

## Upcoming Events

**KYSO Winter Concert**  
McArdle Theatre · Houghton  
December 2 · 6 p.m.

**Third Annual Viola Christmas**  
Rozsa Center · Houghton  
December 4 · 6:30 p.m.

**Poor Artists Sale Performance**  
Calumet School Gym · Calumet  
December 5 · 1 p.m.

**Holiday Recital**  
McArdle Theatre · Houghton  
December 9 · 6 p.m.

**Carol-a-long**  
E.L. Wright Studios · Hancock  
December 17 · 6 p.m.

Dear Friends of the CCSA,  
Welcome to Musical Musings, may you find it informative and interesting. I would like to take the opportunity to mention that the CCSA recently revised our constitution so that membership on the Board is now open to all members of the community who support our musical education goals, rather than being restricted to parents of students as it was in the past. The Board oversees the operations of CCSA, and also acts as a pool of volunteers for helping out the organization. New Board members are elected in the spring, and we will have at least three vacancies at that time. I urge everyone who is interested in directly working to support CCSA to consider joining the Board, where you will be able to make a real difference.



*Fun was had by all at our annual Halloween Costume Recital 2015.*

  
Tim Eisele, CCSA Board President

## In Memoriam: Audrey Frair

By Milton Olsson

Those of us who knew her were saddened to hear of the passing of our friend and colleague, Audrey Frair, an accomplished violinist and a dedicated teacher. She was an important partner in my early work with the Keweenaw Symphony Orchestra, serving as a member of the First Violin section, and eventually as the first professional-level concertmaster of the KSO. Since I am not a string player, I came to rely on her heavily for bowing, string techniques, and reviewing literature for its do-ability by our relatively inexperienced string section. At that time, the Suzuki program was led by Rosemary Remington, who prepared young musicians for the more advanced training that Audrey offered. KSO violin and viola sections were populated by the advanced students of these two outstanding teachers.



*Mrs. Frair's legacy continues as KYSO members smile backstage after the Fourth Keweenaw Strings Festival performance at the Rozsa Center.*

Audrey was committed to advancing the arts in our community. When the time came to launch a fund drive to convert Sherman Gym into an arts and humanities center, Audrey and Winks Gundlach accepted leadership roles in the "It's for all of us" campaign, working closely with Director of Advancement, Ron Helman to meet the \$250,000 challenge grant. This success led to the reconstruction of Sherman Gym into the Shaw Walker Center for the Arts and Humanities, and Walker Center became Phase I of a project that would result in Phase II, the Rozsa Center for the Performing Arts.

Audrey, and her husband Paul, joined in two international tours with the Michigan Tech Concert Choir. In both tours, Paul sang with the Choir and Audrey played violin with the professional orchestras with which we performed.

Condolences may be sent to:  
Audrey Frair family, c/o Heidi Bresnahan, 8 Winding Brook Lane, Dayton, ME 04005

**CCSA Staff**  
Libby Meyer, D.M.A.  
Executive Director  
Violin & Viola Instructor  
Amanda Plummer, Ed.D.  
Piano Instructor  
Milton Olsson, D.M.A.  
KYSO Director  
Lindy Wagner, M.M.  
Violin Instructor  
Preparatory Strings Director  
Erin McKenzie  
KYSO Assistant and Group Cello  
Alex Frazier  
Accompanist

**CCSA Board of Directors**  
Timothy Eisele, President • Yangping Ou, Treasurer  
Rhiannon Schmidt, Secretary • Robby Berman  
Haley Fredrickson • Wil Shapton  
Allison Helman • Jon Ensminger

## Thanks to Our Generous Donors!

George Dewey and Andrea Puzakulich  
Herb and Michele Meyer  
Doug and Norma Stewart  
Audrey and Wade Liston  
Julie Gundlach  
Sally Orr

We also thank

**Michigan Technological University**  
Department of Visual & Performing Arts

for continued support.



**Copper Country Suzuki Association**  
PO Box 161, Houghton, MI 49931-0161  
906.487.3606  
www.coppercountrysuzuki.org  
coppercountrysuzuki

# Milestones

Elizabeth Bergstrom finished Book 1 (January 2015.)  
 Julia Jeon finished Book 1 (March 2015.)  
 Bria Neves finished Book 5 (March 2015.)  
 Kari Lyle finished Book 1 (October 2015.)  
 Grant Fredrickson is finishing Book 4.  
 Brooke Hoppe graduated to her "real violin."

## New Violin Students:

Ernest Feng  
 Mikko Salmi  
 Matthew Austin  
 Kiara Lu  
 Kevin Lu  
 Sophie Coxon  
 Brooke Hoppe  
 Eddie Zhou  
 Ona Brown  
 Max Qi  
 Aspen Lamit

## New Piano Students:

Timothy Austin  
 Edward Zhau  
 Nicole Raymond



Instructor Libby surprised Grant at the beginning of this fall term with his first full-size violin (left), compared to his first "real violin" seven years prior (right.) And in other notable news, studio mascot Humphrey joined CCSA this fall.



Our KYSO kids rehearsing with KSO the Casadesus Viola Concerto with Pamela McConnell.



Seth and Bria having lots of fun at master class.

# Violin Classes in Baraga

The Copper Country Suzuki Association has collaborated with Keweenaw Bay Ojibwa Community College to offer after-school violin classes to school-age children. Instructor Lindy Wagner travels down to Baraga to teach the classes on Monday evenings. The program has a total of fifteen students who are divided into three, one-hour classes. Their ages range from eight to seventeen – plus one adult. Karen Colbert, coordinator of the program at KBOCC, was so excited about this opportunity that she decided to take the class herself to fill the one student slot left open after classes had started.



Instructor Lindy keeps a close eye on her students' technique as she directs the preparatory strings class.

# Summer Reports from our Instructors:

I received an MCACA Professional Development mini grant to study Irish Fiddle, Bodhran and Whistle at the Swannanoa Gathering's Celtic Week in Asheville, North Carolina. I was able to study with the great County Clare Fiddler Martin Hayes and learned many new tunes that I'll be sharing with my fiddle class!

- Libby Meyer



Students, barefoot and in shorts, enjoy Libby's fiddle classes over the summer.

I was able to participate in several unique musical experiences this summer. I played with the Pine Mountain Music Festival Orchestra. We performed Beethoven's 9th symphony in three different locations in the Upper Peninsula. I also took two teacher-training courses. One was for Suzuki Book 6 at the American Suzuki Institute in Stevens Point, Wisconsin. If you haven't attended a Suzuki summer institute, I highly recommend it! They provide lots of ideas and motivation for parents, students and teachers. The second class I took was with Simon Fischer, a well-known British violin teacher. For five days, six hours each day, I observed Mr. Fischer teach young students playing at advanced levels. Even advanced students sometimes need to work on correct bow holds and left hand posture. Along with giving me ideas for teaching more advanced students, the class reinforced the importance of developing correct technique from the very beginning.

- Lindy Wagner

# Fourth Keweenaw String Festival

This October the Keweenaw Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of Dr. Joel Neves, invited our KYSO (Keweenaw Youth Symphony Orchestra) and other area string players to take part in the Fourth Keweenaw String Festival. This collaboration featured outstanding violist Pamela McConnell, of the Bergonzi String Quartet, performing a viola concerto our KYSO helped accompany on stage at the Rozsa Center. A celebration of all things viola, a "violapalooza," was the focus of this Fourth Keweenaw String Festival where McConnell provided arrangements by J.S. Bach featuring the viola section. Our students were also fortunate to attend a master class given by Professor McConnell, where she gave expert guidance on subjects such as bow technique and quartet playing.



Dr. Joel Neves, KSO director, Pamela McConnell, Libby Meyer and Dr. Milt Olsson, KYSO director, smile backstage with our violinists after a great performance at the Rozsa Center.



# Become a "Suzuki Star"

The CCSA is launching our new Suzuki Star program. Donors who contribute at the \$500 level will become a "Suzuki Star." Stars can sponsor a concert, a student or just make a donation at that level. Our Stars will be honored on the "Suzuki Star" wall at our studio in Hancock, mentioned in press releases, newsletters and concert programs. Our first Suzuki Star is **Superior National Bank** who has generously sponsored our Halloween concert on October 28th. If you are interested in becoming a Suzuki Star please contact Libby Meyer at 906-487-3606.



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 \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 I'd like this gift to be anonymous.  
 This gift is **In Honor Of** or **In Memory Of** (circle one):

I'd like to sponsor a scholarship at the  \$500  \$250  \$100 level.  
 Sign my business up to be a "Suzuki Star!"

Your name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Your gift will help us:  
 · purchase instruments  
 · offer scholarships  
 · keep tuition affordable