



# COPPER COUNTRY SUZUKI NEWS

## January 2009

### CALENDAR

- Jan. 5 Lessons resume
- Jan. 6 Adult Fiddling Classes Begin
- Jan. 14 Keweenaw Community Foundation "Pure Gold Partners" Performance, Rozsa Center Lobby, 7:45 p.m.
- Jan. 17 Heikinpaiva Parade and Market – First United Methodist Church, 11:30 a.m.
- Jan. 18 Chamber Music Series - McArdle Theater, 3:00 p.m.
- Jan. 21 Instructor Presentation - E.B. Holman, 9:30 a.m.
- Jan 23 Recital rehearsal with accompanist – 209 Rozsa (The Band Room), 5:00-5:45 p.m.
- Jan. 25 Solo Recital – Chapel of St. Matthew, 2:00 p.m.

### A Note from the Executive Director

Welcome Back! I hope everyone had a restful vacation. I have been doing a bit of reading on the Suzuki Philosophy over the past few weeks and the word that kept coming up over and over is *patience*. With our busy schedules, we often want to have everything done *now* and can become discouraged when our 3 year old doesn't want to practice or misbehaves in his lesson or our 8 year old isn't making as much progress as we'd like. This can lead to frustration on the part of the parent and the child and can make learning an instrument unpleasant. One of my teacher trainers described learning Twinkle as a journey. It's not the end result that matters as much as the steps it takes to get there. The process of learning to play an instrument can't be rushed. There may be some bumps along the way, but try to enjoy each step and be patient for as long as it takes. Children have infinite diligence in repetitive and slow steady development; adults are more easily bored and impatient. Dr. Suzuki said that the world is full of people who were not given 3,000 chances and considered themselves a failure. They may have succeeded if they were given that 3,001<sup>st</sup> chance. Try to focus on the journey and create in home practice an enjoyable learning environment so that your child's motivation comes from enthusiasm for learning. Praise the small accomplishments that they make and that you make. With a little patience, you can achieve great things. Happy music making!

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Congratulations to everyone who took part in our many performances during December. I heard many nice comments from members of the community who saw us perform. One person who has been attending CCSA concerts for many years said that this was the best holiday concert that he'd ever attended!
- After discussions with the CCSA Instructors and the Board of Directors, we have changed our snow day policy! The new policy will be (I have put the changes in italics): "There will be no lessons on days that the Houghton schools are closed due to poor weather conditions. *Our instructors will make every effort to make up these lessons as time allows during the school year. If these lessons are not made up you will be credited for the lesson at the end of the term.*"
- Our annual Heikinpaiva performance is coming up! We will be performing from 11:30-12:00 (right after the parade) at the First United Methodist Church. Come watch the parade and head over to the church afterwards. Your private instructor will have sign up sheets available.
- On February 1<sup>st</sup> from 1:00-3:00, the CCSA will be sponsoring a workshop on Irish music with the Traditional Irish group Chulrua. The workshop will take place at the Finnish American Heritage. The cost is \$15.00 for community members, **CCSA students are free.**
- The MTU Chamber Music Series concert, "Bach to Bach" will take place Sunday, January 18<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m. in the McArdle Theater. CCSA Instructors Adrienne Shipley, Libby Meyer and Lindsay Whitfield and others will be performing the works of Bach and Vivaldi. Tickets are \$6.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children.
- Endowment News: January, 9<sup>th</sup> 2009 marks the tenth anniversary of the CCSA's Endowment with the Keweenaw Community Foundation. The money that we receive from our endowment allows us to maintain our scholarship program and provide many of the services that the CCSA offers. All donations to our endowment qualify for the Michigan Community Foundation Tax Credit valued at 50% of your donation.
- If you would like to subscribe the CCSA eMailing list, please do the following: Send an e-mail message to [majordomo@mtu.edu](mailto:majordomo@mtu.edu). Leave the subject line blank. In the body of the message write: subscribe suzuki-l.
- Free CCSA Parent Violin Classes! Beginning in March, the CCSA will be offering *free* violin classes to parents of children enrolled in CCSA lessons. If you need to rent an instrument the cost will be \$30 per term. There will be a sign up for interested parents at the CCSA office. Please check your e-mails for specific day and location.