



## **UWSP Suzuki Strings Mentoring Program**

The UWSP Suzuki Strings Mentoring Program (UWSP SSMP) is a year round program for three to five Suzuki string teachers offered by the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point and the Aber Suzuki Center. SAA Teacher Trainer, Pat D'Ercole will serve as your mentor and guide.

### **What it is**

The UWSP Suzuki Strings Mentoring Program is designed to assist and support Suzuki string teachers in their quest to become a better teacher within the environment of your usual employment. Based on a commitment to the values of life experiences, life-long learning, community, creativity and mutual respect, and using the Suzuki Association of the Americas Pedagogy Descriptors, this collaborative model focuses on improving the requisite skills for successful Suzuki studio teaching, skills that produce excellence and are responsive to the needs of the child and parent. The SSMP consists of three to five Suzuki string teachers and runs from September to August.

### **How it works**

The program begins with an introductory weekend spent getting to know one another, completing the SAA's *Suzuki Principles in Action* course and becoming familiar with the technology necessary to be able to upload videos, participate in iChat/Skype and learn to use D2L. Approximately every four to six weeks the mentee uploads a video of their teaching and does a self-assessment which is followed by a video conference with the mentor. Goals for improvement are then chosen and practiced for the next video. Throughout the year there is an online discussion of readings and periodic video conferencing with the entire group of mentees.

### **As a mentee, you can expect to...**

- Practice the cycle of self-assessment, reflection and planning
- Precisely articulate a vision of the student as an accomplished musician
- Distinguish between effective and ineffective teaching strategies
- Construct effective teaching segments
- Demonstrate effective use of Suzuki principles in your teaching
- Set goals for self-improvement using the SAA descriptors
- Receive SAA registration for Long-term Practicum

### **What are the requirements?**

- Currently a Suzuki string teacher (violin, viola, cello, bass) and a current member of the SAA
- Have had unit training through Book 1
- Have had one year of Suzuki teaching experience
- Are employed and/or self-employed as Suzuki teacher at least half-time
- Have a music degree or a minor in music or the equivalent in experience
- Are comfortable with technology

**Costs:** \$1,500 noncredit university tuition includes the cost of registration for the Suzuki Principles in Action course. (Additional course expenses, including travel, are the responsibility of the participant.) Scholarship assistance is available.

For an application visit: <http://www.uwsp.edu/suzuki/Documents/MentoringApplication.pdf>