



ESM ENRICHMENT CLASSES 2018-19

All Suzuki music schools offer a combination of group and private lessons. However, one of the strengths of our school is the enrichment program that we offer. These optional courses aim to round out the musical experience of our students. If you are interested in an enrichment class, please **fill out the registration form** and send it back to us.

RHYTHMIC READING: Two levels, half hour. The focus of this class is the development of the ability to recognize rhythms. Acquiring this skill is more complicated than learning the note names and reading the staff, on which this class does not spend time. Recognition of rhythms is critical to reading any piece of music and especially to playing in an ensemble setting. Students will develop these skills in a fun way through singing, theory, games and various other activities. Instruments are not required. In combination with the note/pitch reading in lessons, Rhythmic Reading helps to equip students with more successful reading skills and prepare them for orchestra where being able to read rhythms is critical. We strongly recommend that you register for this class if you have finished Music and Movement and are not yet in orchestra.

THEORY: If possible and if there is interest, we would like to add a beginner or lower level theory class. Let us know if you are interested in this. Two one-hour classes will continue from last year: RCM Level 6 Monday evenings, and RCM Level 8 Tuesdays 6:30-7:30pm.

CHAMBER MUSIC PROGRAM: There will be two orchestras (Vivace & Encore) and several small ensembles in 2018-19. Aside from being fun, participation in a chamber group greatly benefits music reading and ensemble playing skills. Students will be placed by their teachers according to playing and reading levels, and experience. The minimum level of playing is Book 2 or on the recommendation of your teacher. The student *must* also have completed a reading book with his/her teacher (i.e. *I Can Read Music* book 1) and preferably Rhythmic Reading Level 2.

Vivace will provide the opportunity to rehearse and perform a range of introductory ensemble music.

Encore members will tackle challenging standard repertoire as well as original compositions, not simplified arrangements. Quartet members will be expected to show more independence in learning and rehearsing their parts.

Ensembles are reserved for students Book 6 and up. Each ensemble is coached by an ESM faculty member. Students are grouped according to instrument and level. It is possible that we will not be able to place every student who applies for a quartet. Because there is only one person per part, a high level of commitment is required from all participants in this program. In order for your quartet to work, you must make a commitment to learn your own part, attend all rehearsals, and come with the necessary equipment in addition to your instrument (music stand, ensemble music, pencil).

VIOLA GROUP CLASS: Violin students Book 2 and up who would like to learn to play viola are welcome! Please let us know if you are interested in this viola group class.

FIDDLE: A new Fiddle class will be offered next year. This is appropriate for students Book 2 and up.

PARENT GROUP CLASS: This half hour class is for parents playing violin or cello at an elementary level who wish to continue with instruction and would enjoy playing with a group. This class usually occurs when most of the intermediate students have classes, and runs subject to enrolment.