method was known as the Mother Tongue Method by Dr Shinichi Suzuki. His idea was for children to learn music by using the same processes that are used to learn native languages. Children begin early, have plenty of good exposure through performances and recordings, have a community to "speak" with (groups and play-ins, later orchestras and quartets)- and

"speak" constantly, making attempts all the time, on many different situations, and are rewarded for their efforts with an enthusiastic response. It is important to hear the vocabulary, or repertoire that is being studied, as well as that which is coming up later. Indeed, it is impossible to learn to speak a language without hearing it a lot.

This year we will reintroduce the suggested listenings which will give you an opportunity to enlarge your library and get very familiar with more of the classical repertoire. Also, check your SAK calendar for excellent concerts to attend.

Cello News

By GRACE FIELD

Last year was a good one for the cellists, with the final concert being held at Fountains at Bronson Place in May before a large crowd. We received many compliments, and there were even some alumni parents and grandparents on hand. It is nice to give back to the community in this special way.



The Mackinac trip this past weekend was fun and inspiring. The cello students who performed were Hanna Rumora, Ellie Lambrix, Charlie Leibbrand and Kevin Wilson. David Peshlakai who was part of the Chamber Orchestra, played with us also. We so appreciate his time and terrific cello playing.

Ethan Lambrix, Cole Lambrix, Myles Ream and Hanna Rumora were all featured on the Honor's Recital at Blue Lake this summer. Thomas Barth and Hanna Rumora attended the Chicago Suzuki Institute and Thomas performed on Chicago's Honor's Recital in July.

On August 12, the cellos had a Solo Recital at the Church. It was one of the best yet and I was proud of all who played.