

# WDSS NOTES

*WDSS, a Growing Musical Community*

## Parents Chats

During September and October, Mrs B will be leading 2 [Parent Chats](#) for the Green group classes and 2 for the Blue Group classes which will take place during your group class time.

**Topics : The Suzuki Triangle, finding practice time, and super creative and fun ways to practice!** Click [here](#) for details and [here](#) to sign up



The Suzuki method requires a major contribution from a parent and a home environment that wholeheartedly embraces the child's music-making.

Growing Musical Community

## Welcome to the **Fall Semester!**

The eagle eyed among you may have noticed our sign by the door as you enter St. James for lessons, group classes, or recitals, which reads “WDSS: Growing Musical Community.” I have always thought of that subtitle as referring to what we do in the community at large- bringing people together to study, share, and connect through music. As we embark on our fall semester though, it’s an exciting time where not only are we growing the musical community in west Denver, our own musical community within WDSS is also growing!



As Sandy Miller (cello) officially joins our faculty this fall, we now have seven teachers, eleven different group classes, and nearly 100 students involved in our programs. You’ll be able to see and celebrate this growth with us at our solo recitals (11/11) and group class recital (12/6) this semester- I look forward to seeing you there! Wishing everyone a wonderful start to the fall semester, and welcome back to WDSS!

*Mr Zach*

## WDSS Dates to Remember



**Oct 30- Nov 4  
Solo Recital Piano  
Rehearsals**

You will be scheduled by your private teacher.

**November 11  
Solo Recitals  
10:30, 12:00, 2:00, 3:45**

Sign up for your recital time with your private teacher.  
Deadline Oct. 28

**December 6th  
Group Class Concert**

Call time 4:30  
Concert 5:00

**February 24  
9:00- 2:30**

**Primavera Place Winter  
Workshop**

**DU**

Look for the details and sign up opportunity coming your way by email.

**Print WDSS 2023-2024  
Calendar  
here**



## **Ren Umetani Reports on WDSS July Violin Camp**



Violin camp is fun, because you get to play with people who are a higher level or a lower level than you. You get to learn stuff that you haven't learned already. Violin camp is more fun than staying home and watching TV.

*What did the cello say to the violin?  
I'm deeper than you.*

LOL Good one Ren, thanks!

## **Top Three Expectations of Parents**

**by WDSS teacher Autumn Pepper**

**Be quick communicators.** (when they have questions, schedule issues, etc)



**Be open about practice** and commitment. (sharing when practice goes well or doesn't, letting me know if interest wanes, etc)

**Know that we're a team** and it's the child's well-being that's most important.

*'Musical ability is not an inborn talent but an ability which can be developed.'*  
Shin'ichi Suzuki

# A Practice Idea From Robert O'Hayre

by Lisa Wong

Tonight Robert was playing with a straw and pretending it was a magic wand. I needed him to start practicing violin. Rather than telling him to stop playing with the straw, I

simply incorporated it into his violin, and we invented a game.

He then practiced for an hour with the highest violin I had ever seen from him.

Purpose:

Keep violin high and parallel to floor.

Materials:

Straw (flexible works best)

Painters tape

Rubber band

Chairs

Stuffed animals



- Place straw at scroll, secure with rubber band and tape.
- Keep straw laser aimed at the stuffed “bad guy” (who is trying to climb over to eat the “good” stuffed animals).
- Avoid lasering your “good” stuffed animals.
- Bad bow hand, wrist, and violin hand will make the “bad guy” get closer to animals.

Bravo Robert! Bravo Lisa!



## FULL SIZE VIOLIN FOR SALE

Klaus Von Aue #11959 from Robertsons and Sons Violins

Comes with bow, case, shoulder rest and a complete set of strings.

\$2,200

Contact Julia Rainer [julia.rainer@netzero.net](mailto:julia.rainer@netzero.net)