STE 50th Anniversary Celebrations!

This year STE is celebrating our 50th Anniversary. Founded in 1964-65 STE has grown from a small program with 26 students and one violin teacher in 1965 to a program with over 300 students in violin, viola, cello and bass and a teaching faculty of 20 in 2014-15.

Throughout the year there will be many special events celebrating our 50th Anniversary, as well as frequent postings on our website, newsletters and hallway displays with photos and information on our history.

How it all started

"Edmonton Alberta Canada and the Western World was a relatively lonely place to be a serious string player. As a violinist, teacher and concert-master I too felt the strong need to be part of a living family of artists - the very young, those in their teens, the university students, professionals, amateurs, moms and dads and grandparents. By an act of now historical coincidence, I discovered Mr. Suzuki in Japan. He had felt this many years before, had already proven the success of working in a total society of children and all their kinfolk. In 1964 after observing for myself his results, I was convinced we could bring all the elements together in a Western Canadian environment to fulfill my original longings for an artistic string community. We were to embark on a gamble unique at this time in Canadian musical education."

Dr. Thomas Rolston from the Introduction to the Society for Talent Education's 20th Anniversary Book.

In July 1965 Yoko Oike, a student of Dr. Suzuki, arrived in Canada and launched the Edmonton program with two one-week sessions at the Banff School of Fine Arts. Twenty-six children and their mothers attended.



Celebration Through Learning!

At the heart of our 50th Anniversary Celebration is Celebration Through Learning. A series of special guest clinicians will present workshops, masterclasses, parent presentations and concerts.

November 7-9, 2014

Vital Violin Weekend with Brian Lewis.

Brian Lewis will present workshops for our violin students, a talk on Suzuki method learning for parents and a violin recital at Convocation Hall at U of A. One of the most versatile and charismatic violinists today, and an internationally recognized adjudicator, Brian Lewis communicates a passionate artistry has been heard and embraced around the world.

February 20-22, 2015

Charming Cellos with Carey Beth Hockett

Carey Beth Hockett will present a series of group classes for STE's cello students, as well as presenting a special workshop for teachers on group class teaching. Carey Beth Hockett has been actively involved in the Suzuki world for more than 30 years, and is widely respected as a leading instructor and clinician in cello and group lessons.

April 7-14, 2015

Vibrant Violas with Elizabeth Stuen Walker

Elizabeth Stuen-Walker will present a series of masterclasses and group classes for STE viola students. She will also offer a unit of viola teacher training for STE's viola teachers.

Elizabeth Stuen-Walker is a Suzuki Viola Teacher Trainer. She maintains a studio in Bellingham, Washington, where she teaches viola, violin, and is very active in the musical community.

Beautiful Basses - Dates and teacher TBA

Special programming for STE bass students. Stay tuned for breaking news on this exciting workshop.

May 2-3, 2015

Spring String Camp

Watch for more details on this wonderful weekend specifically designed for our beginners and early book 1 students! This weekend will close with the Betty Parker-Jervis concert, Sunday May 3, 2015.

Gala 50th Anniversary Concert and Family BBQ! Sunday May 31, 2015

Celebrate 50 years of Talent Education in Edmonton! This concert at the Hawrelak Park Heritage Amphitheatre is the culmination of our year of celebrations. Mark your calendars now so you don't miss this historic event, everyone will have a part to play... including the largest Twinkle ever played in Edmonton!