

Crowden Summer Suzuki Workshop

FACULTY BIOS 2010

Katherine Baird (cello)

Katherine has been a Suzuki cello teacher in the San Francisco area for seventeen years. She received a Bachelor's Degree in Cello Performance from Holy Names College, and a certificate in Orff-Schulwerk from Mills College. Her cello teachers have included Maragaret Tait, Milly Rosner, Peter Shelton, and Peter Wyrick. She has completed Suzuki training in books 1 through 10 with Barbara Wampner and Tanya Carey. In addition, Katherine has taught classroom music fundamentals and recorder classes at Alvarado Elementary School in San Francisco, and music-&-movement classes to children aged 2 & ½ through 4 years old. She currently teaches Kodaly music at The Renaissance School in Oakland, CA., and is also the director of the Holy Names University Preparatory Music Department. Katherine has taught at numerous music camps throughout Northern California. She served as President of the Suzuki Association of Northern California. Katherine performs with her string ensembles, Katherine Baird String and Flute Ensembles, as well as with other Bay Area musicians. She currently teaches cello at Holy Names University and the Crowden Music Center.

Christina Berg (music & movement)

Christina Berg of Livermore, CA is a licensed Kindermusik teacher, and a trained Montessori teacher. She is also guitar instructor at the Sycamore Strings Academy. She studied music and movement at the Royal Music Academy in Stockholm and has taught at several Suzuki workshops and institutes in Sweden and the U.S. She is teaching Twinkle Music & Movement at the Intermountain Suzuki Institute in Utah each summer. She currently teaches Suzuki music and movement at the Crowden Music Center and at Holy Names University.

Danielle Charboneau (violin)

Danielle Charboneau, a transplant to the California Bay Area, began her violin and viola teaching in a number of programs in her native Michigan. With a Bachelors and Masters in Violin performance, a Specialization in Dance, and completion of her Suzuki teacher training with a variety of trainers, Danielle taught for nine years with the Michigan State University Suzuki Violin Program then eight years in the Chicago area at both the Music Institute of Chicago and DePaul's Community Music Program. At Michigan State University, besides directing the Tour Group, Movement for Musicians Program, and Chamber Music Program, Danielle developed a number of teaching aids and etudes. After moving to Chicago, Danielle continued to develop her teaching materials, coached chamber music, occasionally gave chamber music recitals, and was the chair of the faculty committee and string coordinator for the for the Music Institute of Chicago. Beyond her direct involvement with the schools, Danielle was president of the Chicago Area Suzuki Association and is currently on the board of the Suzuki Association of Northern California.. At present, Danielle runs her own Suzuki violin and chamber music program in Oakland, California, has been researching injury prevention and technical development facilitation through the use of Integrative Manual Therapy and other physical reeducation techniques, and is studying both Integrative Manual Therapy and non-violent communication. Danielle Charboneau continues to be a frequent speaker, Baroque dance instructor, and clinician throughout the United States.

Elise Engelberg (violin)

Elise has been a Suzuki violin teacher for over 20 years. She is registered with the Suzuki Association of America to teach books 1-8 and has received supplementary training in Japanese Pedagogy and Orff-Schulwerk. Elise regularly performs with the Russian Chamber Orchestra and with her bluegrass band, the Black Crown Stringband. She is well known fiddler in the Bay Area and has toured throughout the West Coast and in France. In addition to running her own Suzuki program, Elise is founder and director of an after-school music program at a San Francisco private school.

Marilyn George (cello)

Marilyn is a teacher, cellist, and church musician. Mrs. George holds a B.A. degree in music from the University of Minnesota and a M.A. degree in Sacred Music from Bob Jones University. Further study has been completed at the University of Northern Colorado and The Music Academy of the West. Mrs. George has been teaching violin and cello using the Suzuki philosophy and materials since 1975. She has attended institutes and workshops in Chicago, Stevens Point, Denver and Ottawa, Kansas studying under John Kendall, Alice Joy Lewis, Margery Aber and others. Marilyn began teaching children at a private school in New Jersey and has taught in the public schools, at the University of Northern Colorado, the University of South Dakota, the National Music Camp and at Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, Oklahoma. In Tulsa, Marilyn founded the ORU Suzuki program and co-founded the Suzuki Association of Greater Tulsa. The ORU program was awarded a "Parents' Best Pick" for music lessons and Marilyn received a citation for excellence in teaching from the mayor of Tulsa. Since moving to California in 2000, Marilyn has been teaching privately in her home in Gilroy and in San Jose at Valley Christian Schools. Mrs. George has taught at the Intermountain Suzuki String Institute in Salt Lake City, the Oregon Suzuki Institute, Southcentral Alaska Suzuki Institute and the California Music Educators Association conference at San Jose State University. As a cellist, Marilyn has been a member of the Tulsa Philharmonic Orchestra, the Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra, the Trio Cantabile, the Indiana Arts Trio and is currently active as a freelance player in the San Jose area.

Shakeh Ghoukasian (violin, chamber music, note reading)

Shakeh is the Dean of the Nevada School of the Arts and former director of the school's Suzuki Talent Education Program in Las Vegas, Nevada. She is an active chamber music and orchestral musician. She is the Principal 2nd Violinist with the Las Vegas Philharmonic and a long time member of Nevada Chamber Orchestra and Nevada Opera Orchestra. She received her early music training in Armenia. After moving to the United States she has received her Bachelor and Master of Music degrees in performance from University of Nevada, Las Vegas. She has studied with Lori Ulanova, Haik Balian and John Kendall. Shakeh has been invited to give master classes and teach workshops in Arizona, Utah, California, Idaho, South Dakota, Alaska, Oregon, New York and Las Vegas Summer Music Festival. She was one of the presenters at the American String Teachers National Conference in February 2005 and Suzuki National Conference in Minneapolis in 2006. She is a recipient of ASTA's Studio Teacher Award in Nevada. Shakeh is also the co-founder and Program Director of Green Valley Chamber Music Festival. She has performed with many artists including Luciano Pavarotti, Andrea Bocelli, Placido Domingo, Frank Sinatra, Itzhak Perlman and others. Her solo performances include appearances with Henderson Symphony and Las Vegas Philharmonic. Her students are winners of many local and national competitions and have been chosen to participate at Interlocken Summer Music Camp, National Orchestra Summer Institute, Indiana University Summer String Program and other summer institutes. She enjoys working with young adolescence and guiding their musical and artistic development. Many of her students have gone on to major in violin at Universities and Conservatories around the country and have become professional musicians and most importantly beautiful human beings.

Julie Egger (fiddle, Klezmer)

Julie has played the violin since the age of seven. As a teenager, she performed with the Long Island Youth Orchestra, which traveled all over the world. She received a Bachelor of Music in Education from Crane School of Music, where she studied with the Carnegie String Quartet and Ruth Iogha. Julie lived for nine years in Boston, where she performed classical, jazz, and liturgical music. She has performed with artists such as Stuart Brotman (of Brave Old World) in Finif and Joshua Horowitz of Veretski Pass. She currently performs with The Red Hot Chachkas, J-J&M and performs free lance in the Bay Area as well. She teaches Klezmer music as well as classical and jazz to students of all ages and conducts workshops in Klezmer music. She is co-founder of [KlezCalifornia](#), and received a 2003 individual Artist Grant and a 2007 Community Grant from Marin Arts Council to create a "Yiddish Folk Festival" in West Marin. She lives in West Marin with her husband and two teenage daughters.

Brook Moes (violin)

Brook has received a B.M. from the University of the Pacific, an M.M. from the University of Maryland, and an M.B.A. from Herriot-Watt University (Scotland). He has studied with James Stern, Arnold Steinhardt, John Dalley and William Preucil, including pedagogy studies with Ronda Cole and John Kendall and chamber music studies with the *Guarneri Quartet*. Brook has performed as a recitalist in Scandinavia, Romania and the United States, and in France, Greece and South America under the auspices of the ABC radio network. He has been a faculty member of the Kneisel Hall Chamber Music Festival, at the Greater Washington Suzuki Institute at Catholic University, and of the University of Maryland's Suzuki pedagogy department. Brook has been a regular adjudicator for the Washington, D.C. Youth Orchestra, and has owned private studios in Northern California and Washington, D.C. He is currently a faculty member of the University of the Pacific Conservatory of Music in Stockton, CA. Brook was named a Rotary International Ambassadorial Scholar and has been the recipient of the Barnum-Everett Scholarship, the Virginia Short McLaughlin String Endowed Scholarship, and other performance grants. He and his wife Tonya currently reside in California with their four children.

Mary Straub (violin, orchestra)

Las Vegas, Nevada. Mary has a Performance Diploma from the Interlochen Arts Academy and a Bachelor of Music Education Degree from Indiana University. She founded the Suzuki Talent Education Program at the Nevada School of the Arts in 1981 where she is currently a violin instructor with a full studio of Suzuki as well as traditional violin students. She has been a free-lance violinist in the Las Vegas Hotel Showroom Orchestras since 1975, primarily with Wayne Newton. She is a permanent sub for the Las Vegas Philharmonic and the Nevada Chamber Symphony. Ms. Straub was on the string and piano faculty of the Las Vegas Academy for the Performing Arts for five years and was one of the founders of the Las Vegas Music Festival with Evan Christ in 1993. She has produced numerous violinists who have been competition winners and have gone on to study at major Universities and Conservatories. Mary is proud to say that a number of her former students are currently Suzuki teachers themselves! Ms. Straub has adjudicated competitions as well as taught at numerous music camps and Suzuki Institutes throughout the country. She conducted the Clark County School District's 2006 Directors' Choice Honor Orchestra. Mary Straub presented at the 2003 Chicago Midwest Clinic, the 2005 National ASTA Conference, and the 2006 National Suzuki Association of the Americas Conference with Shakeh Ghoukasian showcasing the Nevada School of the Arts Violin Ensemble on each occasion. Mary Straub was the 2004 recipient of the Nevada ASTA Studio Teacher of the Year Award and the 2005 Nevada Music Teachers' Association "Outstanding Service Award".

Katie Walda (piano accompaniments)

Katie Walda, piano accompaniment, Staff Accompanist at Sycamore Strings Academy, has been a professional accompanist for over 25 years. She is Staff Accompanist at Las Positas College in Livermore and the Director of Music/Organist at the Centerpointe Presbyterian Church in Pleasanton. Katie has performed with Choral Groups and Orchestras throughout the Bay Area, including the Valley Concert Chorale and The Classical Philharmonic. She has a degree in Organ Performance and has performed Organ Concerts in venues throughout the world, including Westminster Abbey in London, St. Ignatius in Rome, and Grace Episcopal Church in San Francisco. This is her third year working at the Crowden Suzuki Workshop, where she provides accompaniments for students and teachers at workshop classes, rehearsals, recitals, and concerts.