

## What is the Suzuki Method?

The Suzuki Method is based on the idea that children can learn to play music in the same way they learn language – through listening, repetition, and small, gradual steps. I use this approach with my youngest students but also carry some of the ideas into my teaching of older students.

### Core ideas behind Suzuki –

- Every child has the ability to play a musical instrument.
- Instrumental music can be learned early – as young as 3 or 4.
- Repeated listening to the repertoire is key. It helps build a strong ear. If children know a tune through listening, they can better figure out how to play it without printed music.
- Repetition and review of songs helps children identify patterns and refine techniques.
- Children become acquainted with the technique of playing the instrument before learning to read music.
- Parental involvement in lessons and at home aids progress.
- Group classes and performance build community.
- Children learn best in a nurturing, child-centered environment.
- Focus on character building. Kindness matters!  
“Beautiful tone, beautiful heart.” – Shinichi Suzuki

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