



Twinkling The Ivories

May 2008

“All children are born with great potential.”

Board of Directors

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Time Flies When You're Having Fun!

Wow...I can't believe that almost a whole year has gone by!

A lot has happened since the beginning of the year, including having a full, functioning board; hosting the Edmund Sprunger Workshop, Fall Institute, Spring Festival and three graduations; repairing piano hardware and having footstools available; updating the website and continuing the enhancement of administrative processes.

It seems like just yesterday when we had the last AGM...and now its here again. Our agenda will comprise of short reports of board initiatives and actions, financial statements, future plans, as well as nominations and elections of board members. Five board members will continue to ensure a smooth succession when half the board completes their two-year term at the end of the term. Currently we have a need for a Vice-President (chairing board meetings if both co-presidents are not able to attend), Secretary (take and circulate minutes for board meetings), and at least two Members-at-Large (share your perspectives). As our quorum is four, it is nice to have a few extra board members to broaden our perspectives ... and bring delicious snacks.

We hope that you can spare an hour of your time to provide us with your thoughts on the future directions of ESPS and how ESPS can continue to support your piano endeavours.

Karen Spencer
Co-President of the ESPS



Edmonton Suzuki Piano School

AGM | **GROUPS CONCERT**
2:00 pm | 3:00 pm

Saturday, May 31, 2008
Suzuki Charter School
7211-96 A Ave

The ESPS Annual Groups Concert will follow the Annual General Meeting. Students will be performing in their group ensembles and demonstrating the culmination of their efforts.

Many hands make work light

Database Designer

ESPS is looking for a volunteer to help with the creation of a simple administrative database. If you have database design experience and have a little time to help, contact Kim Green at 488-0548.

Secretary, Member-at-Large

ESPS is looking for volunteers for the Board positions of Secretary and Member-at-Large. If you like to share ideas and are able to meet for one hour per month, please contact Kim Green at 488-0548 for more information.

2008/09 Registration

Registration packages for the 2008/09 school year were distributed to families in April. Families should have received their registration form, group lesson form, and volunteer commitment form, along with a message from the Board with an explanation of some of the changes for the upcoming year.

One of the most positive changes involves Suzuki books and CDs. In an effort to eliminate extra fees for families and to simplify processes for teachers, the Board of Directors recently approved a motion to provide families with Suzuki repertoire books and CDs as part of the annual registration fee. The replacement of lost or damaged copies will continue to be the responsibility of the family, as well as any additional learning materials recommended by the teacher.

Additionally, families who are registering for the first time will no longer have to register (and pay) separately for our annual parent course. Families who are new to ESPS will receive the course and course materials as part of their initial registration fee.

Registration packages are due back to your teacher by May 16th, 2008. If you have not received your registration forms or if you have any questions, please contact your teacher or Kim Green at 488-0548.

Boost Your Brain - Read a Book!

Play It Again, Schroeder - by Charles Schulz

This new "Peanuts" cartoon book is a new compilation of Charles Schulz cartoons that are all about music. From Schroeder playing Beethoven on his toy piano to Peppermint Patty misunderstanding another concert, this is a hilarious collection. (Published 2007, by Ballantine). — *submitted by Tim Eckert*

A Suzuki Parent's Diary or How I Survived My First 10,000 Twinkles - by Carroll Morris

What is it like to be a Suzuki parent? Most parents soon discover that they go through phases as they learn with their child, some good and some a little more challenging. Often, parents wonder if they are alone in having difficulties and seek a realistic view of what *being in Suzuki* is like.

In this book, which is particularly useful for beginning families, Carroll Morris tells the story, with all of its ups and downs, of life as a first year Suzuki parent. Through humorous anecdotes written in a journal format, readers soon discover that the challenges, hard work, and thrills involved in learning are common to all parents. Readers come away with a better sense of expectations for their coming path as a Suzuki family.

Available from ESPS for \$12.

Boost Your Brain - Listen to Great Music!

Oscar Peterson: The great Canadian pianist recently died at age 82. He was on dozens of CDs, dozens of radio broadcasts, and dozens of music festivals. He was honoured on a postage stamp at age 80. Decades from now, the world will still remember him as a very important musician. (Another world-famous Canadian pianist is Glenn Gould.) For those not familiar with his playing, or for those not familiar with jazz in general, try his "Canadiana Suite" CD, his "Night Train" CD, and "Oscar Peterson: A 75th Birthday Celebration," all with great melodies. All are still available in stores, or at the library.

— *submitted by Tim Eckert*

March 2008 Graduation

Congratulations to the following students for their hard work and well-deserved graduations:

Volume 1

Emily Belhumeur-Desjarlais
Darin Lee
Tatianna Marciniak
Alana Patterson
Tereza Zitnansky

Volume 2

Robin Chan
Selma Hammad
Daphne Ma
Jessica Mah
Luka Morita

Volume 3

Melissa Bui
Charlotte Hansford
Michaelene Poworoznik

Volume 4

Lukas Bochno
Julie Vo

Volume 5

Adrian Aschenbrenner
Alison McIntosh

Volume 6

Megan Ng

Congratulations to the parents as well for enabling and supporting the students:

The fate of a child is in the hands of the parent. Shaping a child into an admirable human being or a wolf is entirely dependent upon the parent.

- Shinichi Suzuki