

## Our Faculty

For complete faculty bios, please see our website.

### Joanna Binford - Program Coordinator

BA and MM, University of Kentucky

### Tina Culver

BM and MM, North Carolina School of the Arts

### Sarah Ford

MM, University of Georgia  
BM Ohio Wesleyan University

### Heather Garcia

BM, University of Memphis

### Christina Morton

MS, Old Dominion University  
BM, Northwestern University

### Elizabeth Richards

DMA, University of Maryland  
MM, Louisiana State University  
BM, Ithaca College

### Adam Symborski

BM, James Madison University

### Megan Van Gimple

MM, Hartt School of Music  
BM, Valparaiso University

Suzuki Faculty members are trained in the Suzuki Method of teaching and participate in continuing education at regular intervals. Students are always taught by a teacher qualified to the appropriate book level. All are members of Suzuki Association of the Americas and STAHR--Suzuki Teachers Association of Hampton Roads.

Follow us on Facebook at

**Academy of Music Suzuki Strings Program.**

Visit [www.suzukiassociation.org](http://www.suzukiassociation.org) for more information about The Suzuki Method.

*The Academy of Music is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, equal opportunity organization. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, nationality, ethnic origin, color, sex or religious belief in any of its policies or programs.*

## About The Academy of Music

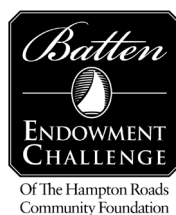
**Our mission is to make the joys and benefits of learning music available to the residents of Hampton Roads, regardless of ability to pay.**

The Academy of Music is Hampton Roads' only independent non-profit community music school and is accredited by the National Guild of Community Schools of the Arts. Since 1991, The Academy of Music has offered private and group instruction for instruments and voice. Our instructors are highly trained music educators and performers. The Academy's offerings are designed for all ages and skill levels:

- Private Lessons
- Suzuki Strings and Piano Programs
- Prezuki - early childhood music instruction for 2-3 yr olds
- Community Outreach programs, funded by donors, grants and partners

The Academy provides need-based scholarships for students enrolled in private study who could not otherwise afford music lessons. For the last few years, one in three of our students has received full or significant scholarship assistance.

We are grateful to our supporters, including:



*Making Music Matters*

## Suzuki Strings 2016-2017



P.O. Box 11146  
Norfolk, Virginia 23517  
757.627.0967  
757.627.0535 Fax  
[www.aomva.org](http://www.aomva.org)

updated August 2015

# *Introduction to the Suzuki Method*

## **Early Start:**

-Instruction begins from 4 to 7 years of age

## **Parental Involvement:**

- Child/Parent/Teacher are equal members of the Suzuki Triangle
- Parents are “home teachers,” guiding home practice
- Parents learn basic playing skills

## **Listening:**

- Children learn music the same way they learn language, through listening
- Listening, imitation and positive reinforcement
- Listening to repertoire is essential

## **Repertoire:**

- Carefully chosen to teach technique within the context of folk and classical music
- All students learn the same pieces in the same order
- Motivates younger children and allows more advanced children to act as role models and leaders
- Memorization and mastery of skills required for advancement.

## **Instrumental Lessons:**

- Weekly lessons
- Child receives individual instruction on position, technique, musicianship and tone

## **Reading:**

- Children learn to read after they learn to speak
- Suzuki students learn to read music once they have internalized basic posture, techniques, tone and intonation

## **Performance:**

- Confidence is gained through frequent performances in groups and as soloists

# *The Academy of Music Suzuki Strings Program*

AOM offers instruction in violin, viola and cello using the Suzuki Method. Participation in the program requires significant commitment from a parent and child.

Tuition includes:

- Weekly 30, 45 or 60 minute lessons during each 18-week semester
- Weekly group classes
- Parent education, recitals, receptions, outreach concerts and special events.

**Suzuki Program Tuition:  
(per 18 week semester)**

30 min. \$602  
45 min. \$828  
60 min. \$1,054

Discount of \$20 for each additional family member  
Payment Plans available in 2, 3, or 4 payments to be completed by the end of the semester.

Please wait to obtain an instrument until you are advised by your teacher.

\*additional fees include: one-time \$35 registration fee per family, instrument rental or purchase, Suzuki music books and listening tapes, lesson notebook, occasional accompanist fee, STAHR (Suzuki Teachers' Association of Hampton Roads) membership

Suzuki group classes (required) are held at  
**Ghent United Methodist Church**  
531 Raleigh Avenue, Norfolk

Individual lessons are held in Norfolk and Virginia Beach

# *How to Get Started*

Enrollment in the Suzuki Program at the Academy of Music begins with an individual lesson observation by the student AND parent. We try to arrange for you to observe a lesson with a student of similar age to your own. We also require families to observe one of our group classes, which take place on Thursday evenings.

To set up your observations, please look over the “Getting Started With AOM Suzuki” resource page on our website, which can be found here:

[www.aomva.org/wp/suzuki-checklist/](http://www.aomva.org/wp/suzuki-checklist/)

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact the Suzuki Strings Program Coordinator, Joanna Binford at [suzuki@aomva.org](mailto:suzuki@aomva.org)

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