Hello to all students, parents, and teachers! Thank-you for your early-morning waking, extra driving for class, efforts to set new practice schedules, and your overall enthusiasm for the program! It has been a delight for me to see your students in the music building as well as in their classes. We have truly begun and students are progressing well. The following is a newsletter containing important information. Let me know if you have a conflict with any of the large orchestra rehearsals and especially if you do for the Christmas Concert. I love feedback so shoot me an e-mail and let me know how you think we are doing. Thank-you again for all you do.

Sara Gunnell
sara.gunnell@snow.edu

Save these Dates

Large Orchestra Rehearsals:

All rehearsals take place at Snow College in the Music Building. Signs will be posted to help the students find the right room. There are no orchestra classes the week of a large orchestra rehearsal.

October 16th: 6:00 – 7:30 p.m., Concert Hall
November 14th: 7:00 – 8:30 p.m., Concert Hall
November 26th: 6:00 – 7:30 p.m., Concert Hall
December 3rd: 6:00 – 7:30 p.m., Recital Hall

Solo Recital Dates:
Pick one with your Private Teacher
Dec. 10th, 4:30
Or
Dec. 11th, 4:30

Concert:
December 4th
7:00 p.m.
Concert Hall
Motivation and Praise

A study once showed that for any relationship to work there must be 5 positives to any one negative. This idea applies very directly to playing an instrument. If you can help your child have positive experiences with their instrument then the chances that they will stick with it will be higher.

All of us strive for positive encouragement but how do you do that with practicing?

1) Play an active roll during practice by offering praise and guidance. (Even if your remarks come from another room)

2) Opt for phrases like “Good. Can you do this better? Let’s try again.” Instead of “No, that is not good.”

3) Find as many things to praise as you can. “Way to hold your violin.” “You did all the fingers right!” etc.

4) Remember that there are degrees of praise. Really get excited when the student drastically improves.

5) Learn as much as you can yourself. Come to lessons and orchestra whenever time permits.

6) Home concerts: Have your child perform for anyone and everyone no matter the skill level. Their performances can allow you to show them how proud you are. Always offer praise after a performance.

7) Listen to as much music as you can. Especially pieces that the student is working. On (see Suzuki quote)

BSP Tracking System

In the Badger String Project we track each student according to how many days they practice and how many repetitions they do in a week. Here is the breakdown:

5-7 days (50-70 repetitions) = Presto
3-4 days (30-40 repetitions) = Allegro
1-2 days (10-20 repetitions) = Andante
0 days = (0 repetitions) = Largo

Help your student get as many repetitions in as they can in a practice. Your private teacher will help you know what to repeat (spots as well as whole sections/pieces). Those students that rate the highest by concert time will be greatly rewarded (free concert tickets... ice cream? more info to come!!!... )