

## WHAT IS THE SUZUKI METHOD?

The Suzuki Method is a Japanese method, developed in the 1940's by Dr. Shinichi Suzuki, and is based on Japanese parenting, teaching, and learning principles. The teacher works together with the parents, teaching the child music the same way they learn to speak. Dr. Suzuki developed his method by using Mozart's Twinkle variations to teach students the mastery of the violin. Students learn absolute perfect technique from the very beginning in a familiar and fun way. Suzuki believed that if a child can learn their language through listening to adults speak, then they can learn to play the violin or piano through listening to the recording and modeling students they observe. This is referred to as the "Mother Tongue" approach.

The parent learns to become the assistant teacher. First the parent learns to play, in order to truly understand what the teacher is teaching the very young child. The parent may opt to study just the twinkles or may decide to learn along with the child.

The aim of the Suzuki program is to give young people the experience of playing great music together or individually and in becoming increasingly sensitive to all that is beautiful and artistic in life.