



Meeting of the Board of Directors of the International Suzuki Association Inc.

Tuesday, October 4 – Thursday October 6, 2016
Hampton Inn & Suites, Boulder, Colorado, USA

Summary

The Board of Directors of the International Suzuki Association met for their annual meeting October 4-6 in Boulder, Colorado, USA. The Board Meetings of the ISA take place in different places in the world each year.

The meeting opened with a welcome from Board Chair Yasuki Nakamura, and a message from President Koji Toyoda.

Following the greeting, the Board paid tribute “In Memoriam” to Gilda Barston, Sheila Keats and Norma Jean Seaton.

The minutes from last year’s meeting held October 5-7, 2015 in Matsumoto, Japan, were approved.

Lan Ku Chen was elected as the representative for ARSO (Asia Regional Suzuki Organisation, to become ARSA – Asia Regional Suzuki Association once it has been incorporated). Ryugo Hayano was elected as TERI representative, to replace Etsuko Suehiro from December 2016. Martin Rüttimann was re-elected as ESA representative, and was elected as Chair of the Board, commencing July 1, 2017. Simon Griffiths was elected as PPSA representative, and also as Secretary commencing July 1, 2017. Pamela Brasch was re-elected as Treasurer. Allen Lieb was appointed as interim CEO from November 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017, and then as CEO from July 1, 2017. Paul Landefeld will continue in the position of interim CEO until June 30, 2017 or until the successful incorporation of ARSA, whichever occurs later. Carey Beth Hockett was elected as At-Large Director commencing July 1, 2017.

Retiring Directors Yasuki Nakamura and Julia Breen were thanked for their work on the Board.

The Interim CEO, Paul Landefeld, presented his report.

Finances

The income for the ISA for the fiscal year 2015-2016 was in the region of USD 66,000. The majority of this comes from membership contributions. The expenses of the ISA for same fiscal year were around USD 64,000, thus leaving a very small surplus for the year. Major

items for costs are administrative costs (CEO and office costs), legal costs pertaining to the protection of the Suzuki Name, and meetings costs for the ISA Board and the different ISA instrument committees.

A revised budget for the fiscal year 2015-2016 and a preliminary budget for fiscal year 2016-2017 were passed, predicting no major difference from existing income and spending levels.

Regional Associations

Each of the 5 regional associations presented a report with membership statistics and information about regional activities.

Publications

A detailed report from Alfred Publishers was provided the Board.

The Board discussed the issue of languages to use in publications and the following decision was made: English will be the primary language presented in International Editions; further languages up to 3 additional languages per publication may be included at the discretion of each Instrument Committee. Local language versions of the repertoire books are also to include English.

Instrument committees

Reports from all ISA instrument committees were received and discussed. The Trumpet Committee has been renamed the Suzuki Brass Committee, as trombone may be included in the future. The Violin Committee is nearing the end of its work revising all 10 books, and the Flute Committee has completed work on the revision of Book 1, while continuing with further revisions, and working towards recording of the revised Book 1.

A complete list of Board Liaisons to the many Instrument Committees was drawn up, with some changes to reflect changes in membership of the Board.

New instrument areas

A study group continues to evaluate the proposed Clarinet programme. Suzuki Accordion has been adopted in Italy.

Job Descriptions

A subcommittee will be revisiting all available job descriptions - CEO, Board officers, liaisons to instrument committees - and will make recommendations for any revisions.

ISA Vision

The ISA vision is central to the work of the ISA Board. The Board reaffirms the vision statement prepared at the ISA Board Meeting in Seoul, Korea, October 2010, and revised at the October 2015 ISA Board Meeting in Matsumoto, Japan:

- Dr. Suzuki's name and method is known and respected throughout the world.
- ISA is the umbrella for the Suzuki world.
- Through fine music, children become intelligent, sensitive human beings.
- Parents and teachers have the tools to educate children.
- The finest possible Suzuki materials are available.
- Suzuki ideas are shared internationally.
- Suzuki teacher training is available throughout the world.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the ISA Board of Directors will be held in the PPSA region, October 17-19, 2017.

Julia Breen, Secretary to the ISA Board of Directors