

Continuous Professional Development Courses

for more details contact the ESA Office esa@europeansuzuki.org

The Joys of Learning for Teachers Jenny Macmillan

The joys of learning! As an adult as well as a child — indeed, perhaps more so as an adult!

One of the many joys to me of teaching is that I am learning all the time — through teaching my own young pupils and their parents, each with their own personalities and idiosyncrasies, and through training teachers, each with their own skills and needs. I am also learning through attending ESA events, EPTA events, observing at workshops, reading books and journals, and identifying articles and blogs on the internet.

But there is also a place for specific, targeted learning, and this is offered by Teacher Trainers through **ESA Continuous Professional Development (CPD)** courses. Unlike some organisations, the ESA does not have a policy that its teachers should attend a certain number of hours of CPD courses in order to remain on its register. However, it does recommend CPD for all its teachers in order to maintain quality Suzuki teaching, to develop good role models for students and their parents, and to research effective everyday teaching methods.

Is it important for teachers to keep up-to-date with developments and continue to hone their skills? I certainly think so. I am well aware that the more I learn, the more I realise how much more there is to learn, and the more I want to find out and gain further experience. **Why not make a New Year's resolution to attend at least one CPD course this year?** You'll pick up new ideas which you can apply to your teaching to make your lessons come to life in different ways. Your pupils will benefit — they'll enjoy their lessons further — and will make even better progress. Even just chatting with colleagues is inspirational for teachers. The Suzuki Method™ works best when

everyone shares ideas.

At the same time, this is a **call to all Teacher Trainers to register at least one CPD course with the ESA every year.** Registered courses are publicised on the ESA website, in a special targeted mailshot, and on the Suzuki Teachers Facebook page. Teachers will then be able to choose from a wide variety of events and will benefit from a certificate of attendance to enhance their CV.

I organise Suzuki Piano Plus CPD Courses in conjunction with my Teacher Training courses. Amongst other topics, I cover Suzuki philosophy, parent education, teaching

leading music educationalists, to give a workshop on sight reading for my pupils, which was observed by my teacher train-



Jenny Macmillan and pupils with Paul Harris

ees. It was totally inspirational. Paul ensured all nine children, aged from 6 to 11, were interested and engaged for 90 minutes. The children had fun developing skills while doing intriguing clapping games, action games, identification games; the observing parents were able to learn while watching them; and the teacher trainees and I are now able to use these ideas with our pupils in our teaching.

There is such joy in feeling oneself develop as a teacher, as well as a person. Claudia Beltran Cubel says in her article *My development as a Suzuki teacher* (Piano Professional, Autumn 2017):

"I have learned to be a more positive person, to try to see the good side of everything, to appreciate the small details and to feel more secure in the execution of my teaching activities".

I strongly recommend we all attend at least one course this year; and I hope teacher trainers will organise suitable courses and publicise them through the ESA.

Jenny Macmillan is an ESA Piano Teacher and Teacher Trainer based in Cambridge UK

For more information on how to register a CPD Course see page 6 of the ESA TT Manual <http://digital-e-brochures.com/> EuropeanSuzuki/TTTraining2017/6/ or contact the ESA Office on esa@europeansuzuki.org

Suzuki Piano Plus - Continuous Professional Development Course, Cambridge UK

From 2 April to 7 April 2018 at 17 Lynfield Lane, Cambridge, CB4 1DR | [Back to Events](#)

Suzuki Piano Plus - Continuous Professional Development Course (CPD)
Teacher Trainer Jenny Macmillan

Suzuki philosophy applied to all aspects of teaching including repertoire, scales, reading, group lessons and practice

Suitable for Suzuki Piano Teachers of all Levels

Flexible attendance

Attend a minimum of 20 hours during one or more courses
ESA Certificate upon completion

Guest tutor Caroline Fraser

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- develop good role models for students and their parents
- research effective everyday teaching methods

EVENT DETAILS

2 April 2018 9:00am to 7 April 2018 5:00pm
17 Lynfield Lane, Cambridge, CB4 1DR



points, developing technique through the repertoire, tone production, lesson planning, how to practise, how to prepare pupils for concerts, Suzuki materials, guided teaching. We study how to apply the Suzuki Method™ to teaching scales and sight reading. We share ideas for group lesson activities, and discuss Suzuki texts and other books on music teaching. Guest tutors (including Helen Brunner, Heather Clemson, Caroline Fraser, Sally Cathcart and Penelope Roskell) present sessions on a wide range of topics from Suzuki Philosophy to The Lazy Piano Teacher and Yoga for Musicians.

Last year, as part of my CPD Course I invited Paul Harris, one of the UK's