

Dr. Stanley Chopaitis holds a Doctor of Musical Arts Degree as well as the coveted Performer's Certificate from the Eastman School of Music. He has studied violin with John Celentano, Renato Bonacini, Carroll Glenn, and Raphael Bronstien. Chopaitis has studied jazz composition and improvisation with John Blake, Bill Dobbins and Rayburn Wright. He is currently on the string faculty of Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Chopaitis is also the Music Director of the Chamber Orchestra of the Alleghenies. This group of twelve string players specializes in new, jazz-related works and arrangements, as well as the standard repertoire. He also performs on a regular basis with his own jazz quartet called Nosmo King. Recent performances include recitals at the Eastman School's Kilbourne Hall and at the Academy of Music in Zagreb, Croatia. He has recently performed concerti with orchestra by Prokofiev, Dvorak, Beethoven, Bach, Saint-Saens, as well as his own Concerto for Two Violins with String Orchestra and Jazz Trio with John Blake as the other soloist. Dr. Chopaitis has recorded several CDs. Old News and Borrowed Blues is eclectic and wide-ranging. The title cut from his most recent CD, Transformative Dreams, evolved out a series of disturbing dreams. Other compositions include Child's Play for String Quartet which won second prize in MTNA's national Distinguished Composer Competition; Chaos For Two, for two violinists; Paganini in the Vernacular, for violin and piano; and The Four Seasons, for violin and orchestra. Dr. Chopaitis has created an innovative, holistic approach for teaching improvisation to string players of all ages and is much sought after as a clinician. His clinics for the summer of 2002 will take him to Hannover, Germany; Pullman, Washington; Baldwin Wallace College in Cleveland, Ohio; and Williamsport, PA.

Dr. Glenn Spring lives in Denver, Colorado, where his activities are complimented by teaching and chamber music. Professor Emeritus at Walla Walla College, Dr. Spring is the co-author (with Jere T. Hutshinson of Michigan State University) of the textbook Musical Form and Analysis, published by McGraw-Hill. Spring's compositions for diverse musical media –choir, orchestra, band, strings, piano, organ/harpsichord, and a variety of chamber music combinations –encompass as well a diversity of compositional techniques. No ‘ivory-tower’ academic, Spring always has communication with performers and listeners as a primary goal. His works are performed regularly throughout North America and in Europe and Asia as well.

Dr. Julia Salerno grew up in Walla Walla, WA and is currently the Violin/Viola Professor at Eastern Washington University. Previously, Julia has taught at the South Pasadena Strings Program and had private studios in Walla Walla, WA; Ann Arbor, MI; and Los Angeles, CA. She received her Bachelor's Degree in Violin Performance from the University of Michigan, and her Master's and DMA from the University of Southern California. Julia began Suzuki violin studies before the age of two and worked with many renowned teachers including Margery Aber, Moshe Neumann, Stanley Chopaitis, Joseph McSpadden, and Kathleen Spring. Julia has enjoyed attending Suzuki festivals nearly every summer of her life along with her father, Benjamin Gish, and loves sharing the joy of music-making with all of her students.

Kathleen Spring Most of Kathleen Spring's “Suzuki life” was in Washington state where she founded and directed an extensive program in Walla Walla, WA. Suzuki Teacher Training has included working with Mihoko Hirata, William Starr, and James & Jacqueline Maurer. In 1991, Kathleen became a registered teacher trainer with the SAA, and in 1997 was awarded the Washington, Studio Teacher's Award from ASTA. In 2001 she and her husband, Glenn Spring,

relocated to the Denver Metro area where she has an active Suzuki studio and is involved with both the Suzuki Association of Colorado and the Suzuki Association of the Americas. Kathleen has taught teacher development courses at numerous Summer Suzuki Institutes in both the US and Canada. She has guest taught in international programs in Germany and Korea.

As a violinist, Kathleen, received her Bachelors of Music degree from Walla Walla College, studied in Vienna with Eduard Melkus at the Universität für Musik, and received her MMus. in Violin Performance from the University of Denver's Lamont School of Music.

Laura Trupp's teaching career began at age 13 when she started her first student. She taught her way through her BMus of Violin Performance from La Sierra University and continued on to her current job: Director of the Walla Walla Valley Regional Suzuki Program. In addition to teaching, Laura has been involved with orchestras, chamber music and solo performances. Currently, she is working on future plans for graduate studies

Liz Trupp earned a BA in music from La Sierra University. Her interest in Suzuki began after watching a friend's child have a Suzuki piano lesson that was very different from the traditional lessons she had been teaching. Going to Oregon Suzuki Institute that next summer of 1990 was life changing and she became a Suzuki piano teacher, mom, and now student as she has taken up cello. She maintains a private studio in Battle Ground, WA. Adjunct interests include studying about how brains learn and she is currently involved in doing Bal-A-Vis-X with students and their families.

Barbara Riley grew up in Minnesota, and studied violin at the New England Conservatory in Boston. She received a Master of Music degree in Viola Performance from Western Washington University. On a visit to Japan in 1980, she met Dr. Shinichi Suzuki and returned to Bellingham, Washington, to begin teaching the Suzuki Method. In 1988, she spent two months in Matsumoto studying with Dr. Suzuki. For over 20 years she led a busy life in Seattle, teaching violin and viola and playing in musical theater. Since moving to Ellensburg, Washington in 2005, Barbara continues to teach private lessons in her home studio as well as classes at the Frontier Brethren School, and at Central Washington University through the Preparatory Strings Department. She also teaches Kindermusik. She plays fiddle in her trio, Prairie Spring, and 1st violin with the Yakima Symphony Orchestra. Barbara has taught violin, viola, music reading and chamber music at many workshops and Suzuki Institutes in Seattle, Kennewick, Pullman and Walla Walla as well as Alaska, Idaho, and Oregon. She lives on a small hay farm near Ellensburg with her husband, a dog, and three horses.