

AD Report: Annual General Meeting

October 28th, 2023

Report on previous year's programming 2022-2023:

- It was our first year back completely in-person after the pandemic
- In addition to regular pre-pandemic events taking place in-person, the guitars participated in the Kiwanis Music Festival, the senior strings students collaborated with the Canterbury High School strings and Debbie Hammond's violin studio at Dominion Chalmers, and we performed at the Greenboro branch of the Ottawa Public Library.
- Carol Deaville, one of our violin teachers, retired after more than 15 years of teaching in our school
- Two new teachers were hired: Ursa Meyer (violin, viola and Headstart) and Erik Johnson-Scherger (violin and viola)
- Headstart registration numbers were so high that we opened a 2nd class for terms 2 and 3
- Thank you to Keite, the past A.D., for making all of this happen, and for her hard work, dedication and innovation, getting us through the pandemic years to where we are today!

Looking ahead to 2023-2024:

- Over the summer of 2023 we hired a new violin teacher, Jenna O'Connor.
- We will continue to work to grow the student body of our school, through advertising efforts and outreach events.
- We hope to be able to run our Summer Camp during the summer of 2024, for the first time in many years due to the pandemic.
- We are bringing back the Early Childhood Education program for prenatal to children aged 3, which will be taught online by, Chela.
- Our theme this year is *Community Crescendo: Nurturing our Connections*. This theme was chosen by the faculty during the faculty meeting at the beginning of September. Here are some examples of how this theme will be put into practice:
 - Ottawa community performances: Greenboro branch of the Ottawa Public Library, Guitar Alla Grande Festival, uOttawa group class performances and workshops
 - SuzukiMusic community social events: Beginning of Year Kickoff Social: Sharing Music and Snacks in Britannia Park, Play-In Potluck
 - SuzukiMusic community of teachers: casual pedagogy idea-sharing sessions, collaboration in faculty meetings, social events for teachers, collaborations between group classes taught by different teachers
 - Teen mentorship training program: teaching older students to be practice buddies and group class mentors for our younger students



Emma Grant-Zypchen, Artistic Director