

The Official Publication of the International Suzuki Association

INTERNATIONAL SUZUKI JOURNAL



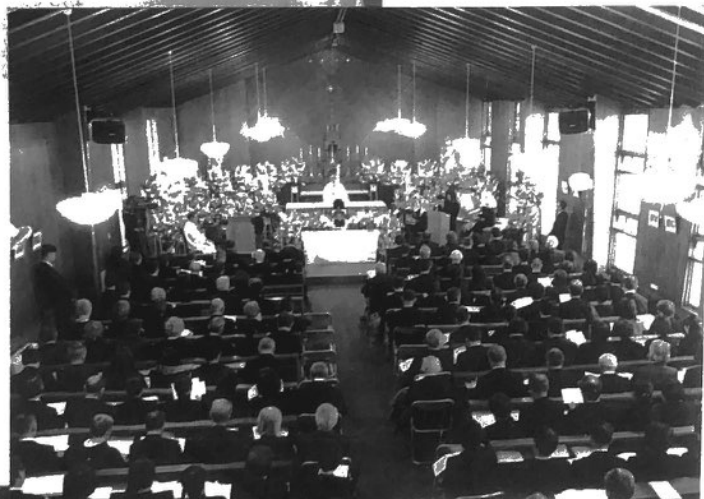
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Spring 2001



in front of the Matsumoto Catholic Church

Matsumoto Catholic Church



gravesite

In Loving Memory



Waltraud Prange Suzuki
(1905 – 2000)

INTERNATIONAL SUZUKI JOURNAL® Vol. 12, No. 1 Spring 2001

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Mrs. Suzuki with Päivi Kukkamäki

"Ability can be developed by the living soul."

by Dr. Shinichi Suzuki

It is possible that every child can develop to a high level.

I am writing to all teachers and parents of the world in efforts that they may come to know the excellence of all the babies on earth and the potentials of their abilities. I am writing this report which I have clearly realized and am asking for your cooperation in developing a new era in which every child is nurtured to a high level of achievement. Everything depends on how one is raised.

True education is when "any child can be raised to develop the highest ability....as a result of the influences of the wonderful workings of the life force."

First of all, I would like to explain the "Law of Ability" which I discovered over fifty years ago.

The ability of an infant starts developing from the day he is given life within the mother's womb. Resulting from the power of the life force, the physical growth of the baby begins from that day. Physical characteristics of this baby are physiologically inherited from the mother and father. However, the life force, not being a physical characteristic, is not inherited, therefore, giving ability unlimited potential. There is no such thing as inherited talent. All babies on earth have the great life force equally and are born in the state comparable to a white sheet of paper. Every life force acquires all stimulations from its environment and therewith develops its own ability; this is "education". All babies are equally endowed with the existence of the life force at birth. The life force begins developing ability within the mother's womb. When life is created, the baby starts

acquiring the mother's spirit, sensitivity and all other things of life as result of the accord between the two life forces. "Every child can be educated to a high level depending on his parents." The very start of ability's development begins within the womb. This is an example that "Man is a son of his environment", my claim for many years.

The two workings of the life force:

1. The phenomenon capable of developing the physical body.
2. The process of acquiring all daily stimulation from the environment and developing it as ability.

The two above matters are what I have claimed for many years as my philosophy the "Law of Ability" : every child can be developed depending on how he is raised.

Over twenty years ago, I was invited by twenty universities in America to give addresses regarding the above mentioned. The following five years, I returned annually to the twenty universities demonstrating my findings. Perhaps there is some correlation between my declarations and the coinciding announcements by American psychologists that everyone is born in the same state as a white sheet of paper and acquires ability through stimulations in his environment. Thus, supporting there is no such thing as an inherited genius.

All the babies of the Stone Age grew up as Stone Age people. However, if a baby of the Stone Age were raised in today's society, he should develop as a present-day baby having corresponding abilities. Likewise, if a present-day baby had been raised in a Stone Age society, he should have developed as a Stone Age baby with corresponding abilities.

Once again I state, "every child can be developed depending on his parents." If fostered by wolves,

any baby anywhere in the world will turn into a wolf girl or boy, as it was shown by actual examples of long ago.

Any child, according to the way he is raised, can be developed. I hope you come to a clear understanding that "every child can be developed and it is the parents' and later teachers', responsibility." Please understand this.

In Japan, through the Suzuki Method, 8 to 12 year old students have developed the ability to perform musically and in an accomplished way, one of the world's most brilliant masterpieces, the Tchaikovsky violin concerto. This ability is the result of the workings of the life force.

For this year's National Concert in Tokyo on March 27 at the Budokan Hall, more than 80 students from the ages 8 and up beautifully performed in unison the first movement of the Tchaikovsky violin concerto, literature of a music conservatory level.

With such an example of young children's abilities developed to such a high caliber, I state that ability is not inherited but that "every child can be developed, these students are examples of children whose potentials have been developed." There is no such thing as someone who has an inborn musical talent.

An undeveloped student is only one whose abilities and potentials have not been nurtured yet. This can also apply to one's heart.

I realized that children all over the world acquire, as they grow to be age 6 or 7, an extremely high ability of fluently speaking their mother tongue. Since that time I have researched this educational method and applied it to the musical world, but it can be applied to all other faculties as well. For more than 50 years, I have experienced that every child can develop a superior ability, and have come to realize that every

child has resources and potentials that can be developed depending on the manner in which he is raised. Everybody possesses the great life force. Please be sure to understand this.

For many, many years, there have been many parents who had thought their own children to be unintelligent. However, there haven't been many parents who felt that they themselves were at fault. Too many people have judged their children's incompetence as inborn traits by their traditional way of thought.

What a sad destiny such children have! Please reflect and consider the fact that children develop the superior ability to fluently speak their mother tongue.

"Man is a son of his environment."

I would like to share with you a prime example. Even if a child is born brain-damaged, the life force still creates and develops ability. Hiroyuki Takahashi, a brain-damaged child, happily started the Suzuki Violin Method at age three. Today, fifteen years later, he has developed into a student with the ability to perform musically and in an accomplished way the Tchaikovsky violin concerto, one of the world's highest masterpieces. Earlier this year he graduated from a special high school for handicapped children and is studying with me at present.

The underlying principle of education is: ability is created by the life force and that nothing can be developed without nurturing.

Children grow up acquiring things, good or bad, that are repeated daily in their lives which, in turn, become their abilities. These acquired abilities will then affect their destiny in a superior or inferior way, respectively.

Please ponder and realize the excellence of the life force and children's essence which can be developed in any way. From the bottom of my heart, I sincerely would like you to develop all children as people with beautiful hearts, superior sensitivity, and distinguished abilities.

~~~~~

## The Dream Behind the ISA

Speech given by Mrs. Waltraud Prange Suzuki

I want to thank you for asking me to speak to you and to represent Dr. Suzuki. I would like to say just a few words about the dreams and plans for the Suzuki Method.

We have for many years worked to help as many children as possible to learn to love their fellowman through Musical perception, for it opens the mind to many great things. (Einstein said that he discovered the theory of relativity through musical perception.) This dream is possible only if their musical education is of the highest caliber. It must not only be music education, but also Life education. It should teach us how to live with one another and to have respect for their living soul.

Dr. Suzuki starts by telling the parent and the child that "tone is a living soul without form." The child must have respect for his instrument, as well as the tone he produces on it.

If everyone has respect for the living soul of everyone he meets, there would be no more wars. Mankind would only be interested in easing the pain and hunger of others and to want to bring beauty into their lives.

It is important that teacher, parent, and child grow together and have respect for one another. With this kind of unity

in a learning situation, we have deep concentration and open minds when working together. This type of sharing makes everyone a part of the learning experience, and the quality of the lessons is much more stimulating. Teacher, parent and child all become eager to learn.

If every Suzuki teacher brought this feeling to every lesson, think what an impact it would have around the world.

And so Dr. Suzuki had this dream of forming ISA. With each area of the world helping one another and sharing their teaching experiences, eventually the whole world would feel this influence of love.



The work of ISA is to stimulate and to encourage all teachers everywhere to have that kind of education for their students.

ISA is an information center to assist everyone – to better understand their students, to become better teachers and musicians, to better understand people of different cultural backgrounds, and to teach intrinsic love of mankind, for as Dr. Suzuki says, "If love is deep, much can be accomplished."

☞☞☞☞

## The Suzukis, As I Knew Them

Evelyn Hermann

My early visits to Matsumoto soon brought to my attention that Waltraud would do anything to keep Suzuki happy. Once, when there was just the three of us together, I heard him make a bird call. She laughed and said, "We never call each other by name. Instead, we use the names of birds." He was always humming. His spirit was bright.

There were times when he wanted something and she could see that it was going to be blocked, she did everything in her power to clear away the block. He was never aware of all she did to make his life easier. She fought battles for him, but he never knew. She would take on anybody who even hinted that they were not for his ideas. Her greatest disappointment was the fact that she could not protect him against the negative attitude of the ISA Board, who would not financially support his work. Her final words to me were of this great disappointment.

One trip that I made to Matsumoto was during a bitter cold spell. When I got there she was very ill with pneumonia. I went to see her and their house was so cold that as I sat there with my coat on, I shivered. Waltraud was very depressed. It upset me so that I left and headed for the Kaikan. I don't know what possessed me to do so, but I went immediately to Suzuki's office. "Sensei, we must talk," I said. Seeing the serious look on my face, he brought in his secretary, Mitsuko, to be certain that he understood what I was about to say. I then explained that I was very concerned about his wife's health and her depression. I said, "She is home alone all day. Then at night you come home and because of the hearing problem there is no conversation. This has to change or you will lose her." Suzuki Sensei thanked me very much and I left.

The next day I again went to see Waltraud. This time she was smiling. "I don't know what got into him. Yesterday he came home at noon and brought me Kentucky Fried Chicken."

From that day on, Suzuki never ate a meal without Waltraud, no matter where they were in the world. If they were in the same city, he would only eat if she was with him.

In the afternoons when he returned from the Kaikan, he still did not talk much. But they would sit and hold hands. When she told me this a big smile appeared.

Waltraud never knew about my meeting with Suzuki and he and I never spoke of it again.

After Suzuki Sensei's death she said, "I hope that when I die, we can be together again."

Erika, Mrs. Suzuki's niece who had been looking after her, was exhausted and had gone to lie down for a few minutes. She was awakened by the sound of tinkling bells. They were not bells she had heard before, nor was she ever able to identify them. She went to see how her aunt was, and then she discovered that Waltraud had passed away. She was smiling. I think Suzuki must have been there to take her to the astral world.

At the cemetery after the service, when they rolled the tombstone back into place after putting her ashes next to his, we saw his words, "If love is deep, much can be accomplished." Originally written to show everyone that if we love children deeply, they can accomplish much. Now, however, the words have a new meaning. I will always think about their deep love for one another and of the great accomplishments that resulted from that love. Together, they changed the lives of many thousands of families and brought happiness to children everywhere through their spirit of love.

☞☞☞☞

1. 葬儀ミサ

Memorial Service Mass

御遺骨の入場

Procession

1. 告別の儀

Memorial Service

・式辞

Address

葬儀委員長 才能教育研究会会長  
President of T.E.R.I. and I.S.A.

・弔辞

Memorial Service Oration

友人 松本市長  
Mayor of Matsumoto City

友人 東京外国語大学学長  
President of Tokyo University of Foreign Studies

友人 元国際スズキ協会議長  
The ex-chairman of I.S.A.

友人 国際スズキ協会事務局長  
Chief Executive Officer of I.S.A.

豊田耕児  
Koji Toyoda

有賀 正  
Tadashi Aruga

中嶋敏雄  
Mineo Nakajima

ウィリアム・スター  
William Starr

エブリン・ハーマン  
Evelyn Hermann

・弔電

Telegrams of Condolence

才能教育研究会常務理事  
Executive Director of T.E.R.I.

備前 保  
Tamotsu Bizen

・挨拶

Remarks

喪主 エリカ・ヴォルフホントセフ  
Niece Erika Volhontseff

Niece 山田裕子  
Hiroko Yamada

・献花

Flower Offerings

バイオリン協奏曲イ短調 第2楽章 ..... ビバルディ  
Concerto in A minor, 2nd movement Vivaldi

バイオリンソナタ 第1楽章 ..... エックレレス  
Sonata, 1st movement Eccles

バイオリン協奏曲 第5番 第2楽章 ..... モーツァルト  
Concerto No.5 in A major, 2nd movement Mozart

習作 ..... 鈴木鎮一  
Etude S. Suzuki

バイオリン協奏曲ト短調 第2楽章 ..... ビバルディ  
Concerto in G minor, 2nd movement Vivaldi

バイオリン指導者  
Organ Sakiko Ishikawa

バイオリン教師  
Violin Teachers

オルガン 石川咲子  
Organ Sakiko Ishikawa

Memorial Address

by Mr. Koji Toyoda

I would like to express my deep thanks to all of you for coming from abroad to say goodbye to Mrs. Johanna Waltraud Suzuki.

As all of us know her efforts in helping her husband to spread his ideas of Talent Education throughout the world, which has brought us beautiful friendship, and we are all thankful for this.

Her sincere and determined mind gave us a force of life.

Her true love for Sensei had touched me deeply and gave me the necessary courage to assume the position which I have now. She was like a mother to us all. She left her terrestrial life in peace listening to the music of Mozart.

I believe she is now in Heaven with Sensei, listening to celestial music with him.

May she stay with all of us in our hearts.

Professor Koji Toyoda is President of the Talent Education Research Institute and the International Suzuki Association

ウイリアム・スター

Funeral Oration for Waltraud Suzuki

by William Starr

First, I would like to extend my deepest sympathy to Waltraud Suzuki's family for their great loss, which is also our great loss.

But we are gathered here today not just to mourn her passing but to honor her, celebrate her life, and to give thanks for her great contributions to us and to the Suzuki movement worldwide.

We owe an immense debt of gratitude to Waltraud Suzuki, not only for her role in promoting Suzuki throughout the world, but also for her successful efforts in preventing control of Suzuki's name from being given to commercial interests. This took courage, determination, and incredible vigilance. The result was that Suzuki was able to achieve his goal to assign the rights to his name to the international organization which bears his name. He then commissioned the ISA to grant use of his name to dedicated organizations in countries throughout the world.

Mrs. Suzuki often expressed how deeply she appreciated the kindnesses shown to her by many of you who wrote, telephoned, and visited her frequently. Your often-expressed desires to have her present at important concerts made her happy. "They want me to be there. They really do," she said. She felt your loving concern in her heart.

I must mention her wonderful sense of humor, especially when telling stories about Dr. Suzuki and herself. You *gaijin* will remember a favorite phrase of hers, "Oh my golly!"



Waltraud Suzuki was also deeply concerned about her relationship with God. A devout Catholic, she often spoke with us of her struggles with the challenges and inequities of life in an environment far different from that of her young life in Germany where she sang with the choir in her beloved church – the church in which she married Shinichi Suzuki. Yet, along with her strong faith, she had great respect for the beliefs of others.

Most people never realized how much she subordinated her own desires to those of her husband. She loved literature. Did you know she considered becoming a writer? But she was convinced Suzuki's work could change the world. This was her passionate desire, that the fruits of his life continue to grow throughout the world. In spite of many years of ill health, she dedicated her considerable intelligence, foresight, and courage to further his work.

Today let us commit ourselves to the same passionate desire she possessed.

Thank you, Waltraud Suzuki, for your life, your love, your courage, and above all, your selfless devotion to Suzuki's work.

May God's holy angels bear you up to live with Him for eternity, there to greet again your beloved husband.

*William Starr is ex-chairman of the International Suzuki Association*



## A Memorial Address

*by Dr. Mineo Nakajima*

I would like to present these humble words for the repose of the late Waltraud Prange Suzuki, Mrs. Shinichi Suzuki – or rather, Obachama (*dear aunt*) as we have always addressed you. Let me continue to use the familiar appellation here.

So, Obachama, you have finally left us to rejoin Shinichi Sensei. Even now he must be saying to you, "How nice we are together again." You were at times caring like a loving mother, at times playful like a young girl, then again at times temperamental and quick to express anger. Yet ever since you wedded Shinichi Sensei in 1928, despite periodic hardship, throughout your life you supported and respected the man who was pure-hearted perhaps to a fault. Especially after his death, you had great concern about the future of Talent Education. In this sense, I regard you as a strong woman who lived out your long life in a foreign land proudly and courageously.

I think I first saw you at the Suzuki house at Oyanagimachi around 1950 when I was a pupil of the Matsumoto Music Academy. You were not with Sensei, if I remember correctly, because you were working in Tokyo and returned to Matsumoto only from time to time. I see you in my mind's eye, reclining on a bench chair in his garden and reading. I also recall that your direct contact with his students was rare.

Thus, it was only during the past twenty years or so of my reencounter with members of the Talent Education Research Institute that I had chances to speak with any intimacy with Obachama. For some reason she seems to have taken a liking to me and frequently consulted me on various matters. In particular, at the time of the "Asia Open Forum" that I hosted in Matsumoto in late October last year, she told me she simply had to talk to me and I listened to her stories in great detail.



*newlyweds, Nagoya 1929*

The homework that she gave me on that occasion remained uppermost in my mind. Since I happened to return to Matsumoto on Christmas night, I thought of visiting her at home. I phoned Hiroko Yamada hoping to arrange a visit, but I was unable to reach her and hesitated to visit Obachama by myself late at night. The following morning, I met the news of her death. I rushed over immediately and saw her peaceful face. I cannot but feel that she had called me to Matsumoto on the night of her departure.

I greatly regret that she passed away before the Shinichi Suzuki Memorial Concert, which she had been looking forward to. During the last two days, according to her niece Erika, she talked about many people and also said she would never wish to be hospitalized during the busy time at the end of the old year or the start of the new year. It was, Erika thought, as if she had planned a peaceful final moment on her own. Obachama, you have nothing to worry

about now. Please rest in peace. And remember us to Shinichi Sensei.

This morning, before coming here, by way of farewell I played "Ave Maria" for you at my cottage in Kanda, Matsumoto.

Well then, good bye now.

*Dr. Mineo Nakajima is an Executive Member of the Standing Board of the Talent Education Research Institute and President of Tokyo University of Foreign Language Studies.*

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Waltraud Suzuki Memorial

by Evelyn Hermann

Since the 1960s Waltraud Suzuki devoted her life to being a helpmate to her husband. Together the Suzukis laid the foundation for

one of the most valuable educational systems of the twentieth Century.

Mrs. Suzuki's contribution was very unique. When the American String teachers came to Japan in 1964, we were told that only after we understood Suzuki's book "Nurtured by Love" could we begin to comprehend the Suzuki Method.

Several Japanese were asked to do the translation, but everyone refused, saying it was not possible. But Mrs. Suzuki's tenacity was relentless. She found a Japanese friend who could read the Japanese to her. Then she looked up the English, one word at a time. After the book was in English, she took it to the British Embassy to have it corrected. The greatness of this task was the fact that she was translating from one foreign language and writing in another foreign language. It was only after the book was completed that she told Dr. Suzuki what she had accomplished.

That was the beginning. Thereafter, she became his link to the outside world. When students came to Japan to study with Dr. Suzuki, she looked after them. In the early days it was Mrs. Suzuki who found the a place to live and was constantly checking to be certain they were receiving proper care. Each of those people have wonderful stories to tell about her kindness to them.

In 1982 the Suzukis were at a workshop in Louisiana, USA, and we stayed at the same house. They came with an idea and I was asked to form an organization which was Suzuki's dream. In that weekend we made the plans for the International Suzuki Association. When the organization started, Dr. Suzuki was named president and Mrs. Suzuki, vice-president. Dr. Suzuki was delighted to know that she was so accepted by everyone. She soon spoke for him and relieved him of much of the international work, freeing him to concentrate on teaching and writing.

After Suzuki Sensei's passing Mrs. Suzuki acted in his stead, going to every major performance and convention around the world,

just as he would have done, always bringing his "spirit" to the event. Many times it was with great physical effort that she made those appearances. They endeared her to everyone.

"Mrs. Suzuki, for the many thousands of children and their parents and teachers throughout the Suzuki world, we thank you very much. We are indeed grateful to you for your enormous contribution to our lives."

Dr. Evelyn Hermann is the CEO of the International Suzuki Association.



A tribute to my Aunt Waltraud

by Erika Volhontseff

Waltraud Suzuki was a part of my life for 63 years. She was my mother Erna's younger sister and she also was my godmother at my baptism. She gave me a lot of encouragement throughout my school years, always urging me to do my best in whatever I attempted. She herself disliked the mediocre and always strived to excel in whatever she did. One would never call her boring! She was an avid reader of classics and contemporary works covering a variety of subject matters and could converse and voice her opinions on just about anything.

She was a fascinating woman who knew what she wanted. She was dedicated to and supportive of her husband Shinichi and of his philosophy and dream for world peace and happiness for all children. Her German name Waltraud means strength and loyalty. She had both in abundance. She fought numerous battles with those who tried to take unfair advantage of her husband's good nature and generosity. She was forever protective of Shinichi Suzuki so that he could concentrate on his life work without distraction. She shielded him from unpleasantness and resolved

problems without him even being aware of them. Her loyalty to her husband was total.

Waltraud liked to travel and meet with as many Suzuki teachers as she could during her trips. During the last five years I had the privilege of accompanying her on her many trips and meeting these wonderful teachers myself. The continuation of the Suzuki Method throughout the world was her constant goal.

On Christmas Eve 2000, I was awakened by the sound of tinkling bells just before 10:30 pm. I went to my aunt's room to check on her and found that her heart had stilled forever. She had the most lovely smile on her face, I would almost call it angelic. There was a complete sense of peace about her like an aura. I felt no fear. That was her parting gift to me.



Memories of my Aunt Waltraud Suzuki

by Hiroko Suzuki

As you know, the Grand Concert is the biggest event in the Suzuki Method and is promoted every spring in an atmosphere of cherry blossoms. It is so sad that I must provide for my aunt "silence of condolence" at this year's concert instead of presenting her with a bouquet of flowers as usual. She has always been with the Suzuki Method. After her marriage to Dr. Shinichi Suzuki, she lived in Japan, supporting him in the development of the Suzuki Method. With her strict personality, she well understood the philosophy of Suzuki and greatly contributed in the expansion of the marvelous education method.

She had said before, "I will say 'no' on behalf of Shinichi occasionally." However, I believe that everyone knew that behind the development of Suzuki in the world, there was her honorable respect of Dr. Suzuki as well as a firm trust and much cooperation with him.

Now she must be relaxed, sleeping next to my uncle and the couple will be praying for the future development of the Suzuki Method and the happiness of all children all over the world.

All members of the Suzuki Family, let's work together for the real "heart" of Suzuki from generation to generation and for the happiness of children.

May I take this opportunity to convey my deep appreciation for the many warm messages and flowers for my aunt from many of you. I am confident that she spent a wonderful and happy life with all members of the Suzuki family.

Sincerely yours with many thanks,
Hiroko Suzuki, Niece.



A Fond Remembrance of my Aunt Waltraud

by Guido Mori-Prange

The memory of my aunt will live on in my heart forever. She has always had a very powerful and positive influence in my life. The time we spent together was very precious. I enjoyed my many trips to Japan to visit and loved cooing for her and being with her. We enjoyed many exciting games of Canasta together and, of course, she almost always won. I always remember that she said that tea always tastes better in a cup with a saucer as opposed to using a mug.

Her devotion to her husband was unsurpassed. She truly gave her life to him and his work in every way. I feel such pride in my Aunt's and Uncle's contributions to making the world a better place.

My sister Erika and I wish to express our sincere appreciation to all of you who sent kind letters of condolences and expressions of sympathy.



My Memories of Mrs. Suzuki

by Chizu Kataoka

Last Christmas, my family and I were deeply saddened to receive a fax from the Talent Education institute in Japan informing us of the passing of Mrs. Waltraud Suzuki. As I read the letter, time seemed to suddenly come to a halt. I have wonderful memories of Mrs. Suzuki, which I would like to take this opportunity to share with you.

Mrs. Suzuki was a warm and giving person. She was always elegantly dressed, with beautiful brooches and pins adorning her outfits. Although she was often outspoken and direct, she taught me about life in a quiet, unassuming way. From Mrs. Suzuki, I learned about self-discipline, social manners, and caring for others before myself.

I was born and raised in St. Louis, Missouri. I studied the violin and cello with my parents in their Suzuki class. My mother was one of Dr. Shinichi Suzuki's first students to come to the U.S. to teach the Suzuki Method.

When I was fourteen years old, I went abroad to Matsumoto, Japan, to study with Dr. Suzuki at the Talent Education Institute. At the time, many teacher trainees from around the world attended the Institute to study the Suzuki Method. In addition to the fundamentals of violin playing and teaching, Dr. Suzuki taught all of us the importance of showing respect to others and always striving to improve ourselves as people and musicians. Dr. and Mrs. Suzuki treated all of the students with love, care, and humor, as if we were their own children.

The violin teacher trainees attended daily group and private lessons once a week with Dr. Suzuki. Oba-chama, as we used to call Mrs. Suzuki, would occasionally "check up" on us in our lessons. One afternoon, about ten of us were taking private lessons in Dr. Suzuki's studio. Oba-chama entered quietly and sat down to observe us in our lessons. As the last

person finished, Mrs. Suzuki asked all of the girls to stay in the room. "You have to learn the proper way to sit -- like a lady!" she said. She made each one of us sit correctly, with our backs straight and legs together. This incident left an impression on me, and I always try to remind myself about the importance of proper manners.

At the Institute, the students have two rooms to practice and store their cases and belongings. A white wipe-off board for announcements used to hang by the entrance of the larger room. One year, we were learning the Holberg Suite by Eduard Grieg in our orchestra class. I decided to hold sectional rehearsals and began to write the information on the board. "*Grieg sectional rehearsal....*" Suddenly, I heard Mrs. Suzuki's low voice asking, "How do you spell Grieg?" She shook her head, looking sad, and just walked away. I hurriedly went to look at my music, and realized for the first time that I had been spelling this composer's name wrong for many years, with the "e" and "i" backwards. Since this embarrassing occurrence, I try to be more careful when spelling names.

In the summer of 1988, the American Suzuki conference was held in Chicago. At the time I had already finished my graduation recital in Matsumoto, and Dr. Suzuki was thinking about the next step in my education. He wanted me to study with the late Professor Josef Gingold, who happened to be invited to the conference in Chicago to teach masterclasses. Dr. Suzuki thought it was a perfect opportunity for me to meet and play for Mr. Gingold. Dr. Suzuki suggested that I attend the conference to help with his lecture demonstrations on the Suzuki Method and to meet Mr. Gingold. (Fortunately, I was accepted to the studio of Mr. Gingold, and after Japan, I went on to receive my undergraduate degree in violin performance from Indiana University.)

The trip to Chicago in 1988 was a memorable experience, because I was able to spend a lot of time with Dr. and Mrs. Suzuki. Every evening, Mrs. Suzuki told me what time to be in their room for breakfast. She made sure that

Waltraud Suzuki

by Dorothy Jones

I was saddened to learn of the death of Waltraud Suzuki on December 24, 2000. She was a friend for many years. I will miss her charming smile, her astute comments and her unwavering support of my work in Early Childhood Education.

Waltraud was Dr. Suzuki's most loyal supporter and advocate throughout their long married life. She assisted him in his goal of happiness for all children through Talent Education. Her early training in music and the rich cultural heritage in her youth prepared her well to appreciate her husband's goals. She translated Suzuki's "Nurtured By Love", providing the English speaking countries with a translation of his philosophy of teaching. Waltraud traveled extensively with Dr. Suzuki and often was called upon to explain and answer questions about his work. This was especially true in later years when Suzuki himself was unable to travel.

She was an important figure in the development of the Suzuki Method internationally. She saw the importance of relationships with other countries and played an active role in the communication by responding to foreign correspondence for Dr. Suzuki.

Politically perceptive, she understood, perhaps more than anyone, the importance of the international interest in Suzuki's work. Mrs. Suzuki was a member of the International Suzuki Association Board of Directors.

She developed personal relationships with many of the country delegates to the ISA and saw her role as host whenever they were in Japan. She also enjoyed the many social opportunities that occurred at Suzuki World Conferences. In Australia, several of us rode with her in an antique limousine chauffeured by a Suzuki teacher, to one of the Gala concerts. Although she had had a long week and a long day, she was a good sport and made

Dr. Suzuki had enough time to rest between lectures throughout the day, his meals were appropriate, his violin was safe, his schedule was not too busy so he had time to smoke his favorite Camel cigarettes, and that someone was walking alongside him at all times.

It was always so pleasant and cheerful to be with Dr. and Mrs. Suzuki. They had a way of making the people around them feel comfortable and at ease. Even the waiters and waitresses, the taxi drivers, the bellman all enjoyed their conversation and humor.

As we were heading for the airport, we could see many buildings from our car window. We passed a shoe store called "Payless Shoes", and Mrs. Suzuki chuckled and said, "How can you buy shoes, without paying?" I tried to help her out of the car as we reached the airport. But she said, "Don't worry about me. Just help Suzuki Sensei."

I left Japan in December of 1988, after three and a half years of study. One the day of my departure, I received a small, handmade card from Mrs. Suzuki. On the front of the card there was a pinwheel made of beautiful rice paper. Inside, she wrote in her elegant script lettering, "Dear Chizu: We will miss you. Fondly, Waltraud Suzuki." Her warm thoughtfulness has touched many people, and I will treasure this card forever.

A few years ago, Mrs. Suzuki had said, "My dream is to sail around the world on a cruise ship, just Dr. Suzuki and me." When I heard this story, I realized that she had devoted her entire life to Dr. Suzuki and the children around the world. Her only wish was to spend some time alone with her husband. This past Christmas Eve, Dr. Suzuki called her back to the heavens. Finally, perhaps, her wish has come true.

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it a splendid event with her sense of humour and willingness to get into the spirit of the evening. Another time at a dinner in a German restaurant in Australia, she told anecdotes and regaled us with stories of German customs and traditions keeping us all entertained. She was masterful at being an ambassador for Dr. Suzuki.

I remember well one of my first personal encounters with this very gracious and candid lady. She and I drove together to have lunch with Nada Brissenden who had recently arrived in Matsumoto to attend a former piano student's TEI graduation recital. Mrs. Suzuki asked many questions about programs in Australia, the United States, and Canada. She appealed to Nada and I to do everything we could in our own countries to further Suzuki Method education. I was impressed with her devotion to Suzuki's cause and mark this conversation as the beginning of my own commitment to establish a Talent Education Centre in Canada. In later years, she often articulated the frustration that she and Dr. Suzuki felt that Suzuki Early Childhood Education was so slow to achieve acceptance in the general education community. Consequently she never missed an opportunity to encourage the growth of Suzuki ECE. She and Dr. Suzuki maintained a strong interest in our school even sending financial support in the early years. Waltraud was always interested in the many teachers from other countries who came to the school to observe and study.

Her behind the scenes activity showed me her personal strength and support on numerous occasions. She wrote a personal note to me when she learned of my daughter's serious illness even though she was herself not well at the time. She always took time to ask details of what she considered her "extended family" – those that she grew to know during their study visits to Matsumoto. She often said, "you should contact –this teacher or that teacher", putting teachers around the world in touch with each other concerning Dr. Suzuki's important work.

My last extended conversation with Waltraud was in her home when my daughter and I visited her the week of Dr. Suzuki's memorial service. In that conversation she still expressed her hope to visit our school. I was proud, a year later at the last Suzuki International Convention, to introduce to her, my early childhood teaching team from the school. Although never able to physically visit the school, her spirit will always be there.;

Her devotion to the Suzuki Method, her loyalty to the many Suzuki teachers around the world, her hard work in specific undertakings, and her friendship, will inspire me as a role model for the rest of my life.

Dorothy Jones is the Dean and Founder, Children's Talent Education Centre, London Ontario Canada. The school incorporates Suzuki instrumental music; a five day Suzuki Kindergarten for children ages 3-6, and weekly Parents as Partners Programs for expectant moms, infant and parent and toddler and parent.



Waltraud Suzuki 1987



Mrs. Hiroko Suzuki Yamada (Dr. Suzuki's niece)
Mrs. Suzuki, Erika Volhontseff (Mrs. Suzuki's niece)
Matsumoto, November 2000



Waltraud Suzuki
International Suzuki Conference
Hawaii



Evelyn Hermann and Waltraud Suzuki



Dr. & Mrs. Shinichi Suzuki



Koji Toyoda, Hiroko Suzuki and Mrs. Suzuki
at Dr. Suzuki's 99th birthday celebration



Waltraud with her niece Erika and great grandniece Nicole
April 3, 2000



John Kendall and Waltraud Suzuki
Matsumoto, April 1999

Remembering Waltraud Suzuki

Susan Grilli

I had been teaching in Massachusetts for three years using the philosophy and method of Shinichi Suzuki to bring early violin instruction to children in one elementary school's first three classes, when we arrived in Japan for a stay of two years. One of our earliest trips out of Tokyo was to the 1970 Summer School in Matsumoto where I had my first glimpse of the magic of Dr. Suzuki in person with some of the smallest children I had ever imagined could even hold a violin, much less play it and play it well. I was entranced at the delightful atmosphere of learning in which so much was being learned by everyone there – everyone given the gift of new ideas to take home with them and develop further. I eagerly looked forward to meeting both this wise and creative teacher and his German wife whose English translation of Nurtured by Love would bring Suzuki's work to the world's attention.

Mrs. Suzuki, it was clear as we got to know her, helped her husband in a million ways to further the best interests of Talent Education, both in Japan and around the world. She was charming and cultured and herself a musician, and at the same time could be fiercely protective of her man and his work, speaking out when speaking out would make a real difference. She devoted her life to that cause. We must hope that the spirit of all that these two remarkable people did for young children, teachers, and parents as well as the many Suzuki organizations around the world, will be carried on in the most authentic and natural way possible by those who follow.

I remember Waltraud as a friend with whom I spent an especially companionable week in Korea in 1991. Although Mrs. Suzuki really only needed to play a ceremonial role on this trip, she acted as her husband's chief representative in all ways. She was inexhaustible through a long and challenging schedule both in and outside Seoul, despite a series of health problems that were getting progressively worse. Waltraud was a good sport about joining in all the many activities

planned for us and the Japanese children brought to perform, and worked extremely hard to observe all she could in the Korean early childhood classrooms so that she could report back to the man she always called "Su-soo-ki." I don't ever remember her calling him "Shinichi", but do recall her stories of going together to one of the many onsen (hot springs) in and around Matsumoto after a hard day's teaching – the hot spring water thoroughly relaxed them and they had some of their best conversations there – especially in the early days. This precious chance to enjoy each other's company provided wonderful memories for her as he became less a companion in his last years.

Every time I visited the Suzukis in Matsumoto, both Dr. and Mrs. Suzuki expressed their passion to see Suzuki Early Education catch on all over the world. Mrs. Suzuki actually arranged lectures for me to give both in Japan and Korea and loyally attended my early childhood sessions at conferences whenever she could. Over the years, she encouraged my work in every way possible. I am very grateful for all she did to help me professionally, but it is her friendship that I will always value the most. I have often thought of her arriving in relatively remote Matsumoto as a new bride in 1928 – virtually the only foreigner – it couldn't have been easy! Her life came to have an enormous impact on all of us lucky enough to spend substantial time with both Suzukis. Without her the Suzuki philosophy would no doubt not now enjoy the worldwide recognition and importance that is true today. Even the physical problems of recent years sapping more and more of her prodigious energies, she continued to go to concerts, conferences, meetings, workshops, lectures – both in and outside Japan – representing Dr. Suzuki and his ideas in a way that could only have made him very, very proud. When I heard the sad news that this indomitable woman was no longer with us, I thought long about the smile that was said to remain with her in death. It made sense to me that this unusually devoted couple would be reunited in spirit, for surely that is the reason for Waltraud's smile! We will miss her!

Biography of Waltraud Suzuki

Waltraud Suzuki passed away on December 24, 2000, at her home in Matsumoto, Japan. Her contribution to the Suzuki Movement world-wide is immeasurable. Because of her linguistic ability, she was able to help Dr. Suzuki spread his ideas for teaching small children throughout the world.

Prior to World War II it was the custom in Europe, especially in Germany, to gather in homes and spend the evening performing classical music. As this was before the advent of radio and TV, this was the primary source of entertainment. It was at one of these musical evening sessions that the Suzukis met.

Waltraud was the soprano soloist at the Catholic church she attended. Unbeknownst to her, Suzuki began to attend the Sunday services to hear her sing. Later, when they decided to marry, they planned to live in Switzerland. However, this was not to be. Suzuki was informed that his mother was very ill, and they left for Japan through Siberia via the Oriental Express.

Upon arriving in Japan, Waltraud felt very isolated because there were no newspapers written in Roman letters and no such thing as radio. The Suzuki family was very wealthy and owned the largest violin factory in the world. Waltraud learned her Japanese from the servants in the household.

When the war started, she was kept in a camp in the Atami area because she was still a German citizen. The Suzukis were separated for a number of years. After the war she worked for the Red Cross and later at a Tokyo bank. She continued to work while Suzuki began his teaching in Matsumoto. She contributed to changing their home so the living room area could become a practical teaching studio.

Her greatest contribution was the translating of "Nurtured by Love" into English, a great accomplishment in itself, for she translated

from one foreign language into another foreign language. The Japanese Suzuki used was very erudite and was not used after World War II. Several people were asked to do the translation, but all said it was impossible. With the aid of a Japanese lady, Waltraud would get the gist of a paragraph, and then put it into English. Afterwards, she took her translation to the British embassy to be certain the English was proper. Only when it was completed did she tell Dr. Suzuki what she had accomplished. From this book the world began to understand Dr. Suzuki's method and it then began to spread to the English speaking countries.

Waltraud made many trips all over the world to explain the Suzuki Method. We are indebted to her for helping us to understand the philosophy. Together the Suzukis have laid the foundation for an invaluable educational system for the twenty-first century.

Funeral services for Mr. Suzuki were held in Matsumoto, Japan, on January 25th, and a memorial concert for Dr. and Mrs. Suzuki were performed in Tokyo on January 28th. Suzuki teachers and former Suzuki students who are now members of major symphony orchestras around the world comprised the orchestra for that performance.

It is with great sadness that we announce the death of our Honorary President, Mrs. Waltraud Suzuki, on 24th December 2000, at the age of 95.

It was largely due to the efforts of Mrs. Suzuki that Dr. Suzuki's ideas about the education of children became known outside Japan. We owe her a great debt of gratitude.

Her strong spirit and her interest in our work were always sources of inspiration and support for Suzuki teachers in Europe. We will miss her very much.

*Haukur F. Hannesson, deputy chairman
(for the ESA Board of Directors)*

☞☞☞☞☞

Mrs. Waltraud Suzuki (1905 – 2000)

By Harold Brissenden

For almost 70 years she supported and encouraged Dr. Suzuki in his work of enriching the lives of children throughout the world with music. As his fame spread and Talent Education became known outside of Japan, a steady stream of music educators from the western world began to visit Japan. Mrs. Suzuki was tireless in her hospitality and assistance to them, not only as a translator in talks with Dr. Suzuki, but in helping with everyday matters such as accommodation, travel, and shopping.

She was a young woman in her early twenties when she met and married Shinichi Suzuki in Berlin. Arriving as a young bride in a land of totally different culture, one can only imagine the difficulties she overcame to become part of her new environment.



Her mastery of two foreign languages, English and Japanese, enabled her to translate Dr. Suzuki's book, "Nurtured By Love," into English after several other translators had failed to convey the true essence of Suzuki's philosophy and ideals. Mrs. Suzuki visited Australia several times, the last occasion being in 1998 when she was our guest in Sydney at our special Memorial Graduation Concert.

Suzuki families everywhere owe a great debt to her indomitable spirit and invaluable contribution to the growth of Talent Education.

Mr. Harold Brissenden is President of the Australian National Council for Suzuki Talent Education Association

Tribute to Mrs. Waltraud Suzuki

Päivi Kukkamäki

I always remember how we met. It was the year 1986: European Suzuki Conference was held in Finland. We were honored to have Doctor Shinichi Suzuki and Mrs. Waltraud Suzuki here. I was a young, newly married singer and was the person who took care of Mrs. Kataoka during her stay here. When Mrs. Suzuki heard about our trips, she wanted to see the same places. I was very excited to take care of Mrs. Suzuki alone and I forgot to check the opening hours of the place I was supposed to take her. Mrs. Suzuki and me were standing out in the street. It snowed and the wind was strong and cold. She was upset... Luckily across the street there was a very nice tea-room and I took her there and asked her to wait. The only thing I could think of was to bring my new wedding photos from the car. We had to wait one hour, but the time flew. I never forget, how I sat and listened to Waltraud's memories about her wedding with Doctor Suzuki. We were like two happy, giggling girls.

This was the start of our friendship. The next Autumn we met in Japan and it changed my life. I sang the songs which Doctor Suzuki gave me, I participated in Mr. Takahashi's opera classes, played the piano as a student of Mrs. Kataoka. Mrs. Suzuki and I talked many times about singing – as she was a German singer herself. Before I returned home Doctor Suzuki and Mrs. Suzuki asked me to start Suzuki voice experiment in Finland. The first expectant mothers' Suzuki voice group started in May 1987. Since then Waltraud has been our godmother. She suggested the main songs we are using in the Suzuki voice program.

During these 14 years we have met all over the world and set letters to each other. She was a very special and loving person. She always had time to take care, support, and encourage us to keep on singing the happy Suzuki way. Week after Doctor Suzuki died Waltraud wrote,

"...Now all teachers have to take more responsibility to keep Suzuki's spirit alive...."

I was very shocked when I heard about her death (24.12.2000), because we received her Christmas letter 11.12.2000. She had got our painted guardian angel and small, wooden "twinkle" star. Her last words were: "...Take care of yourself. Love, Waltraud."

Mrs. Suzuki – now you are our godmother in heaven.

All Suzuki singers in the world thank you from the bottom of our heart.

We promise to keep Suzuki's Spirit alive.

Goodbye and thank you, my dear friend!

Päivi Kukkamäki is a Suzuki Voice ESA Teacher Trainer and Licentiate of Music / Sibelius University

Tribute to Mrs. Waltraud Suzuki

The Suzuki Institute of Switzerland (ISS) wishes to place on record its profound sadness at the passing of Mrs. Waltraud Suzuki in which the whole Suzuki family in Switzerland, students, teachers, parents, and friends deeply share.

A life-long partner and ardent supporter of her beloved husband Shinichi Suzuki, she worked constantly at his side and after his demise to nurture the flame of the Suzuki movement and help to propagate its unique message for music and pedagogy in general, throughout the world.

The ISS expresses its great appreciation in memory of Waltraud Suzuki for her dedication and devotion to all that her husband bequeathed to subsequent generations of children on all continents and for the rich legacy in imparting the love and joy of music to young students, she helped to perpetuate. We shall remember her with affection and gratitude.

The ESA has received the following article from Anne and Henry Turner, who were friends of Mrs. Suzuki for many years:

WALTRAUD SUZUKI 1905-2000

Waltraud Suzuki (née Prange), the widow of Dr. Shinichi Suzuki, died peacefully in Matsumoto on the 24th December, 2000. She had been in hospital for a fortnight and, in her usual forthright manner, had told her doctor that she would like to live until Christmas, but had no wish to see in the New Year.

Waltraud was born and grew up in Berlin, in a cultural environment, where she met Suzuki, who was studying the violin. The couple married in 1928 against some opposition from both families. Shortly afterwards Waltraud gave up a promising career as a singer to accompany her husband back to Japan, which became their home for nearly seventy years.

The war years and their aftermath cannot have been easy. Suzuki was making his way as a violin teacher and devising his educational theories and Waltraud took a secretarial job with the Tokyo branch of the Chartered Bank. She was delighted, many years later, during a visit to London, to be entertained to luncheon at the Standard and Chartered Bank by the Chairman, Peter Graham, who had been her 'boss' in Japan.

Waltraud and Suzuki complemented each other admirably; she helped shape his lifework. As his theories gained wider acceptance outside Japan, he was much in demand to lecture and demonstrate his techniques. Waltraud was always in attendance during his journeying and her imposing presence graced every Suzuki concert. If she ever grew tired of "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star", she never showed it! Even after Suzuki's death, Waltraud continued to travel widely and play an active part in the office in Matsumoto. The future health and development of Dr. Suzuki's work will owe much to Waltraud's contribution.

I regret that I will not be able to attend Waltraud Suzuki's Memorial Service in Matsumoto, for health reasons.

I received the death of her demise with mixed feelings.

I was saddened by the thought of having lost a good friend, but gratified that her suffering had at long last come to an end.

We met about 35 years ago and never lost touch during that time. I found her to be a very honest and sincere person, and forever devoted to her husband and his ideals. She defended him at all times, against exploitation and abuse and went on to translate, "Nurtured by Love," a formidable task.

The absence of children seems to have drawn them closer together, enhanced their love and

respect for one another, which I saw intensify over the years. This is particularly evident in her letters to me, especially those written after Suzuki's departure to eternal rest.

Their colorful and varied life together could well go down in history as one of the great love stories of the last century.

I shall miss her.

Alfred Garson

Dr. Alfred Garson introduced Suzuki Method to Canada, England, Norway, France, Italy, Spain, Morocco and Zaire. He also went to South Africa and South America. He is a professor at McGill University in Montreal, Quebec, Canada. Author of "Suzuki Twinkles, An Intimate Portrait."



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Margaret Nicol
Josephine O'Dowd
Dorothea O'Hearn
Robyn Oliver
Adrian Ormiston
David Osborne
Prue Page
Sheryl Parkinson
Shirley Plowright
Christine Pollard
Diane Powell
Denise Pratt
Leone Rickards
Jessie Robb
Barbara Robinson
Zohara Rotem
Marie Rotteveel
Diana Russell
Marina Savio
Antonia Schmid
Margarita Scott-Young
Clare Seligman
Winnie Shih
Beverley Sleep
Heather Smart
Christianna Smith
Helen Smoothy
John Speer
Susan Spooner
Veronica Stone
Hea-Kyong Suh
Eileen Sutton
Jennifer Taylor
Maureen Taylor
Azalea Thomas
Sheila Thomson
Beverley Tierney
Phyllis Todner
Luette Tolhurst
Helen Hong Tu
Astrid van Der Vlies
Jill Viner
Robert Wakely
Donna Wallis
Sheila Warby
Colin Watts
Pat West
Margaret Wilkie
Ludmilla Yaroshevich
Agnes Yeap
Anita Zielonka

CANADA

Phyllis Antognini
Paule Barsalou
Elizabeth Jones Cherrick

Yasuko Eastman
Cynthia Nidd

DENMARK

Anders Grøn

ENGLAND

Jane Panter
Soyin Pat Tang
Enid Wood

FINLAND

Paivi Kylliku Kukkamäki
Marja-Leena Mäkilä

FRANCE

Christophe Bossuat

INDONESIA

Jani Kusuma

ITALY

Elio Galvagno

JAPAN

All Japanese Teachers

THE NETHERLANDS

Johannes Lievaart
Anneke Visser

NEW GUINEA

Janita Hughes

NEW ZEALAND

Margaret Crawshaw
Marys Raewyn Donaldson
Stacey Shuck

PHILIPPINES

Rose Marie V. Banta

SCOTLAND-U.K.

Anne Turner
Henry Turner

SPAIN

Ana Maria Sebastian

SWEDEN

Haukur F. Hannesson
Ingela Ohldin

USA

Geri T. Arnold
Susan Ashby
Barbara Balatero
Charlene Bandurian
Rodanne Bartlett
Christine Beckstrom
Louise Behrend
Diana J. Benti
Carole L. Bigler
Sr. Patricia Binko C.S.J
Mark Bjork
Lamar Blum
Mary Frances Boyce
Cleo Ann Brimhall
Suzanne Brimhall

Kathy Brow
Jennifer J. Burton
Laurie Carlson
Aileen Zen Chun
Ronda Cole
Ramona Coppage
Linda Hausman Cox
Winifred Crock
Mary Beth Cullitan
Joan E. Cutnell
Patricia D'Ercole
Dr. Neal Donner
Elaine Edwards
M. Beth Eigenheer
Rebecca S. Ensworth
Kim Evander
Faith Farr
Robert Fraley
Phyllis F. Freeman
Pamela Frish-Benigni
Keiko Y. Furness
Furusawa Family
Diana Galindo
Susan Garber
Nora Grafton
Audrey M. Gray
Suzanne Grosz
Rudy Hazucha
Estelle Herman
Lucy Herndon
Norma Dean Hilpl
Joanne Ikeda
Sheila Keats
Frieda B. Keck
Mary Kneeland
Alice Keith Knowles
Betsy Deming Kobayashi
Joan Krzywicki
Judy Kuhlman
Sheryl A. LaFayette
Ruth Engle Lerner
Susan Levine
Allen Lieb Jr.
Jeanne Luedke
June L. Manners
Armena Marderosian
Rose Martin
Jacqueline Maurer
James Maurer
Mary Ann Mears
Hilda Meltzer
Deborah Moench
Doris Morioka
Margaret Myers
Rose S. Okada
Carol C. Ourada
Nancy Pederson
Joseph Petron
Dawn Price
Frances S. Reedy
Dorothy Regis
Linda Armstrong Rekas
Dorothy Risebig
Becky Rogot
Hava Rogot
Joseph Rogot
Wayne Roos
Nora A. Schmid
Cynthia Scott

Special Members

James Selway
Janis Shah
Barbara J. Shepherd
Sayuri Shibata
Margaret Shimizu
Sheryl A. Shohet
Stephen Sims
Dr. Joan S. Spicknall
Edmund Sprunger
M/M William J. Starr
Diane Steen-Hinderlie
Ramona Stirling
Aljean Svendsgaard
Dr. S. Daniel Swaim
Mary Ann Swallum
Maya Takemoto
Carol Tarr
Cheryl Terry
Gwendoline Thornblade
Monica H. Vander Baan
Patricia G. Vas Dias
Mary Kay Waddington
Kaye M. Wagner
Carol Waldvogel
Jack Wallace
Robert Wallish
Stephanie K. Wass
Melanie Webster
Deborah Wegener
Lucille Welhouse
Nettie R. West
Rebecca A. Wiessner
Charlene Wilson
Enid Wood
Nancy S. Yamagata
Carole Ann Yeazell

COUNTRY MEMBERSHIP

- Asociacion Suzuki del Ecuador
- Korean Suzuki Talent Education Association
- Philippine Suzuki Association
- New Zealand Suzuki Institute, Inc.

SCHOOL MEMBERSHIP

- Turnhoutse Suzuki Vereniging, Turnhout Belgium
- Children's Talent Education Center, London, ON Canada
- Preucil School of Music Iowla City, IA USA
- The Music School, Inc. Bethesda MD USA

International Suzuki Association Board Meeting Minutes

Arc Hills Club
Tokyo, Japan
January 29-30, 2001

Hiroko Yamada, Chair, presided and called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

Directors in attendance: Hiroko Yamada (Chair), William Preucil (Vice Chair), Haukur Hannesson (Treasurer), James Maurer (Secretary), Harold Brissenden, Akira Nakajima, Birte Kelly, Evelyn Hermann (CEO)

President of ISA in attendance: Koji Toyoda, President of TERI

Guests in attendance: Gilda Barston (Chair-Elect of SAA), Pam Brasch (CEO of SAA), Guido Mori-Prange (Mrs. Suzuki's nephew)

Translators in attendance: Isao Fujii (ISA Japan Office), Kazuko Nakada

MONDAY, JANUARY 29, 2001

Welcome by Ms. Yamada.

The Board observed a moment of silence for Mrs. Suzuki.

All board members signed in for attendance.

The Board welcomed Birte Kelly as a new board member at-large.

President Toyoda addressed the Board. He stressed the importance of putting the child first in education. He said that he appreciates the appointment as President of ISA and wants to be an advisor to the ISA Board without voting privileges. He would like to have copies of correspondence sent to him so that he knows what is going on.

MOTION 1: That the Minutes of the May 29-31, 2000 meeting be approved as amended. The following consensus will be added:

CONSENSUS: That Chair's term will continue until April 5, 2001.

M: Hannesson S: Brissenden Passed

MOTION 2: That a Bylaws Committee be appointed, consisting of Evelyn Hermann (Chair), Haukur Hannesson, Hiroko Suzuki Yamada, James Maurer, Akira Nakajima, and Harold Brissenden. That this committee be charged to consult with an attorney who specializes in nonprofit corporations in the State of Texas to determine if the current bylaws are in order. The committee will make a report to the Board of Directors.

M: Yamada S: Hannesson Passed

MOTION 3: That an ISA website be set up and maintained as recommended by Haukur Hannesson. The domain name will be www.internationalsuzuki.org.

M: Maurer S: Preucil Passed

ISA Board Meeting 01/29/01

Recessed for lunch at 12:00 pm.

Reconvened at 1:30 pm.

MOTION 4: That Gilda Barston will be the representative from SAA for a term beginning August 1, 2001 until July 31, 2003.

M: Hannesson S: Maurer Passed

NOMINATIONS FOR AT-LARGE DIRECTOR:

Nomination of Yasuki Nakamura

M: Brissenden S: Preucil

Nomination of Akira Nakajima

M: Hannesson S: Yamada

Motion to close nominations Passed

M: Maurer S: Brissenden

ELECTION OF AT-LARGE DIRECTOR: Yasuki Nakamura for a term to begin on August 1, 2001 and end on July 31, 2006.

NOMINATIONS FOR CHAIR:

Nomination of Hiroko Suzuki Yamada

M: Nakajima S: Yamada

Nomination of Haukur Hannesson

M: Maurer S: Kelly

Motion to close nominations

M: Maurer S: Kelly Passed

ELECTION OF CHAIR: Hiroko Suzuki Yamada

MOTION 5: Ms. Yamada's term of office as Chair shall begin on April 5, 2001 and end on April 4, 2003, the same as her term as TERI representative.

M: Hannesson S: Nakajima Passed

NOMINATIONS FOR TREASURER:

Nomination of Birte Kelly

M: Maurer S: Hannesson

ELECTION OF TREASURER: Birte Kelly for a term to begin on January 31, 2001 and end on April 4, 2003.

NOMINATIONS FOR SECRETARY:

Nomination of Gilda Barston

M: Preucil S: Hannesson

ISA Board Meeting 01/29/01

2/17/01

ELECTION OF SECRETARY: Gilda Barston for a term to begin on August 1, 2001 and end on July 31, 2003.

CONSENSUS 1: The term of Vice Chair for Bill Preucil will end on April 4, 2002.

CONSENSUS 2: That each regional association will send copies of its teacher training documents to every other regional association.

ANNOUNCEMENT: That Seizo Azuma will be the TERI representative to the Piano Committee and Toshio Takahashi will be the TERI representative to the Flute Committee.

ANNOUNCEMENT: That the ISA Name Agreement with TERI is wrong. The correct one will be signed.

CONSENSUS 3: That Haukur Hannesson's report on the legal investigation into Section 4.4. of ISA's Bylaws regarding the term "ex officio" be accepted.

MOTION 4: That Professor Toyoda shall be an advisor to all Instrument Committees.
M: Nakajima S: Yamada Passed

MOTION 5: That the Instrument Committees and the regional associations look into the possibility of establishing a graduation system.
M: Nakajima S: Hannesson Passed

CONSENSUS 4: Notification to Instrument Committees shall come from the Chair.

Recessed for dinner at 5:00 pm.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 30, 2001

Meeting reconvened at 9:07 am.

Directors in attendance: Hiroko Yamada (Chair), William Preucil (Vice Chair), Haukur Hannesson (Treasurer), James Maurer (Secretary), Harold Brissenden, Akira Nakajima, Birte Kelly, Evelyn Hermann (CEO)

President of ISA not in attendance: Koji Toyoda, President of TERI

Guests in attendance: Gilda Barston (Chair-Elect of SAA), Pam Brasch (CEO of SAA), Erika Volhontseff (Mrs. Suzuki's niece)

Translators in attendance: Isao Fujii (ISA Japan Office), Kazuko Nakada

MOTION 6: That the ISA Board of Directors accept and sign the agreement of employment with CEO Evelyn Herman.
M: Maurer S: Kelly Passed

MOTION 7: That the ISA Board of Directors adopt the CEO Job Description as written.
M: Maurer S: Brissenden Passed

ISA Board Meeting 01/29/01

2/17/01

CONSENSUS 5: The ISA Board of Directors welcomes the idea of a world convention in Turin, Italy 12/05-1/06 in conjunction with the Winter Olympics and encourages the Instituto Suzuki Italiano to proceed with plans.

Recessed for lunch at 11:30 am.

Reconvened at 1:10 pm.

MOTION 8: That the Taiwan Ruling by Haukur Hannesson be adopted by the ISA Board of Directors approving the ROCSTMTEA as the official Suzuki association in Taiwan.
M: Hannesson S: Kelly Passed

MOTION 9: That Ms. Yamada send a letter to the Asian Suzuki Association explaining the documents that the ISA Board of Directors needs before it can give approval to the organization. These documents include:

1. The Articles of Incorporation with proof of government registration
2. Corrected Bylaws – Article 1, Section 2.A.1 add sub-license after Name Agreement to read "Name Agreement Sub-License"
3. Corrected Bylaws – Article 1, Section 2.B – Delete Australian Suzuki Association
4. Corrected Bylaws – Article 1, Section 2.B – Change "Taiwan Suzuki Association" to "Republic of China Suzuki Method Talent Education Association"
5. Removal of Mr. Yasuki Nakamura as Advisor. He cannot be an Executive Committee member of the ASA since he is neither a citizen nor a resident of the ASA's area of operation. It is suggested that the term "Advisor" be changed to "Vice-President" in Section 3.9.2 and elsewhere in the Bylaws.
6. A formal signed application for ASA membership of ISA including names, signatures, and addresses of all Executive Committee members of the ASA

M: Hannesson S: Preucil Passed

MOTION 10: That the ISA Board appoints Yasuki Nakamura as a "Special Liaison" between the ISA and the ASA.

M: Hannesson S: Brissenden Passed

CONSENSUS 6: That ISA's copyrights and trademarks are maintained throughout the world. Cooperation with Warner Bros. should be sought where appropriate.

MOTION 11: That the Treasurer's Report for fiscal year 1999-2000 be accepted.

M: Hannesson S: Preucil Passed

MOTION 12: That Motion 9 and Consensus 4 from the September 1999 meeting be implemented as soon as operating costs of the Japan office for fiscal year

ISA Board Meeting 01/29/01

2/17/01

2001-2002 are budgeted. As a general guideline, 20% of net income should be kept in an interest bearing account in Japan and 80% in certificates of deposit in the United States.

M: Hannesson S: Kelly Passed

MOTION 13:

That the following budget be accepted for fiscal year 2001-2002 subject to the approval of the regional boards:

BUDGET: Fiscal Year 1 August 2001 – 31 July 2002

<u>INCOME:</u>	<u>US\$</u>
1. Membership fees from SAA, ESA, PPSA and ASA (based on a minimum calculation of \$5 per teacher member)	32,125
2. Membership from TERI (60,000 + 6,500)	66,500
3. Other income: Subscriptions, donations, and the like	10,000
4. Deficit: Out of capital	<u>24,375</u>
	<u>133,000</u>
 <u>EXPENDITURE:</u>	
1. Administration: USA office	49,000
2. Administration: Japan office	60,000
3. Board meetings (including travel)	18,000
4. Instrument Committees	1,000
5. Copyright	<u>5,000</u>
	<u>133,000</u>

M: Hannesson S: Kelly Passed

CONSENSUS 7: That the next meeting will be held in England at the ESA Office in April 2002.

Erika Volhontseff was invited to read a speech by Mrs. Suzuki, which she recently found in Mrs. Suzuki's possessions. It was a touching speech on her dreams for the Suzuki Method.

Meeting adjourned at 6:15 pm.

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR INTERNATIONAL SUZUKI ASSOCIATION
(Fiscal Year, August 01, 2000- July 31, 2001)

FISCAL YEAR: 2000-2001

Reporting period: August 01, 2000-December 31,2000

Cash on Hand (checking account) August 01, 2000

		+ \$ 4,0341.52
INCOME:		
Memberships.....	\$14,508.26	
Gifts.....	<u>\$ 385.00</u>	
Total.....	\$14,893.23	+ \$14,893.23
EXPENSES:		
Secretarial Services.....	\$ 1,016.24	
Office Supplies.....	\$ 3,221.64	
Postage.....	\$ 288.60	
Telephone.....	\$ 550.92	
Printing.....	\$ 2,007.25	
CEO Salary.....	\$ 3,097.12	
Taxes:		
Withho		
lding tax.....	\$ 42.00	
FICA (Soc, Sec, Fund).....	\$ 124.90	
Washington Employment Tax.....	\$ 17.08	
Washington Dept of Labor.....	\$ 21.20	
Rent.....	<u>\$ 500.00</u>	
Total Expenses:.....	\$10,886.95	- \$10,886.95
Income to date for Fiscal Year.....		+ \$ 4,006.28
Balance On Hand..from '99-00		+ \$40,341.52
Total Checking Acct. Balance, December 31, 2000.....		+ \$44,347.80
CD- Value 11-08-00		+ <u>\$ 7,705.52</u>
 Total balance on hand.....		 + \$52,053.39

Submitted by:

Evelyn Hermann,
ISA/USA office.

THE INTERNATIONAL SUZUKI ASSOCIATION®

The International Suzuki Association was founded in 1983 as a non-profit organization in Dallas, Texas in order to serve as a coalition of Suzuki Associations throughout the world. In June, 1988, the headquarters moved to Matsumoto. The ISA has been designated by Dr. Suzuki as the sole authorized organization which can grant rights to the use of his name, trademarks and service marks on his name for music, products or organizations associated with Dr. Suzuki or his "Suzuki Method."

Under these circumstances, all Suzuki Associations are legally required to join the ISA with appropriate agreements concerning the use of the name Suzuki.

The ISA should be comprised of member associations pursuing goals and assuming obligations consistent with its organizational regulations. Consequently, every individual member of ISA must be a member of such an association and each association a member of the ISA. The primary purpose of the International Suzuki Association shall be to serve as an information and coordination center serving the various organizations within each country and region through such country's or region's "Representative" concerning the "Suzuki Method"™ for the purpose of formulating and maintaining high standards of educational instruction under the "Suzuki Method"™.

The ISA strives to encourage, promote, enlarge, and coordinate the Suzuki Method throughout the world. In order to achieve its goals, we plan to carry out the following activities.

1. Sponsor the Suzuki world Convention and International conference.
2. Sponsor the International Suzuki Teachers Conference.
3. Train Suzuki teachers in developing countries.
4. Help every country establish a national Suzuki Association.
5. Translate and publish the *International Suzuki Journal*, the ISA newsletter, a teacher directory, and Suzuki literature.
6. Evaluate and issue International Suzuki teacher certificates.
7. Examine and make final decisions concerning publication of all books and teaching materials related to the Suzuki Method.

In order for ISA to be able to carry out these activities, each member association is asked to pay per capita fees. Member benefits are as follows:

1. Participation in International Conferences and local conferences sponsored or endorsed by ISA.
2. Establishing national associations in their countries with the guidance and support of ISA.
3. Holding local conferences in their countries with endorsed and approved by ISA.
4. Receipt of member certificates, the bulletin, the *International Suzuki Journal*, etc., and, where experience is appropriate, the International Suzuki instructor accreditations.
5. Can visit and study at Talent Education Institute in Matsumoto, Japan, subject to approved Suzuki teacher's recommendation.

SUZUKI NAME AND TRADEMARK

A number of members of our Association, and several authors, have raised questions as to how they may use the name of Dr. Shinichi Suzuki in connection with works or products they have prepared. The purpose of this article is to try to clarify this situation.

In 1990, Dr. Suzuki granted to a subsidiary of Warner-Chappell Music, Inc., Summy-Birchard, Inc., the exclusive right and license to manufacture, distribute and sell copies of the musical works of Dr. Suzuki in a series of pedagogical editions, whether printed, recorded, videotaped or in other formats, which had been prepared by Dr. Suzuki or under his authority as part of the SUZUKI METHOD™ of musical education and training. That Agreement also includes an exclusive right given to Summy-Birchard to use the trademark SUZUKI® on and in connection with such works, as well as certain other materials, products or devices. Therefore, no one may prepare any of Dr. Suzuki's musical arrangements or music sequencing, under the names SUZUKI®, SUZUKI METHOD™, or the like, unless prior approval is obtained from both Dr. Suzuki (or his designated representative ISA) and Summy-Birchard.

If anyone prepares such a work and wants it to be considered for publication as part of the SUZUKI METHOD™ of instruction, the work must be submitted to Summy-Birchard. ISA will approve or disapprove of the content of the material and Summy-Birchard has the right to decide whether or not to publish the work. If Summy-Birchard elects not to publish the work, then the work cannot be published without further approval from ISA.

Any creative work which does not include musical notations of Dr. Suzuki or the sequencing of music as developed by Dr. Suzuki does not require approval from Summy-Birchard. However, if the work includes in its title the names or marks SUZUKI® or Dr. Shinichi Suzuki, then approval for such use still must be obtained from ISA. If the use is approved then the inside title page of the work must include an acknowledgment that the names and mark SUZUKI® or SUZUKI METHOD™, etc., are the property of Dr. Shinichi Suzuki and the ISA and is used with their permission.

If the proposed material does not use any of Dr. Suzuki's music or sequencing and does not use or refer to SUZUKI® or SUZUKI METHOD™, no approvals are required.

Occasionally, ISA has received requests from individuals or organizations to use Dr. Suzuki's name or the mark SUZUKI METHOD™ in connection with certain products, for example, handbags, caps, T-shirts, and the like. If these products include musical notation created by Dr. Suzuki, approval for its use must be obtained from Summy-Birchard because of Summy-Birchard's exclusive rights to the copyrights in the music. If the products do not contain musical notation, approval for use of Dr. Suzuki's name must be obtained from ISA or from the Regional Suzuki Association (ESA, SAA, or ANCESTEA) if the product is being sold in connection with the Regional Association or events it has planned and arranged. Those Associations have Agreements with the ISA and have been granted the right to issue sub-licenses to use Dr. Suzuki's name and trademarks on such products.

We hope the above clarifies the situation for you, but if there are any questions please contact:

Evelyn Hermann, ISA, P.O. Box 2236, Bothell, WA 98041-2236 U.S.A. or Judi Gowe, Warner Brothers, 15800 NW 48th Ave., Miami, FL 33014 U.S.A.



Erika Volhontseff, Dr. Suzuki, Mrs. Suzuki

**INTERNATIONAL SUZUKI ASSOCIATION®
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Name (Please print) _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Country _____ Phone _____

I am a _____ Suzuki teacher (Instrument _____)
 _____ Suzuki parent _____ Other (_____)

Types of Membership

Sustaining: \$ 12-\$99
 (Minimum payment)

Suzuki teacher: \$17
 Suzuki parent & Other: \$ 12
 Donor: \$ 100-\$499
 Patron: \$ 500-\$499
 Benefactor: \$1000 and above

Please make your check or money order (in U.S. dollars) payable to
 ISA®, U.S.A Office, P.O. Box 2236, Bothell, WA 98041-2236, U.S.A.

*For outside the U.S.A., if you would like to receive
 the *International Suzuki Journal*® by Air mail, please add \$6.
 *All membership fees must be paid in USA currency only.

Annual gifts may become accumulative, so that one can move from one category to the next.

Enclosed is _____ Check _____ Money Order TOTAL AMOUNT: \$ _____ in U.S. dollar



Mrs. Suzuki enjoying an ice cream cone at Fisherman's Wharf, Monterey October 1999