



Dr. Shinichi Suzuki

## What is Suzuki Piano Basics?

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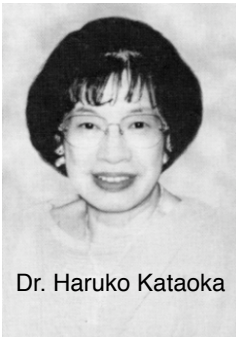
It is the technique Dr. Haruko Kataoka developed for teaching young children to play piano, under the guidance of Dr. Shinichi Suzuki. Dr. Kataoka was the piano accompanist for Dr. Suzuki’s Violin Program, and founded the Suzuki Piano Program.



Suzuki Piano Basics teachers are a smaller group within all the Suzuki Piano teachers. SPB teachers are serious and conscientious. Suzuki Piano Basics teachers may add other music to the Suzuki repertoire. But they do not stray from Dr. Suzuki's and Dr. Kataoka's basic principles of philosophy.

### Does “Piano Basics” mean “For Beginners Only?”

Not at all. The term “Basics” refers to the basic skills of piano playing, which we continue to perfect throughout our lives.



Dr. Haruko Kataoka

### What are some of these basic skills?

- \* Learning to use the body in the most natural way
- \* Listening for beautiful tone
- \* Playing with rhythmic accuracy

### What makes Piano Basics so special?

The basic skills are taught the same way in every piece of music, from the Twinkle Variations in Book One through the advanced literature in Book Eight and beyond. In short, Piano Basics emphasizes the learning of long-term and transferable skills, rather than “just learning pieces.”



### Is music reading taught in the Piano Basics method?

Absolutely. In addition to the Suzuki Piano Books, students have special reading books and music theory workbooks. Very young children (ages 2.5 to 4) begin learning pre-reading skills through games and music theory computer software.