



Saskatoon Suzuki String Program Newsletter

March 2010

www.saskatoonsuzukistrings.com

RECEIPTS AVAILABLE TO CLAIM FOR TAX BENEFIT

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Tax receipts have been prepared for all families with children enrolled in the Saskatoon Suzuki Strings Program's 2009-10 group and/or orchestra lessons. These tax receipts can be used to claim a new refundable tax benefit which is being offered by the Government of Saskatchewan. The new benefit, known as the Active Families Benefit (AFB), is available for the first time in 2009 to Saskatchewan families who have children participating in cultural, recreational, and sports activities.

The AFB allows the parent or legal guardian of a child who is six to fourteen years of age and who is registered in a cultural, recreational, or sports program to receive a fully refundable tax benefit of

up to \$150 per year. Because the AFB is a refundable tax benefit, it is not necessary that the tax-filer has taxable income to claim the benefit.

Tax receipts are now being distributed by the Suzuki Treasurer, Ken Pontikes. You can usually find Ken at Evan Hardy Collegiate at 6:30 p.m. on the Thursday evenings when group lessons are held. If you haven't done so already, be sure to pick up your receipt from Ken.

To claim the Active Family Benefit, you need to enter the amount you are claiming on line 5980 of form SK479 of your 2009 individual income tax return. Please note that parents are required to enter their child's birthdate on the receipt.



“First-Term” Volunteer Commitment

Deadline: April 23, 2010

Every family should have completed their “first-term” volunteer commitment by April 23, 2010. Any family who has not completed or signed up for their first of two volunteer commitments by that date will have their first \$50.00 volunteer-commitment cheque (dated November 1, 2009) deposited into the Suzuki general account.

Families whose cheques will be cashed will receive an e-mail notification of this action from the Suzuki Treasurer on or shortly after April 23. If you do not receive an email from the Treasurer, your first-term commitment has been completed and your cheque will be destroyed.

If you do not want your first-term cheque cashed,

you should contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Paul Hebert (kim.paul@sasktel.net) as soon as possible to sign up for a volunteer position. We are looking for volunteers to assist with our booth at Family Expo (April 23, 24, and 25) and the Odeon Steak Nite event (May 30), as well as a several fund-raising activities.

The deadline for completion of the second-term volunteer commitment is August 13, 2010. There will be volunteer positions available during the Summer Strings Experience.

If you are unable to perform your volunteer commitment and would like one or both cheques cashed instead, please advise our Treasurer, Ken Pontikes (kpontikes@sasktel.net).

Upcoming Events

Solo Day is Thursday, April 22nd. Deadline for submitting Solo Day forms is Thursday, March 15. Please submit your completed form to your teacher before then or give it to John at group lesson.

General Meeting 2 is Thursday, May 13th, at 6:30pm at Even Hardy Collegiate.

The **Year End Concert and Fundraiser/Steak Night** will be **Sunday, May 30th,** at the Odeon Events Centre. Further details TBA.

Orchestra Concert is Thursday, June 3rd at 7pm (tuning at 6:45). Location: Evan Hardy Collegiate

Summer Strings Experience 2010 is July 4th to 9th at the University of Saskatchewan Education Building.

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