



COPPER COUNTRY SUZUKI NEWS

March 2009

CALENDAR

Mar. 7 -14 No Lessons – MTU Break

- Mar. 7 Celebrate Youth Arts Month Open House Performance, Community Arts Center, 1:30-2:30 p.m.
- Mar. 20 Recital rehearsal with accompanist - 208 Rozsa 4:30 p.m.
- Mar. 22 Solo Recital – Chapel of St. Matthew, 2:00 p.m.
- Mar. 24 Performance at Portage Pointe Nursing Home, 6:00 p.m.
- Mar. 25 KYSO and Reading Orchestra Concert II, The Bluffs Senior Residence, 6:30 p.m.
- Mar. 29 Senior Recital featuring performances by Tania Levy, Emma Dlutkowski and Katherine Caneba, The Bluffs Senior Residence, 2:00 p.m.

Sometimes you don't know what you have

Many of you may know that my husband, who is the Executive Director of the Keweenaw Land Trust, had his office destroyed by a fire this past week. Many of his (and our) personal possessions were in the office and he's had the unpleasant task of sorting through the rubble to see what can be saved and what has been lost.

...until it's gone.

This got me thinking about loss and how we often don't appreciate what we have until it's too late. My husband has the rewarding yet challenging job of protecting the quickly disappearing special places in the Keweenaw. A magical place like Bete Grise that the public took for granted was almost permanently lost to us by development. The same can be said for our access to the arts. We are so fortunate that in a community of our size there has been such great opportunity for the arts to thrive. It's one of the main reasons I have chosen to live here. Within about 15 miles of my home there are at least 10 art galleries, the Calumet Theater, the Rozsa Center, the Superior School of Dance, the McArdle Theater, and the Community Arts Center. We are blessed with access to many different forms of art and it's so present in our lives that we tend to forget that many of these organizations are here because of state funding, local donations, endowments and just plain hard work.

I know that people are sick to death of hearing about the economy, funding cuts and budgets. I'm sick of hearing about it and worse, I'm sick of talking about it but the plain truth is that Governor Granholm has recommended the zeroing out of arts and cultural

grant funding. For the CCSA this may mean staff reductions and dramatically inhibit our ability to provide scholarships, free workshops, community performances, low cost instrument rental, extra classes and many of the services that you have enjoyed in the past. We just simply won't be able to afford them. It has become painfully obvious that we cannot count on the high level of financial support that we've received from foundations, corporations and individuals in the past. Ridding the state of arts and cultural funding will only exacerbate this problem as we will see organizations plead for money to these same funders for the same pots of money. What I am asking is that you help spread the message about how important access to the arts is for our community. It takes less than 2 minutes to email a letter to the Governor and our legislators. Please help us get more people to send in emails to the Governor. We cannot stop with one email or one letter...we must continue to pepper our elected officials.

This week I will be sending you a link that goes directly to an already drafted letter. Please take a couple of minutes to let our *elected* officials know the importance of the arts in our community. The future of the arts in the Keweenaw is at stake. Please don't wait until it's already gone.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Parent violin class: It's not too late to join the parent violin class. The class is on Monday evenings from 6:00-6:30 in the Rozsa Band room (208 Rozsa) beginning February 23rd. The class is free for parents of children enrolled in lessons with the CCSA. If you need to rent an instrument, the cost is \$29.00. Please call the CCSA office to register.
- Congratulations to everyone who performed at the KYSO and CCSA Preparatory Strings winter concert at the Finnish American Heritage Center. The performances by the soloists and the orchestra were excellent. A big thank you to Maggie Twining who has done a wonderful job all year rehearsing the orchestras and organizing the concert. Also, a special thank you to our CCSA board president, Susan Dlutkowski who was a big help in making the concert run smoothly.
- Congratulations to CCSA students completing Suzuki books: Kora Johnson, Book 1, Tessa Meyer, Book 1 and Liam Hrabinsky, Book 2
- If you would like to subscribe the CCSA emailing list, please do the following: Send an e-mail message to majordomo@mtu.edu. Leave the subject line blank. In the body of the message write: subscribe suzuki-l.
- *Musical Musings* is our bi-annual newsletter that provides information about what the CCSA is up to for friends, families of the CCSA. If you know of anyone who might like to receive our newsletter please give us their name and address. Thanks!

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