**First Year Suzuki Parent Information 2016-17**

Welcome to the Suzuki program at the Brooklyn Conservatory of Music!

**Classes begin in September. Specific days/times depend on your unique class schedule. Schedules become available in May and June.**Once you’ve registered, your personalized schedule will be sent via email prior to the first day of classes. Please **PRINT &** **BRING YOUR PERSONALIZED SCHEDULE WITH YOU** so that you know when/where to go and who your teachers are. **Keep the schedule with your other lesson materials**, so that on rare occasions when a non-Suzuki parent caregiver must bring your child to the lessons, they will know when/where to go.

**Six-Week Start – Parents attend ALL CLASSES WITHOUT CHILDREN for the first six weeks.**

Children **SHOULD NOT** attend the classes during the first six weeks. Please make alternate arrangements.

**Your weekly schedule includes:**1. Private lesson (parent, child, teacher) 30 mins, 30 per year

2. Group Class (parent, child, teacher, with the other children and parents from your instrument/level), 30 mins, weekly

3. Theory Class (parent, child, teacher, with the other children and parents from your instrument/level), 30 mins, weekly   
4. Parent Class (Dept head, the other first year violin parents, no children), 60 mins, weekly, **September to January Only**

**Note:** September to June, string students receive 30 private lessons and fewer group/theory days. There is no group/theory on event days. Weekday group/theory classes will occasionally be cancelled in order to meet the same number of times as Sunday classes. **There are no student make ups in our program**. Weekdays during the two scheduled make up weeks might be used by teachers at their prerogative. The final **Sunday in June** is a **regular** private lesson day, but a **make up** day for group/theory, should a teacher miss class unexpectedly.   
 **The materials fee (new family registrations) includes the following required materials, to be distributed in classes:**1. Puppy Packet (music theory curriculum)   
2. Suzuki Volume 1 & CD for your instrument  
3. Helping Parents Practice, by Ed Sprunger  
4. Nurtured By Love (revised edition), by Shinichi Suzuki   
5. First year handout packets   
(Current families may purchase individual items from registration)  
  
You will also need pencils, a pen, notebook, folder, video-recording device, and over the years, additional books and materials, as well as a **DEDICATED tote bag** in which to keep the above.   
  
**Regarding INSTRUMENTS:   
Parents will need an adult sized instrument and accessories for their FIRST class in September. Continue to bring your instrument to all classes September through January.**

**CHILDREN’S INSTRUMENTS:**   
**DO NOT** get an instrument for your child yet. It’s best to let your TEACHER determine the correct size, rather than a music store. Violin students don’t need a real instrument until December or January; guitar & cello students sooner than that. (Piano students use the same instrument as their parents.)

It is VERY IMPORTANT to obtain a high quality instrument. Do not be lured by inexpensive instruments on Craigslist or EBay! They usually do not function well enough to play, and you will be frustrated. When in doubt, ask an expert.

**Should you have any questions or concerns at any time during the year, please feel free to discuss with your department heads.**  
We are delighted that you are interested in joining our Suzuki Community!