

Suzuki Association of Indiana (SAI) 2nd Annual State Meeting Minutes
Saturday, July 13, 2013
Stanley Clark School
3123 S. Miami St.
South Bend, IN 46614

Host: Emilie Grondin
Guest Speaker: Nic Orbovich
Theme: Chamber Music

9:00 – 9:30 Registration, Meet and Greet

9:45 a.m. Emilie opens meeting with introduction and welcome

Liz Efrogmson-Brooks also made introductory remarks. She began with the question, “Why are we all here?” The answer is that we are here for connection; with each other professionally and for our students. She then drew a map of Indiana and each person came up and wrote their name and location onto the map.

Liz then noted what has been accomplished this past year such as becoming a non-profit organization, getting a tax exempt number and creating by-laws. *Secretary wishes to add for historical purposes that a facebook page and a monthly e-newsletter have been created to which members have contributed articles, a book club, and individual studio events. Also a state wide play-in was hosted by Linda Kummernuss in Auburn, Indiana.*

In Attendance were:

Liz Efrogmson-Brooks, President: cellist, has taught 35 years, heads the Indianapolis Suzuki Academy She is working on becoming a Suzuki Teacher Trainer and has recently added Suzuki Steps after receiving Early Childhood Suzuki Training.

Jillian Chrisman, Secretary: Violinist, has a private studio of about 35 students on the east side of Indianapolis. She plays professionally in area orchestras and for weddings and churches. She has developed and is busy maintaining the state listing of all Indiana Suzuki teachers.

Emily Thompson, Social Media Secretary: Lives in Marion and is adjunct professor of violin at Indiana Wesleyan University, where she is founding the IWU Suzuki Violin program this year. She has been teaching college level and private students in Marion and Ft. Wayne. She has established the SAI email newsletters, the SAI Facebook page, and a blog for SAI updates. She hopes to have a full website for the SAI in the future.

Diana Hummel, Treasurer: Violinist from Bloomington, teaches about 10 private students and also teaches elementary strings at four schools.

Linda Kummernuss: Plays violin in the Manchester Symphony and teaches at three locations; her home, North Manchester University as adjunct professor and in the Klickman’s program in Ft. Wayne

Sarah Pearce, Board Member: Teaches violin in the University of Evansville Suzuki Violin Program. She received her training from Carol Dallinger and currently teaches 50-55 students.

Maria Mastropaolo, Board Member: Teaches Violin at the University of Evansville Suzuki Strings Program. She has taught for 16 years and currently teaches 30 students. She is a member of the Evansville Philharmonic.

Martha Nyatawa: Pianist, also teaches violin and viola. She plays in the Terre Haute Symphony and is considering starting a music school in Terre Haute.

Dolores Wilson: Violin & Viola, Studied with Milton Preves of Chicago Symphony while earning a Viola Performance Degree from Indiana University. Currently teaches 11 students and has played with the South Bend Symphony for 60 years.

Joyce Davis, Board Member: Director of the Suzuki Music School of Granger. The school offers lessons and classes in piano, violin, viola and cello and currently teaches about 125 students. The school also offers classes in music theory, music reading and chamber music.

Martha Bradberry: Has taught violin at the Suzuki Music School of Granger for nineteen years. She also teaches music theory. She has developed a string program for two schools and now just teaches at one school. She teaches violin, viola and cello and just received training for Book One on cello.

Emilie Grondin, Board Member: She teaches three string groups and preschool/kindergarten music at Stanley Clark School, about 25 private students and various chamber groups. She is the SBYSO Concert Orchestra conductor and directs a summer chamber music camp at SCS for students in grades 1 – 8.

Meghan King: teaches violin for three different studios in the area north of Indianapolis. She is assistant concertmaster of the Hendricks Symphony and also plays in Carmel Symphony. She has also participated in the Masterworks Festival.

10:30 – Business Meeting

IDEA presented by Emilie Grondin (in reference to starting a Suzuki School when Joyce offered to send Martha Nyatawa printed materials that she uses for her music school) Emily Thompsons suggested that we have a collection of our policies on line so that members may refer to them as a resource. She suggested that members who teach in Suzuki programs send in all of their jprogram information and policies for reference.

Jillian agreed to send the updated membership list to all the members ASAP.

Liz stated that we are in a waiting period to be approved by SAA and that she expects our affiliation to become official by the end of July at the earliest.

The next state meeting will be hosted by Maria Mastropaolo and Sarah Pearce in southern Indiana (Evansville) tentatively set for July 12, 2014, as dictated by the by-laws to rotate the state meeting equally between the three sections of the state.

It was suggested that for the 2015 meeting in central Indiana that Liz present a demonstration class on the early childhood class that she is currently teaching. The suggestion was made by Maria that Carol Dallinger be approached about giving a session at the 2014 meeting on starting a school.

By-Laws Update: It was discussed that the President and Secretary term length of 3 years begins upon affiliation and then the term length after the initial term is to be two years. Also discussed was that upon affiliation, the term length of the offices of Vice-President and Treasurer will be two years and will remain at two years. This will achieve a staggered effect of voting in two new officers each year starting 2015.

It was agreed to have an electronic vote on the above by-law amendment.

A motion was made, voted upon and approved to ask Dawn Evans to rewrite the wording in the by-laws to reflect this decision of term lengths so that it may be sent out and voted on electronically.

Jillian commented that the Board Meetings that were held last year in October and February were timed well during and she'd like to see that schedule maintained. It was noted by Emilie that if a board meeting were also held at the annual meeting that the board meetings would be evenly spaced throughout the year. It was also suggested that the October and February Meetings can be Skyped and the Annual Meeting attended in person.

Liz then opened the floor for Ideas to implement for SAI

Graduation tapes: Joyce Davis agreed to lead a committee on developing a graduation tape process, to set standards and coordinate the process. On the spot, Joyce gained Sarah Pearce and Emilie Grondin to be on her committee. Emily Thompson agreed to host a round table discussion on an e-newsletter to research how other groups conduct their graduation tapes. She would like to put a call out to all members who may have information or experience with Suzuki graduation tapes and the best practices used worldwide. It was also suggested that someone research what the SAA may offer for graduation tapes. Jillian agreed to invite members in general to offer advice on this topic. (However, it has since been agreed upon, post meeting, that all messages will be sent via Emily Thompson – so Jillian and all members are to write to Emily to submit information and messages to membership). The committee's goal is to have a process in place by the end of the year if not sooner.

Dr. Suzuki Birthday Regional Play-Ins, (north, central, south) to be planned in October.

North Play-In coordinators are: Joyce, Martha and Emilie

Central Play-In coordinators are: Liz and Jillian

South Play-In coordinators are: Sarah and Maria

Jillian suggested developing an advanced all-star team of Suzuki players, noting that each studio has a handful of students that excel. She feels these students deserve an outlet and special performance experiences to enrich their musical experience.

Emily Thompson requested:

1. Members present, especially graduation tape committee members, send in a paragraph for September newsletter regarding graduation tape practices and standards that they have used or have knowledge of.
2. Jillian send in a paragraph on Suzuki performance group idea for the e-newsletter

Emilie Grondin agreed to send in an article/paragraph for September regarding the afternoon chamber music session with Nic Orbovich.

Jillian agreed to send out informal minutes to all who are present so that they may review, enhance and fact check.

Jillian agreed to send out official minutes to all in the state, members and non-members alike

Respectfully Submitted,
Jillian Chrisman
SAI Secretary