

Dear Chapter members:

Here at the SAA, we are grateful to your Chapter's connection to you. We offer services and opportunities on a national level, but we can't reach everyone directly.

Chapters strengthen our entire Suzuki community by reaching individual teachers, parents, and students in these 5 areas:

- **Gather** Build community among all students, parents and teachers.
- **Educate** Provide resources and/or support to teachers and parents, new and current, concerning Suzuki teaching and ideals.
- **Support** Financially benefit teachers and students for further enrichment (conferences, institutes, workshops).
- **Celebrate** Arrange Concerts, Graduation, Celebration, Cross Instrument Recitals, Honors Recitals to rejoice in music together.
- **Respect** Support the Suzuki name/ brand/legacy by assuring SAA membership for teachers, broadening membership, and providing grassroots feedback to the SAA.

Imagine that this journey of music teaching and learning is an enormous cruise ship, and you are on board. The SAA is steering the ship to exciting destinations. The SAA Board serves as the navigational guidance system. The ship is stocking supplies for our journey by developing teacher training programs. We also take care of maintaining the electricity, on-board intercom, and radio to land systems in the forms of funding, journals, newsletters, etc. The Chapter is your cruise director who helps you and your studio stay filled, connected, energized. If it is the SAA that makes sure there is food on the ship, then it is the Chapter who shows you where the dining hall is.

This isn't a perfect analogy since the SAA is directly accessible to you in a multitude of ways that a ship's captain can't be, but it generally tells the story. (It is also not a perfect analogy since we will purposefully ignore the tricky cruise ship issue of plumbing!)

Thank you for your participation and support of both the SAA and your Chapter. We want you to know that through your membership, the Suzuki community is enriched and uniquely inspired.

With gratitude,
Margaret Romney
Chapter Affiliate Coordinator