



SUZUKI

FWYO Suzuki Handbook

2023–2024

Annual Schedule

The school year calendar is from August 20, 2023 – June 1, 2024. It includes 34 weeks of private lessons, group classes, play-ins, recitals, and other performing opportunities.

Week of Aug. 20	Lessons Begin
Week of Sept. 10	Group Classes Begin
Nov. 19 - Nov. 25	Thanksgiving Break
Dec. 17 - Jan. 6	Winter Break
Mar. 10 - Mar. 16	Spring Break 1
Apr. 21 - Apr. 27	Spring Break 2
Week of May 19	Lessons End (34 weeks)
Week of May 26	Group Classes End

Opportunities

FWYO Suzuki offers programs for all ages and experiences. Those include the signature Suzuki combination **Individual Lesson + Group Class** available to Violin, Viola, Cello, and Bass players of all experiences and several **Group Learning Experiences** for all ages and backgrounds!

Suzuki Signature Individual Lesson + Group Class (Violin, Viola, Cello, & Bass)

The core of our program is the **individual lesson**. Each student, with at least one parent present, participates in a weekly lesson with an assigned instructor. In addition to attending your assigned lesson, we encourage you and your child to observe lessons of other students. Prior to observing, make arrangements with the teacher. **For fees: see below**

Group classes are fun, motivating, and unique to the Suzuki Method. Parents and students attend together. Group classes will provide opportunities for you and your child to review, to refine techniques, to expand your understanding of theory and musicianship, to experience ensemble playing, to develop leadership skills, to practice recital preparation and behavior, and to have a good time. Check with your instructor to determine the best Group Class for your child.

Separate registration available to Suzuki students studying with Suzuki teachers not affiliated with FWYO. **For fees: see below**

More Information: Check out fwyo.org/suzuki for information and registration

Age:	Preferably 4+
Experience:	Must be current student of a Suzuki Association of the Americas registered Teacher
When:	Tuesday (beginning September 12)
	5:00-5:45 pm Cello and Viola
	6:00-6:30 pm Cello and Viola Pre-Twinkle
	Wednesday (beginning September 13)
	6:00-6:45 pm Pre-Twinkle
	6:30-7:15 pm Violin Books 1+

Cell Phone Policy

Unless you are expecting an emergency call, please silence and allow your phone to take messages for later pickup. Interaction with your teacher or your child through music and musical activities will be the focus of our lessons and classes. At the lesson, you may want to video specific instructions for practice.

Attendance/Cancellation/Make-up Policy

Consistent and regular attendance at lessons will contribute to your child's progress. We expect teachers to maintain a regular and consistent lesson schedule. The same is expected of the parent and student. We understand that conflicts will occur but we ask that you attempt to keep cancellations or absences to a minimum.

Teachers are not obligated to make up lessons canceled or missed by the parent/student. It is possible that your teacher can rearrange lesson times if there is enough advance notice. Teachers are always obligated to make up lessons that they cancel, that are canceled due to weather-related school closings, or closings outside of their control. Make-ups can be scheduled during holidays or break weeks.

Cancellations or delays due to weather will be made by Fort Worth Youth Orchestra officials and are usually consistent with FWISD notices. WFAA is a reliable source for weather issues. Lessons will be made up at the earliest convenient date.

CANCELED GROUP CLASSES WILL NOT BE MADE UP.

With the safety of everyone at FWYO as our key focus, students **MUST** adhere to the FWYO public health protocols. **Students who fail the FWYO COVID-19 self-screen tool MUST declare an absence and/or cancel the lesson. For the safety of our students, staff, & visitors - Failure to declare an absence for a student who fails the self-screen will result in removal from any and all FWYO Programs without refund.**

Lessons canceled for failing to pass the COVID-19 self-screen will be made up.

Parent Responsibilities

Parents of beginning students (or those new to the program) will attend a series of Parent Lessons during a four week “trial” period. These lessons are designed to provide an introduction to FWYO Suzuki, an overview of the Suzuki Method and philosophy, and ideas to help you work with your child during home practice. You will schedule Parent Lessons with your teacher before your child attends. In the Parent Lessons, your teacher will suggest strategies to assist you in home practice and preparing for the next lesson. Each teacher has preferences for your note-taking and preparing practice assignments. Your teacher will advise you. Literature regarding practice and development is available. We encourage you and your child to observe lessons and group classes during this time.

Parents will provide appropriate instruments, Suzuki materials such as Suzuki Method books and CDs or downloaded .MP3 files recommended by your teacher. Your teacher will provide a list of recommended sources and advise on when and where to rent or purchase instruments. Do not rent or purchase an instrument until advised.

Practice Commitment

The continued progress of your child depends primarily on your ability to maintain a regular practice schedule at home. Consistent reinforcement through repetition is the best way to maintain techniques learned in the weekly private lesson. The amount of time you spend in practice sessions each day varies and is dependent--among other things--on age, level, and time available. Helping you work with your child towards a common goal and observing pride in the outcome is the most important part of our program. Providing performance opportunities for family and friends is another way you can celebrate achievements.

Recitals and Concerts

We will schedule opportunities for performances—through solo recitals, play-ins, and ensemble concerts. We believe performance is an important part of musical and social

development. Participation in at least one (but not limited to one) solo recital and one ensemble concert per year is expected. You and your teacher will determine when recital participation is appropriate. Your teacher will arrange a rehearsal time with an accompanist prior to a solo recital date. This will usually be scheduled during Group Class time.

Dress for solo recitals

“Party Clothes” is a common description--slacks and collared shirts are appropriate as well as dresses or skirts (skirt length should be to the knee or longer). Shoes with low heels are preferable.

Dress for Group or Ensemble Concerts

Black skirts/pants with a white or black blouse or shirt. Black socks or stockings and shoes are preferred.

Student Code of Conduct & FWYO Suzuki Handbook

Students will be subject to the Fort Worth Youth Orchestra (FWYO) Student Code of Conduct & FWYO Suzuki Handbook, which contains these policies as well as numerous other policies regarding conduct. In particular, the FWYO is a Drug, Tobacco, and Alcohol free institution. As well, students are expected to conduct themselves appropriately as well as dress appropriately for lessons, performances, and other FWYO functions. As well, students and parents/guardians are expected to treat all FWYO staff members as professionals and abuse will not be tolerated.

Failure to comply with the Fort Worth Youth Orchestra (FWYO) Student Code of Conduct & FWYO Suzuki Handbook may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion from any and all FWYO programs. Students and parents/guardians who are removed from the program for disciplinary reasons will not be refunded any tuition and fees already paid. Those who are behind on payments and removed for cause may be sent to collections.

Contact

Your main point of contact with the program will be your instructor who will provide you with contact information.

For questions about other FWYO Suzuki programs, billing information, or to report disputes or other concerns, please contact the FWYO Suzuki Program Coordinator.

Patty Purcell

FWYO Suzuki Program Coordinator

patty.purcell@fwo.org

817.923.3121 x14

Payment

Tuition for each student is payable by check or credit card. Tuition for the year can be paid in full or divided into two or ten payments. Tuition due dates are

Plan Type	Due
100% Paid in Full	100% due Aug. 22, 2022
50% Semester Payments	50% due Aug. 22, 2021 & Feb. 20, 2021
10% Monthly Payments	10% due by 25th of each month (Aug. - May.)

Payment plans to help accommodate your personal financial situation may be arranged by contacting Alice Liu at accounting@fwyo.org or by calling 817-923-3121 x17.

Financial Aid

Limited financial aid is available to qualified students for all FWYO Suzuki programs. Students seeking financial aid must submit an application that includes information about their household and income situation. Applications can be found at fwyo.org/financialaid

Reminders

Reminders will come from your teacher via email or another agreed upon method. For emergency reminders, please sign up for text reminders using remind 101. Text @FWYOsuzuki to 81010 to sign up.

Tuition and Fees for 2023-2024

All students will be assessed a \$40.00 FWYO Annual Registration Fee

VIOLIN, VIOLA, CELLO, & BASS (34 lessons and group classes or events)

34 weeks x 30 minutes + Group Class	\$1490
34 weeks x 45 minutes + Group Class	\$2020
34 weeks x 60 minutes + Group Class	\$2390

Pre-Twinkle or New Parent Lessons – All instruments

4 week Pre-Twinkle/New Parent Orientation	\$160
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Option to continue with the following fees

Registration fee	\$40
30 weeks x 30 minutes + Group Class	\$1330

PRIVATE LESSONS ONLY (Violin, Viola, Cello, Bass)

This option is available for older students (minimum age 13) who come to the program with no previous Suzuki Repertoire background (includes option to participate in FWYO Suzuki Recitals and recital preparation rehearsal with an accompanist).

34 weeks x 45 minutes	\$1840
34 weeks x 60 minutes	\$2200

SUZUKI GROUP LESSONS ONLY

This option is available for violin, viola, or cello students of Suzuki registered teachers who are teaching outside FWYO Suzuki.

34 Weeks of Group Lessons & Performances	\$360
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