



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

Tuesday October 14 - Thursday, October 16, 2016  
La Quinta Inn & Suites, Bannockburn, Illinois, USA

### **Summary**

The Board of Directors of the International Suzuki Association met for its annual meeting October 14-16, 2014 in Chicago, 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 Pamela Brasch and a message from President Koji Toyoda. Following the greeting, the Board paid tribute “In Memoriam” to Eleanor Burt Allen, Virginia Burkhart, Michele Higa George, Dee Martz, Charlene Wilson, and Putra Wirakesuma.

The minutes from the 2013 meeting held October 7-9, 2013 in Uppsala, Sweden, were approved.

Martin Rüttimann was elected as ESA regional representative to the Board and Etsuko Suehiro was elected as TERI regional representative to the Board. Yasuki Nakamura was elected as Chair of the Board, from July 1, 2015-June 30, 2017, Martin Rüttimann was elected as Vice-Chair, Julia Breen was elected as Secretary and Pamela Brasch was elected as Treasurer (all from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2017).

### **Finances**

The income for the ISA for the fiscal year 2013-2014 was approximately USD 68,300. The majority of this comes from contributions from members. The expenses of the ISA for same fiscal year were approximately USD 51,800 thus leaving a surplus for the year of USD 16,500. 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 2014-2015 and a preliminary budget for fiscal year 2015-2016 were passed, predicting a slight increase in spending for 2014-2015 and a predicted deficit for the year. For 2015-2016 the budget is predicted to be in balance again.

### **Publications**

Pam and Bob Phillips, representatives of Alfred Publishing, gave a presentation on a planned series of materials in alternative styles, designed specifically for Suzuki violin and cello students, and matched to the technical levels in the Suzuki books.

The Board’s Policy for the Use and Licensing of Suzuki Materials was updated to include mention of electronic media as well as printed materials.

## **Regional Associations**

The Asia Suzuki Association has had its name agreement with ISA revoked. A new organization has been formed, the Asia Region Suzuki Organization (ARSO), under the guidance of the ISA. Five countries were represented at a meeting in August 2014, and have drawn up Bylaws and an interim teacher training manual. The next meeting will be held in January 2015 with several other countries participating. A list of experienced teacher trainers from all regions has been approved by the interim ARSO to conduct training when assistance is needed. Teacher Training and the development of the Suzuki method in China will continue.

The remaining four regional associations presented reports about the activities of their region.

## **Name Agreements**

An updated Name Agreement has been drawn up by the ISA's lawyer. The Name Agreements give the regional associations the right to use the name Suzuki. The new Name Agreements between the ISA and the ESA, PPSA, SAA and TERI were signed. A new Sub-license Agreement was also drawn up. The purpose and use of the Name Agreement Sub-license is no longer relevant to the structure of the SAA, Pan Pacific and TERI.

## **Growth of the Suzuki Method Worldwide**

Over the past 10 years, the method has been growing steadily in most regions, with the exception of Japan.

## **Instrument Committees**

Reports from all ISA instrument committees were received and discussed. Many instrument committees have been active in 2012-2013, revising editions and developing new materials.

## **New instruments**

Preliminary investigations have been carried out into the application of Suzuki teaching principles to clarinet, and an international study group will seek teachers to trial the pilot materials.

Suzuki Accordion is being developed in Italy.

## **ISA Vision**

The ISA vision is central to the work of the ISA Board.

- Dr. Suzuki's name and method is known and respected throughout the world.
- ISA is the umbrella for the Suzuki world.
- Children are well educated.
- 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 Japan in early October 2015, dates to be confirmed (*Note: It has since been confirmed that the meeting will be held in Japan on October 5-7, 2015.*)

Julia Breen, Secretary to the ISA Board of Directors