

# SEMSA News

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## Outgoing SEMSA Board President Letter

This will close my term as SEMSA President for 2016-17. Please join me in welcoming Tim O’Neil, our incoming SEMSA President for 2017-18. Tim has been a great asset to the SEMSA board and will do a terrific job leading this organization. The SEMSA organization is only as strong as its participating members. Our children benefit tremendously from the group lessons, Honors concerts, Ensemble recitals and other activities planned by the Board. Please consider how YOU can help this organization continue to enrich your child’s musical development. Join the Board and participate in the planning of group lessons and other activities, it will enrich your musical relationship with your child.

Sherry Jester, SEMSA President 2016-2017

## Incoming SEMSA Board President Letter

Dear SEMSA Members,

I hope that you are all enjoying this beautiful weather, and I trust that your children are enjoying their summertime music lessons, camps, and practice.

My son, Liam, has belonged to Barbara Bartleson’s piano studio for seven years. I have served as the SEMSA Secretary for the past three years, and I am honored to be the incoming President of SEMSA for 2017-2018. I extend my heartfelt thanks to the SEMSA teachers and board members who give so much of themselves to enrich the musical lives of our children. Special thanks to Judy Hickey for again spearheading a successful Gasshuku retreat, and to our outgoing President, Sherry Jester, for her cheerful leadership.

As Suzuki families, we believe that children learn music best through loving encouragement, regular listening, and repetition. SEMSA group lessons, recitals, and enrichment activities reinforce these principles in a supportive, extended musical community. With years of hindsight, I now see that SEMSA has been a valuable and natural extension of my son’s musical education.

Just as the Suzuki method cannot work without committed parents, so, too, SEMSA cannot do its good work without you. Thank you for encouraging your children to attend SEMSA, and please consider sharing your time, talents, and ideas to make our group even better.

Warm Regards,

Tim O’Neill, SEMSA President 2017-2018

## Pictures from May 6 Ensemble Recital

Congratulations to all on the musical performances at the Ensemble Recital on Saturday, May 6. Lance Laack took photos of each group and has posted them at this site for your perusal. Enjoy, and thanks to Lance!

<https://500px.com/g/51327feb0870da82afa9e4b544a5440dfc5df0c03ac96c12acd2a281c12ae606>

## Studio Updates

### Linda Thompson Violin & Viola Studio

Studio Participation in the SEMSA Ensemble Recital and Year End Program was high. Each event has different qualities that reflect Suzuki traditions. A parent email regarding the final program:

*"We really enjoyed the concert and after-party yesterday. The kids sounded great. And there was such a wonderful sense of community. What a fantastic way to end the school year. Thank you!"*

Other comments:

*"Our favorite May lesson so far."*

*"Hearing all the instruments together was fantastic."*

*"Great way for younger students to hear higher levels of repertoire played together."*

The studio's Spring Recitals on June 4 went very well. Students learned a lot during the year and participated in several 'extras.' Ribbons were awarded for the recital, for SEMSA Honors, SEMSA Ensemble, SEMYO participation, SAM graduation, Young Musicians, and special efforts.

Summer lessons include a special focus point for each individual and effort to practice three points from the lesson within an hour. This comes from the 'forgetful curve' hypothesized by Ebbinghaus in 1895. When learning new material or skills, 50% is forgotten if one waits until the next day, and if it is not reviewed and rehearsed until a week later, less than 1% is retained. We're shooting for high retention and performance!

## Barbara Bartleson Piano Studio

We had a fine recital on Mother's Day, May 14, as shown in the picture below ...



Then on May 26 students, parents and alumni celebrated Flapdoodles Friday with ice cream and fun conversation. It's our annual year end event.

The following students have added accomplishments to our 2016-2017 year:

### Rochester Music Guild Piano Contest

Truman Dangerfield - Junior Division, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place  
Truman performed Variations in A Minor by Kabalevsky and Sonata in F Minor, movement 1, by Beethoven.

### American College of Musicians Guild Auditions

Liam O'Neill  
Liam performed a five piece memorized program for the guild judge earning an excellent score of 26 pluses.

### Southeastern Minnesota Suzuki Association Year End Concert

Isabel Kramlinger  
Isabel performed "June" from *The Seasons* by Tchaikovsky.

I want to thank everyone for support and beautiful music this year. All pianists wish our SEMSA friends a wonderful, musical summer. Remember - Play every day!



*Irissa Ryant Flute Studio*

I enjoyed continuing my Suzuki training this summer by attending a teacher camp at Lake Sylvia, just south of St. Cloud. Many thanks to the South East MN Arts Council for the scholarship which allowed me to attend! (My 6 week old son had fun being the youngest "pre-Twinkler" in attendance!) It was wonderful learning from so many incredible teachers from across the US and Canada (one of them even taught me when I went to a Suzuki camp as a student 15 years ago!). I returned home overflowing with new ideas and techniques, as well as a deepened appreciation for the Suzuki method. I am so excited to continue building my Suzuki flute studio in Rochester! I still have openings in my schedule for this fall, so please pass my name along to anyone you know who may have a child interested in flute! [507-250-5737](tel:507-250-5737) or [irissajo@gmail.com](mailto:irissajo@gmail.com)



## SEMYO Summer Music Camps 2017

The Southeastern Minnesota Youth Orchestras (SEMYO) in cooperation with Rochester Community Education is offering summer music camps for student musicians. Students will have the opportunity to improve ensemble and technical skills with their fellow student musicians. Remaining camps will be offered the week of July 17 to 21.

For additional information regarding the summer music camps contact the SEMYO office at 282-1718 or [camp@semyo.org](mailto:camp@semyo.org).

### Monday, July 17 – Friday, July 21

#### **Prelude Strings Orchestra Camp (Gr. 7 & Up)**

Rosin your bows -- you are invited! Violinists, cellists, violists, and bassists, come play in a string orchestra! If you are a student musician and want to try this experience or continue to improve your musical skills, either way - you will have fun! James Buchan will be your maestro for this camp. Music will be mailed to the students before camp starts. There will be a short performance on the last day of camp. The Southeastern Minnesota Youth Orchestras (SEMYO) is sponsoring this music camp. Contact: SEMYO for more information at 507-282-1718 or [camp@semyo.org](mailto:camp@semyo.org)

Playing level: For students with at least one year middle school playing experience or Suzuki book level 3.

4044.461P	M-F	Jul 17-Jul 21	9 AM-12 PM
Century High School-Orchestra Room		5 Sessions	\$100
Register at <a href="http://www.rochesterce.org/youth">www.rochesterce.org/youth</a>			

#### **Summer Band Camp (Gr. 7 & Up)**

Clean out your spit valves, soak your reed, loosen up your lips -- band members wanted! If you are a student wind, brass, or percussion musician and want to experience playing in a band or continue improving your skills, either way - you will have fun! Ryan Anderson, Dover-Eyota Public Schools music teacher, will be the instructor for this band camp. Music will be mailed to the students before camp starts. There will be a short performance on the last day of camp. The Southeastern Minnesota Youth Orchestras (SEMYO) is sponsoring this music camp. Contact: SEMYO for more information at 507-282-1718 or [camp@semyo.org](mailto:camp@semyo.org)

Playing level: For students with at least one year playing experience.

**This camp will meet in the Band room M, W, F and Choir room T, TH.**

4045.461P	M-F	Jul 17-Jul 21	9 AM-12 PM
Century High School- Band Room & Choir room		5 Sessions	\$100
Register at <a href="http://www.rochesterce.org/youth">www.rochesterce.org/youth</a>			

#### **Advanced String Camp (Gr. 9-12)**

You are invited to attend a week long camp for intermediate to advance string players co-taught by violinist and teacher Kristina Lantz, and Jere Lantz, conductor of the Rochester Symphony. This camp is hosted by Southeastern Minnesota Youth Orchestras and is open to both members and non-members of SEMYO. Contact: SEMYO for more information at 507-282-1718 or [camp@semyo.org](mailto:camp@semyo.org)

Playing level: For students playing in a high school string ensemble.

Monday through Friday July 17 to July 21 9 AM- 12PM  
Century High School – Rm. 5 Sessions \$100  
Register at [www.semyo.org/event/string-camp](http://www.semyo.org/event/string-camp)

### **Music Composition Camp (Gr. 7 & Up)**

Learn the elements of music composition. Study the works of living and historic composers to understand how other composers think and solve music problems. Students will compose music using composition software and play the compositions on their instrument. Kevin Dobbe, composer and instructor at Rochester Community and Technical College, will be the instructor for this camp. There will be a short performance on the last day of camp. The Southeastern Minnesota Youth Orchestras (SEMYO) is sponsoring this music camp. Contact: SEMYO for more information at 507-282-1718 or [camp@semyo.org](mailto:camp@semyo.org)

Music skill level: Students must be able to read music and play an instrument to register for this camp. Contact: Deb at 507-529-7787 for further information.

Monday-Friday Jul 17-Jul 21 1:00 PM-3:30 PM  
RCTC – Computer Lab Rm. 210 5 Sessions \$100  
Register at [www.semyo.org/event/string-camp](http://www.semyo.org/event/string-camp)