



2017-18

Information for Parents of Beginning ESM Students

Welcome to our 34th season!

We are pleased that you have decided to register with Etobicoke Suzuki Music for the coming year. We are looking forward to sharing in your child's musical development and supporting you, the parent, in any way we can. Margot Jewell (violin co-ordinator) and Tricia Balmer (cello co-ordinator) are Co-directors. Ann Balmer is the Administrator. **If you have any questions or problems throughout the year, please do not hesitate to contact your teacher, Tricia, Margot, or Ann at info@essm.ca or 416.239.4637.**

Your program will consist of four elements: lessons with your private teacher, group classes, music and movement classes and parent education classes. Note that the latter three classes do not take place every week throughout the year. See the **ESM** calendar for the time and location of these lessons.

Lessons begin the week of September 10 and finish June 9.

The opening group class (Supergroup) will be held on Monday, Sept 11 at 6:00 p.m. All students will meet in the Concert Hall at PLAST, 516 The Kingsway, at Kipling Ave. Beginning students will observe the class. You do not need your instruments for this.

Beginning September 18, you and your child should come to group class and your child will start Music and Movement class as well. Although the focus in the instrumental class will be on the children, you need to be there.

You are welcome to observe your child's first couple of Music and Movement classes. After these initial classes, parent education sessions will take place during some of these periods.

Violin



Violin students 5 years old and younger will begin on a box violin included in your beginner package received after you register.

Most violin parents will be expected to rent a full-sized violin for the first year in order to receive some instruction along with their child. **ESM** has some full-sized violins available for rent at \$125/year on a first-come first-served basis for first year parents. If you are interested in renting one of the **ESM** violins, please contact **ESM** at 416.239.4637 or info@essm.ca. Your violin should be obtained before the first lesson and your child will need his or hers within 4 to 12 weeks.

Cello



All cello students will need a chair, preferably of adjustable height, and a rug. Cello students do not use a "box" as the violin students do, although a fair amount of work is done without the cello at the beginning.

Cello parents are strongly encouraged to rent a full-sized cello. **Long and McQuade**, 925 Bloor St. W. (416.588.7876) offers the most reasonable rental prices, although rental cellos are available at other music stores. Bring your cello to the first private lesson and your child's cello to the first cello group class.

Small Instruments

Following the opening Supergroup session, teachers will be available to measure children for instruments. **It is very important that the correct size of instrument be obtained.**

There are several options for acquiring small instruments:

(a) You may rent from **ESM** (small cellos only for \$250/year), **The Sound Post** (416.971.6990) or **Long and McQuade**.

(b) You may buy a new or second-hand instrument through a string shop such as **The Sound Post, Long and McQuade, Remenyi House of Music** (416.961.3111) or **Heinl** (416.363.0093).

(c) You may buy a second-hand instrument privately. We have an **ESM** parent volunteer who facilitates this process by keeping an inventory of all the instruments available through our families. This latter course is worth investigating as you will have lower prices and no taxes. Many of the families with instruments for sale will have them at Supergroup for your inspection.

Supplies

You will be receiving the 'beginner package' including the first music book and recording of your child's repertoire. **Please begin listening to this every day.** This will greatly facilitate your child's ability to learn the pieces when the time comes. Also included will be *Ability Development from Age Zero* by Dr. Suzuki and *Helping Parents Practice, Making it Easier* by Ed Sprunger. We strongly encourage you to read these as they will give you a better understanding of the Suzuki philosophy.

Also available are *Nurtured by Love*, by Dr. Suzuki and *To Learn with Love* by William Starr.

These materials are available at various music stores such as **Queensway Music Centre**, 701 The Queensway, Etobicoke (416.259.9723), **The Sound Post**, **The Royal Conservatory Book Store** (416.585.2225) **Remenyi House of Music** and your local public library.