



## SVSMF PHILOSOPHY

South Valley Suzuki Music Foundation is patterned after Dr. Suzuki's Talent Education philosophy that any child can learn to play an instrument when the environment surrounding the child is loving and supportive of excellence.

**Mission Statement:** The South Valley Suzuki Music Foundation is dedicated to providing opportunities for children to increase their musical abilities, to develop friendships, and to experience positive personal growth on their journey in becoming noble human beings.

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

SVSMF gratefully accepts donations. We will perform for your special occasion – weddings, anniversaries, retirement parties, business luncheons, etc., – to raise money for our international Friendship Tours. SVSMF is a non-profit organization and all donations are tax-deductible. Please contact Lori Franke to arrange a performance.

## FRIENDSHIP TOURS

SVSMF has an active program of traveling abroad to help promote peace, understanding, and friendship among the peoples of the world through the universal language of music. The Violin Kids have toured England (2001), Germany (2004), and the Azores, Portugal (2006). SVSMF is dedicated to promoting Dr. Suzuki's goal of "world harmony through music."



## FOUNDER AND MANAGING DIRECTOR

Lori Franke is the Founder and Director of South Valley Suzuki String Academy, a private business, and President of the South Valley Suzuki Music Foundation, a non-profit organization. With a B.A. degree in Elementary Education from Brigham Young University and a double Minor in German and Music, Lori had the privilege of studying directly under Dr. Shinichi Suzuki in Japan and has been teaching Suzuki violin for over 34 years.



She is currently an Artist-in-Residence at Antonio del Buono Elementary School in Gilroy, CA where she teaches violin students from kindergarten to 5th grade. She also teaches a Beginning Strings class at Gilroy High School and is involved in both community and professional orchestras throughout the year. Her Friendship Tour program has taken her group to England and Germany. Lori lives in Gilroy with her husband, a Master Piano Builder, is the mother of five, and grandmother of five. Lori has been teaching in Gilroy since 1996.

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## SUZUKI VIOLIN METHOD

The Suzuki Method of music education began with the Japanese violinist Shinichi Suzuki in the middle of the 20th century. Dr. Suzuki believed that the most effective way to learn music was exposure from an early age. He called this the “mother tongue” method – young children learn to play an instrument in the same way that they learn their own language – by listening, absorbing, and imitating. The parent’s role is vital in the development of early learning ability – parents attend lessons with the child and help with practice at home. The parent’s knowledge of the instrument and of music develops along with the child’s.

Children are first taught by ear. The young musicians do not learn to read music until they begin to understand music aurally. The age at which children are taught to read music is typically the same as when they begin to learn to read their written language.

Dr. Suzuki’s philosophy is one of “Talent Education”. He did not believe that certain people were born with “a gift” or “talent”, rather that each child has infinite potential. Dr. Suzuki believed that by teaching children music he created a medium for the emotional and spiritual growth of the child.

The basic principles of the Suzuki Method are listening, repetition, motivation, and encouragement. The primary goal is to nurture not only the child’s musical abilities, but also the whole being.

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## CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information on our tours and upcoming events visit our website at:

[www.violinkids.org](http://www.violinkids.org)

Write us at:

[info@violinkids.org](mailto:info@violinkids.org)

Call:

Lori Franke (408) 847-0615



## *South Valley Suzuki Music Foundation*

