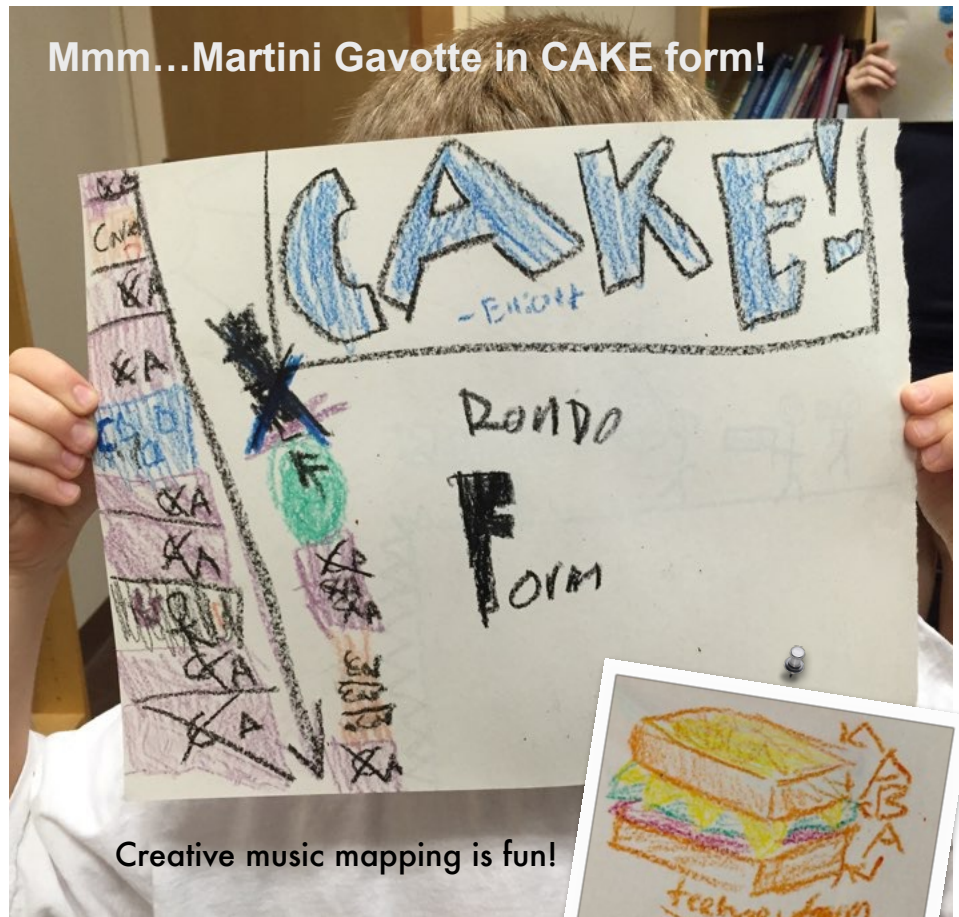


fabulous friday flyer

SOUTHEAST
TEXAS
SUZUKI
ASSOCIATION
SOUTH/SE
REGION
2015-16
ISSUE NO. 4



Fine Motor Friday, January 2016

One more step in educating more than just the violinist.

by Danette Schuh

Suzuki was a holistic thinker.

In an article by Masauki and Satoko Oshima*, they explore the impact that the Edo Period of Japan (1603-1867) had upon the Suzuki method. "For many Japanese, the Edo Period takes very unique, important, and special place in their hearts. It was this period when all the famous Japanese cultural markers like Japanese cuisine (sushi, tempura, etc.), origami folding, ukiyoe wood

print, bonsai gardening, sudoku puzzles, and sumo wrestling were invented. Such a bloom of culture

Holistic: characterized by comprehension of the parts of something as intimately interconnected and explicable only by reference to the whole.

was the result of the fact that Japan closed and locked the country (sakoku; "chain-closed country"), and stopped any traffic or communication with foreign

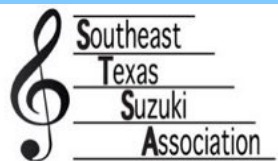
countries (with some exceptions)." The cultural environment has a huge impact upon the children of that culture and their development. Art and music are a large part of every culture. Suzuki knew that the ability to create something beautiful developed sensitivity and depth of character in all children.

A Kindergarten teacher on the blog, tofugu.com tells this story about learning origami. "(He) also taught

Next Class:

February 19

Fiddling Friday! Use your ears! Give them a workout as we learn a brand new fiddle tune by ear!



on the web at stxsa.org

"To make a resolution and act accordingly is to live with hope. There may be difficulties and hardships, but not disappointment or despair if you follow the path steadily. Do not hurry. This is a fundamental rule. If you hurry and collapse or tumble down, nothing is achieved. DO not rest in your efforts; this is another fundamental rule. Without stopping, without haste, carefully taking a step at a time forward will surely get you there."

-Dr. Shinichi Suzuki

What's next? Upcoming STXSA events...

January 8
STXSA S/SE Region
FABULOUS FRIDAY
GROUP CLASS
Fine Motor Friday

February 6
STXSA WORKSHOP
"Musical Tweets"
for violin, viola, cello
details at www.stxsa.org

February 19
STXSA S/SE Region
FABULOUS FRIDAY
GROUP CLASS
Fiddling Friday

April 1
STXSA S/SE Region
FABULOUS FRIDAY
GROUP CLASS
Friendship Friday

April 9
STXSA RIBBON FESTIVAL

April 30
STXSA GRADUATION

May 1
STXSA S/SE Region
FABULOUS FRIDAY
GROUP CLASS
Fiesta Friday

One more step in educating more than just the violinist. continued from pg. 1

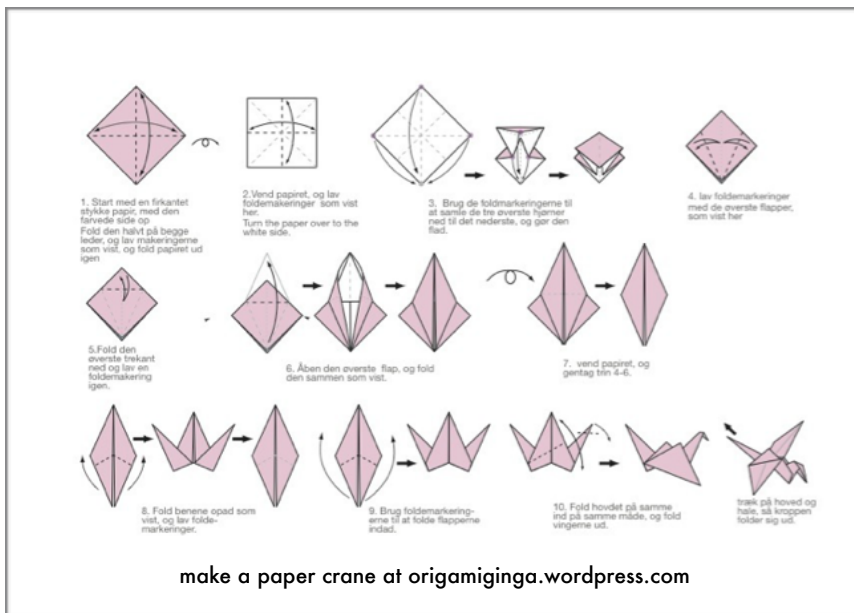
my class about origami paper being



surprised by the delicate paper, overwhelmed by the detailed instructions, and impressed by (his) finished product – a beautiful paper crane (that looked much better than my attempt, which looked more like a backhoe).

Little did we know that (his) origami did much more than expose us to Japanese culture – it helped shape our developing brains. Recent research shows that origami is more than just a cultural pastime or art. In fact, it might be the best activity for children's developing minds, making it perfect for school curriculums everywhere."

Artist and origami expert, Rachel Katz wrote, "It has long been known that origami has many benefits like developing eye hand co-ordination, sequencing skills, attention skills, patience, temporal spatial skills, math reasoning etc. but according to the latest research on the brain and the work of Doctor Katrin Shumakov and Yuri Shumakov, when both hands are engaged, impellent motor impulses activate the language portion of



the brain." Suzuki knew, even before this research was done, that origami is a holistic activity, helping the whole child develop into an intelligent and sensitive

human being. Suzuki said to all of us, "It is necessary to be concerned about the importance of educating a really beautiful human spirit."

Suzuki Philosophy

The Seven Concepts of the Suzuki Philosophy, by Danette Schuh

Part Four in a seven part series exploring the Suzuki Philosophy in depth.

The Seven concepts, 1. Every child can learn, 2. Ability develops early, 3. Environment nurtures growth, 4. Children learn from one another, 5. Success breeds success, 6. Parental involvement is critical, 7. Encouragement is essential.

Watching children together, one can see that **children learn from one another**. They are highly observant and will see the actions of others and mimic them. It is very important that older children are paired with younger ones, so that more advanced behavior and abilities are modeled. In this "family-style" environment, the older children are motivated to take that next step in development and learn much more quickly and happily. The older children become good role models, learning sensitivity and helpfulness with the younger ones. Positive, desirable behavior and ability must be modeled; otherwise, bad behavior will be reinforced.