

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

Thursday, October 13 through Saturday, October 15, 2011
Courtyard by Marriott, Waikiki Beach
Honolulu, Hawaii (USA)



Summary

The Board of Directors of the International Suzuki Association met for their annual meeting October 13-15, 2011. The board meetings of the ISA take place in different places in the world each year. The 2011 meeting was scheduled to take place in Japan, but due to the natural disasters that struck Japan earlier that year the meeting was transferred to Honolulu, Hawaii (USA).

The meeting opened with a welcome from Board Chair Hideya Taida, and a message from President Koji Toyoda, who thanked the Suzuki community for its sympathy concerning the natural disasters in Japan and the generous contributions to the relief effort. He said the following:

“We, the Suzuki children, parents and teachers in Japan, are all very sensitive to the sympathetic thoughts, prayers and gestures expressed individually and collectively, from genuine human hearts.

Standing in the middle of such an overwhelming incident, one feels just faint, small and humble. Indeed on the way of expansion, with the extravagance and cupidity today, in Japan we need to think back or rethink about the primal and final status of human beings.

If one believes in God and asks for the highest state of mind in peace, he doesn't run after satisfaction in materialism or in fame.

We have the highest gift from God. It is music, which is the genuine state of mind.

So, we force ourselves to make a plantation of the highest beauty and the warmest hearts on the field of children.

That is the Suzuki Method.”

Following the greeting, the Board paid tribute “In Memoriam” to Louise Behrend, Dr. Masaaki Honda, John Kendall, Doris Koppelman and Frank Longay.

The minutes from the 2010 meeting held on October 8-10, 2012 in Seoul, Korea, were approved.

Martin Ruttimann was elected to replace Koens Rens as the ISA representative. Paul Landefeld resigned as secretary and Haukur F. Hannesson was elected to replace him as Board Secretary.

The terms and positions of the other directors were confirmed. Gilda Barston's term as CEO was extended for an additional two years.

Finances

The income for the ISA for the fiscal year 2010-2011 was in the region of USD 64,000. The majority of this comes from membership fees.

The expenses of the ISA for same fiscal year were around USD 61,000 thus leaving a 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 2011-2012 and a preliminary budget for fiscal year 2012-2013 were passed, predicting no major difference from existing income and spending levels.

ISA World Convention

The board agreed to give formal permission to TERI hold the 16th Suzuki World Convention in Matsumoto March 27-31, 2013.

Regional Associations

Each of the 5 regional associations presented reports about the activities of their region.

Instrument committees

Reports from all ISA instrument committees were received and discussed. Many instrument committees have been active in 2010-2011. It is specially worth mentioning the violin committee which works energetically on the big project of revising the Suzuki violin books.

New instrument areas and development issues

A new instrument, the trumpet, was recognized as a Suzuki Method™ discipline.

A task force consisting of three board members was appointed to develop a basic definition of core values to be used in the definition of *Suzuki in the Schools*.

Teacher Training

Regional systems for teacher training and the appointment of trainers were discussed and basic criteria for all regions were developed.

Publications

A new translation of Suzuki's *Nurtured by Love* has now been finalized and will be published soon.

The CEO is in constant contact with the publisher Alfred regarding publications of Suzuki core material. Updates for various publications were discussed.

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:

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.

The ISA Board of Directors furthermore declared in a consensus that global recognition of all Suzuki teacher trainers by all regional Suzuki associations is an important goal for the ISA.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the ISA Board of Directors will be held in Melbourne, Australia on October 15-17, 2012.

Haukur F. Hannesson, Secretary to the Board of Directors