

WDSS NOTES

West Denver Suzuki Strings, a Growing Musical Community

Need a tie for the concerts?



The **Concert Clothes Box** has seven new ties and two new belts for anyone who might need them.

As your children grow, please consider donating your gently used concert clothes.

Reminder: Concert Dress for all concerts and recitals is dressy. **White** on the top and **Black** on the bottom.

We dress up for concerts to honor our audience, our work and to put our music in the spotlight.



Zach Ragent

New Lead Teacher thoughts!

From snowy days in the mountains to these warm days in Denver filled with maple flowers and budding leaves, I am so glad to be here in Colorado, and so glad to have found WDSS! As I have the opportunity to get to know more of our students and families, I am more and more grateful for the musical community that WDSS nourishes here in Wheat Ridge. As we head into recital season, I wanted to fill you in on three aspects of our plans to grow musical community going forward at WDSS. We're in the process of expanding our cello program- stay tuned for a new teacher announcement soon! A larger cello program will allow us to tailor our group offerings



to more specific student levels and create more opportunities for student chamber groups. Finally, we're focusing on finding ways (like our upcoming faculty recital) to support our teachers to make sure that we can continue to provide high quality Suzuki education and programming for students of all levels. It's an exciting time at WDSS- thanks to all of you for being a part of it!

Congratulations to Graduating Senior Teegan Meyers!

You can watch Teegan's senior recital [here!](#)

After graduation, Teegan will likely be going to Red Rocks Community College through the ASCENT Scholarship (to get the core classes out of the way, afterwards, he hopes to attend South Dakota School of Mines for engineering or business degree, or pilot's license as an airline pilot. He would also like to start his own business in 3D printing in the shooting industry. He has completed his Eagle Scout and wants to continue and give back to that community. Teegan has been part of the WDSS community for 6 years, starting book 1! He plans to continue with violin in some capacity!

West Denver Suzuki Strings Faculty Recital

April 22nd 2:00

St James Episcopal Church

WSSS faculty is preparing a fantastic recital to present to parents and students including both chamber music and solos from composers who were born anywhere between 1644 and 1986!

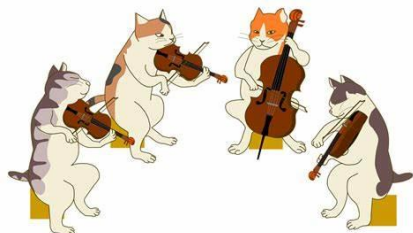
The composers include:
Heinrich Iganz Franz Biber
Maria Theresa von Paradis
Johannes Brahms
Antonin Dvorak
Sergei Prokofiev
Charlie Parker
Carlos Simon

Listen to the music before hand and you may get even more enjoyment from the recital!

[Listening link here:](#)

Benefiting Teachers continuing education fund. Payments are accepted on Zelle, cash and check! Suggested donation \$20/adult.

**We hope that you will join us for
this exciting afternoon!
Reception to follow!**



Dates to Remember

May 5th, 5:00pm

Dress Rehearsal for Spring Celebration with Primavera Place

Denver South Seventh-Day
Adventist Church
2675 S. Downing St.

May 6th, 4:00pm

Spring Celebration with Primavera Place @ same location

Printable Review list for Spring Celebration!

May 20, 10:30am, 12pm, 1:30
Spring Solo Recitals @ St. James

Ishan's Book Four Graduation Recital

Finishing book four in violin is an exciting accomplishment. Last winter I had finished book four and in January I had a recital to finish me off book four. Throughout my whole violin career so far, I had been taught by two amazing teachers that had helped me accomplish so much.



Ishan and Ms. Autumn

On January 28th, I had a violin recital for my accomplishment of book four in the Suzuki series. My violin teacher who taught me book one through almost all of book four had been Mrs. Laura Barnette and now my teacher is Ms. Autumn Pepper who is now teaching me book five. In November to December last year in 2022 I had finished book 4, but my teacher thought that finishing book 4 was a huge accomplishment and that having a little recital would not be a bad idea, so at the end of January I had a recital at my house.

I had a recital at my house. I had invited some of my closest friends, their parents, the pianist, Mr. Delong, and my teachers to my concert so the recital could feel like a party. On the day of my recital, I was ready, nervous, and excited, but I did not need to be nervous because everyone including me thought that my recital was amazing. By the end of the day, I felt as if I had actually finished book four and felt more advanced.

Afterwards, I felt like the recital was a great experience because I could share my music with my friends, their parents and my teachers and that felt kind, enjoyable, and fun. The recital also let me have some fun with everyone, feel free and let me be a child again. At the beginning I was very nervous but while playing I realized that if I messed up, I could pretend it was just part of the music and it did not really matter. It's the feeling that is put into the music is what really matters in my mind. In my opinion the most important part of my recital was that everyone was having fun. While this is only my fourth book, I still have a long way to go but my way is the way that has social, fun, exciting, and progressive times throughout the whole journey that lies ahead of me.

Congratulations Ishan!