

## Catching Up with CCSA Grads: Kyle Luck

I began taking violin lessons at age seven, my curiosity sparked by a musical instrument demonstration at the daycare center I used to spend time at after school. At the time, I had no idea how much discipline and effort it would require to become a proficient musician. The development of these skills was absolutely essential for my success after high school, enabling me to persevere through a rigorous engineering program at the University of Michigan.

At first, I was not very serious about practicing. It used to be a chore, something that I had to do each day, every day. But then something changed when I was working through Book Three: I began to appreciate how much effort it took to master a song. I saw the initial play-through with my teacher as a chance to identify all the areas where one could improve. The following weeks were spent mastering intonation, rhythm, all of the little things required to play the piece competently. It felt very rewarding at the end, to play the finished product.

I have continued playing the violin throughout my college career, as a member of the University of Michigan's Life Sciences Orchestra, recruited by Sarah Carlson. Music has been a great help to me, as I struggled throughout college. It is always good to take time off each week and do something different. The Sunday nights I spent practicing were a relief from all the



stress of college and I was able to meet new people. I hope that the violin will remain a fun and engaging hobby for the rest of my life. As I finish my college career, I'd like to thank both of my parents, my orchestra conductor, Maggie Twining, and a special thanks to Libby Meyer, who always taught me something new at every lesson.

We also warmly thank our 2011-12 Fun Card Sponsors: Down Wind Sports, Domino's, Perkins Family Restaurant, Taco Bell, Joey's Seafood, Cross Country Sports, Loading Zone II, Copper World, Hairsmiths, Family Video, Library Restaurant, McDonald's, Subway, Good Times Music, Arby's, Center Ice, Quizno's, Four Seasons Tea Room, Dairy Queen, 5th & Elm Coffee House, Pizza Works, The Mine Shaft, and Keweenaw Co-op.

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### Copper Country Suzuki Association

P.O. Box 161  
Houghton, Michigan 49931-0161  
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www.coppercountrysuzuki.org

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CCSA • 1971 – 2011

40 Years of Changing Lives through Music

# Musical Musings

Spring  
2011



Dear Friends,

This year marks the 40th anniversary of the Copper Country Suzuki Association. Back in 1971, a state arts grant received by the C.C. Intermediate School District provided funding to purchase several small violins, and Michigan's first Suzuki program was launched.

Throughout the past four decades, hundreds of Copper Country children have experienced the excitement of growing into a bigger-size violin, the anticipation of performing in a first recital, the commitment necessary to remember all of the Twinkle Variations, or to memorize a concerto movement.

The cast of people who've supported CCSA — dedicated families, teachers and community members — has changed over the years, but the support has remained constant, keeping the CCSA flourishing today. Thank you for your part!

*Susan*

Susan Dlutkowski  
CCSA Board President



### Upcoming Events

**Advanced Student Recital**  
The Bluffs, Houghton  
April 27 • 6:30pm

**CCSA Spring Recital**  
Finnish-American  
Heritage Ctr., Hancock  
May 15 • 2:00pm

**Strings Chamber Recital**  
The Bluffs, Houghton  
May 18 • 6:30pm

### Coming this Fall!

Plans are in the works for a 40th anniversary celebration performance of all CCSA students and alumni. If you a CCSA alum and are interested in participating, send a note to Libby Meyer at [ecmeyer@mtu.edu](mailto:ecmeyer@mtu.edu).

### 2011-12 CCSA Fun Cards Now on Sale!

Fun Cards give you great discounts at 23 local businesses. Save on sandwiches, coffee, sporting goods, video rentals, pizza, and more! At only \$10, CCSA Fun Cards quickly pay for themselves ... and your purchase supports our local economy and the CCSA!

Good from May 2011 through April 2012. You can buy a Fun Card from any Suzuki parent or by calling the CCSA office at 487-3606.

## Student Spotlight: Vibhawari "Vi" Wusirika

### How did you decide to play the violin?

I saw my friend play the violin and that is when I decided to try it.

### How long have you been playing?

I have been playing the violin since I was 4 years old.

### What is your favorite song and why do you like it?

My favorite song is the "May Song." It is my most favorite song because its rhythm is really fast and I love the way it sounds and how it's played.

### Do you play for your family or friends?

Yes, I love to play my violin for my family but I really enjoy playing it for my mom.

### What do you enjoy about playing the violin?

It exercises my fingers and the fascinating part about playing the violin is that no one in my family knows or has ever learned to play the violin. I am the first and only person to be playing it and that makes me feel very special.

### What are some of your other interests?

I love ice skating, dance, and gymnastics.

Oh, I have two aunts, one plays drums and my other aunt loves dance. My mom loves to play the piano. My mom and I dream of playing together, she on the piano and me on my violin, someday.



## Suzuki Milestones!

Congratulations to these students who recently completed a Suzuki book or achieved another milestone!

- Won Young Choi — Book 3, violin
- Sarah Donahue — Book 1, violin
- Ellie Helman — Book 2, violin
- Kaaren Liston — Book 2, viola
- Molly McKenzie — Book 1, viola
- Kaleigh Miller — Book 1, violin
- Elaine Min — Primer Level, Piano Adventures
- Christian Pereira — Book 2, violin
- Martin Schutte — Book 5, violin

... and ...

- Libby Meyer — Completion of her tenth year as CCSA Executive Director



Graduating senior Whitney Crist performs Vivaldi with KYSO, March 2011



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[www.coppercountrysuzuki.org](http://www.coppercountrysuzuki.org)

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