

Upcoming Events

**CCSA and Keweenaw Family Music
Grand Opening Celebration and Open House**
E.L. Wright Building
Sept. 8 • 10:00 a.m. – 7:00p.m.
CCSA Students play at 3:00 p.m.

Parade of Nations Performance
5th and Elm, downtown Houghton
Sept. 22 • 11:00 – 11:30 a.m.

**Barkell Elementary
Open House Performance**
Sept. 26 • 6:00 – 6:45 p.m.

**Houghton Elementary
Open House Performance**
Sept. 27 • 6:00 – 6:45 p.m.

MTU Preschool Performances
Sept. 27 • 9:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

MTU Preschool Performances
Sept. 28 • 8:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

**Twelfth Annual Halloween Recital
The Bluffs Senior Residence**
Oct. 24 • 6:00 p.m.
Costumes Encouraged!

**Little Brothers Friends of the Elderly
Halloween Party**
Location TBA, Oct. 27 • 12:15 p.m.

Dear CCSA Friends and Families,

Every fall feels like a fresh start as my kids head back to school and the heat of summer gives way to the crisp air of autumn. But for the Copper Country Suzuki Association, this particular fall brings with it several new beginnings. We are pleased to welcome two new instructors, Robert Hicks and Michael Adler, and to announce our move to a new, more centralized location in the E.L. Wright center in Hancock. We will be sharing space with Keweenaw Family Music, and we are thrilled to be able to gather our instructors under (almost) one roof instead of having them spread out in several different venues.

Please read on to find out more about all that is new and exciting in the CCSA this year.

One thing that hasn't changed, however, is our appreciation for all of you as you support our programs. Thanks to your partnership, another sign of fall around here is the sweet sound of "Twinkle" being played for the very first time by a young musician.

Thanks for your continued support,

Maria

Maria Bergstrom
CCSA Board President



CCSA Staff

Libby Meyer, Executive Director
Violin & Viola Instructor
Maggie Twining
Cello & Viola Instructor
Keweenaw Youth Symphony Orchestra Conductor
Reading Orchestra Conductor
Amanda Plummer
Piano Instructor
Keweenaw Family Music
Robert Hicks
Violin Instructor
Michael Adler
Assistant Violin Instructor
Carla Phillips
Accompanist

Special thanks for the continued support of:
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and
Michigan Tech University
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Copper Country Suzuki Association

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906.487.3606

www.coppercountrysuzuki.org

CCSA is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charitable organization. Contributions are tax-deductible.

New Faces!

Meet Our New Instructors

Robert Hicks has recently moved to the Upper Peninsula, having lived previously in southwestern Michigan while working on a Master of Music degree in Choral Conducting from Andrews University near Benton Harbor. Most recently, however, he has been serving as the Music Director for Daystar Academy, a small private school in the desert country of southwest Utah where he taught violin and piano lessons as well as choir, handbells and instrumental ensembles.



He has studied piano and violin from a young age, growing up in North Carolina and participating in the Suzuki Violins of East Carolina, a group that traveled to England and performed around the country there. He regularly attended Suzuki institutes in Greenville, NC and Stevens Point, WI. He received a BA in Music from Southern Adventist University in Tennessee during which he was concertmaster of the Southern College Symphony and studied with Mark Zelmanovich, former concertmaster of the Knoxville Symphony. He has taught music at private schools in New York, Kansas, New Jersey and British Columbia and has played in the Chattanooga, Walla Walla, Salina and Grand Junction Symphonies. He believes that children have incredible potential in music, especially when they are inspired and motivated by great experiences and constantly surrounded by the works of the great composers. In addition to violin and piano he plays trumpet, viola, baritone horn and organ.

Robert and his wife Tricia have three children – Carrie, 14, Sara, 7 and Jenna, 1, along with three cats and a Collie. He really enjoys snow and lots of it, which was a big reason for moving to the UP. He also enjoys outdoor activities, especially hiking, having recently climbed over 30 peaks in Utah and Colorado, including several 14ers. He looks forward to getting to know the area and all that it has to offer.



Michael Adler is a Houghton native and an alumnus of the CCSA. After starting violin at age five, he continued musical studies with the violin, trombone, and voice, etc... while remaining primarily a violinist. He is currently an undergraduate student at Michigan Tech pursuing a degree in physics and applied mathematics with a minor in music. Michael participates in many musical ensembles including the Keweenaw Symphony Orchestra, the Marquette Symphony Orchestra, the Michigan Tech Concert Choir, and various other groups. As a former student of the CCSA he attended the American Suzuki Institute at UWSP for eight years and is well acquainted with the Suzuki Method. Michael is excited to have joined the CCSA as an assistant instructor in the fall of 2012 and enjoys assisting with group classes, orchestra, and private lessons. Apart from school and music, Michael spends his free time cycling, sailing, video-gaming, and playing ice hockey.

CCSA's 40th Anniversary Celebration

This past May we celebrated our 40th with music, games and sunshine on Finlandia's Quincy Green.

Interesting Fact:
The CCSA is the oldest Suzuki association in Michigan!



Maggie Twining's cello studio has tripled in recent times due, in part, to her popular "cello clubs." These introductory classes offer affordable low-pressure group instruction with cello rental. The result of these classes has been that the students want to continue with the cello and subsequently enroll in the CCSA.

The first of these classes was held in the spring of 2011 at the Portage Lake District Library and at Hancock Elementary School with a total of six students attending, five of which are still enrolled in the CCSA.

Maggie offered a second class this last spring and had so much interest she had to expand to two classes and order more cellos! Of these eleven students, six are enrolled in private lessons this fall with the CCSA, three are still deciding. This fall Maggie is offering a class for the younger set, ages 5 to 8.

"It seems that I have a higher rate of "success" or "stick-with-it-ness" when the kids take the (introductory) class. By the time they finish the class, they are usually ready to jump into a book 1 group class so they just change gears. They take the (introductory) class, and when it is finished they take their private lesson and enter the (book 1) group class. They've had a group experience the whole time," says Maggie.

"The classes are a GREAT motivator and I find that kids don't get frustrated as easily. They see other kids trying it and it seems to be a great confidence builder."



Cellos as far as the eye can see!

New Spaces!

This summer we moved to our new home in the historic E.L. Wright Building in Hancock located at 801 N. Lincoln Dr. (Hwy. 41). We are pleased to be sharing this studio space with Keweenaw Family Music! The grand opening celebration and open house will be Saturday, Sept. 8 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. It will be a full day of refreshments, free workshops and music making. CCSA students will perform at 3:00 p.m. Come meet the new instructors, see the new teaching space and make some music! See KeweenawFamilyMusic.com for more information.

Our new studio space could use some things. If you have any of the following that you can donate, please contact us: laptop computer with internet capability, folding chairs, large shelves, furniture for the waiting area, and a vacuum.

Come to our Grand Opening Celebration September 8!



PO Box 161
Houghton, MI 49931-0161
906.487.3606
www.coppercountrysuzuki.com

I wish to support the **Copper Country Suzuki Association** and help make high-quality music instruction available and affordable for children in our community.

Enclosed is my gift of \$ _____
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Your gift will help us:
 • purchase instruments
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Student Spotlight

Meet Margaret & Anna Ensminger



CCSA: What instrument do you play and how long have you been playing it?

Anna: I've played viola almost a year. Knowing how to play the violin (I played for about 5 years) helped. Learning to read in C clef was probably the most challenging part of the transition.

Margaret: I started cello about a year ago in Mrs. Twining's cello class.

CCSA: Do you find your instrument challenging to play?

M: The hard part of playing cello is moving the bow to different strings and moving your hand to a different place at the same time. It is hard to play in tune sometimes. Vibrato makes a dent in my finger which hurts.

CCSA: Can you tell us something you find special about playing your instrument?

A: I like a lot of 20th century composers, and I like the fact that several wrote for the viola.

M: I think cello sounds good with minor songs. I like minor music.

CCSA: Do you play any other instruments?

A: piano and violin, M: piano.

CCSA: Does anyone else in your family play a musical instrument? If so, do you play together?

A: Everyone, to some degree. My older sister Sylvia and I enjoy playing together, and since we have two pianos, my younger brother and I like playing different songs at the same time.

M: I play with Anna and Sylvia sometimes (Sylvia is majoring in string pedagogy.)

CCSA: What are some of your other interests?

A: piano, reading, drawing.
 M: animals, soccer, reading, drawing.