



# European Suzuki Association

## INSTRUMENT COMMITTEE REPORT 2025

### VOICE

#### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

**Chairperson** - Analia Capponi, Finland

Katrina Pezzimenti, Australia

Mervi Sipola-Maliniemi, Finland

INSTRUCTOR APPOINTMENTS
None
TEACHER TRAINER APPOINTMENTS
None
ESA RECOGNITIONS
Heather Gardner (SAA teacher). Accredited by the ESA up to Level 2.
PROJECTS
<p><b>Teacher Training</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Teacher training has been conducted in the private studios of Teacher Trainers Analia Capponi-Savolainen, Mervi Sipola-Maliniemi and Mette Heikkinen in Finland.</li><li>• Private Suzuki Voice teacher training in Japan (endorsed by TERI) has been conducted by Teacher Trainer Katrina Pezzimenti.</li><li>• Both online and in-person formats have offered valuable learning opportunities for trainees.</li><li>• Teacher training has taken place at workshops and conferences outside Finland.</li><li>• Ongoing mentorship for trainees has been provided by Dr Päivi Kukkamäki.</li></ul> <p><b>Workshops and Conferences in Europe</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Suzuki Spring Workshop, Carpi, Italy - Organised by the Suzuki Music Center. Activities included Suzuki Voice individual and group lessons, participation in concerts including a gala concert. Voice students and teachers attended from Italy, Spain and Finland. Teacher Trainer: Analia Capponi-Savolainen.</li><li>• Suzuki Voice Summer Workshop, Nidzica, Poland - Organised by the Polish Suzuki Association. Activities included Suzuki Voice group lessons, solo recitals, and participation in concerts including a gala concert. Teacher Trainer: Mervi Sipola-Maliniemi.</li></ul> <p><b>Concerts</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Annual Finnish Graduation Concert (Hollola, Finland) - Organised by the Suzuki Voice Families Association Finland.</li><li>• Annual Finnish Christmas Concert (Vantaa, Finland) - Open to all ESA Voice teachers and students. Organised by the Suzuki Voice Families Association Finland.</li><li>• Regional Concerts - Numerous Suzuki Voice performances were held by private studios and music institutes across ESA member countries (including Finland, Italy, Spain, Poland).</li></ul>

### 40th Anniversary Conference

- Preparations are underway for the **40th Anniversary Conference of Suzuki Voice**, to be held in Finland in April 2026.

### ITEMS FROM ISA VOICE COMMITTEE

There has been no contact from Alfred Publishing since 9 January 2024.

**Volume 1:** Only the Suzuki Voice Volume 1 has been published. This creates the impression that Suzuki Voice is a ‘new instrument’, despite the repertoire having been in use for 40 years (with 2026 marking the anniversary year).

**Volume 2:** Voice part and accompaniment were submitted to Alfred in November 2023, and no timeline has been provided for drafts or publication.

**Volume 3:** This Volume has been accepted by the ISA and is still awaiting the start of the publication process.

### DEVELOPMENT OF VOICE IN ESA REGION

#### Professional Development

Teacher professional development remains vital for the individual and collective growth of the Suzuki Voice community. To support this:

- Training was offered through a combination of private instruction and major events, both in Finland and abroad.
- A blend of online and in-person training ensured accessibility while maintaining high educational standards.
- Suzuki Voice Teacher Training was conducted by Teacher Trainers Mervi Sipola-Maliniemi, Mette Heikkinen, Katrina Pezzimenti and Analía Capponi-Savolainen.
- Continuous trainee’s mentorship was provided by Dr Päivi Kukkamäki, founder of the programme.

#### International Activity

The presence of Suzuki Voice at international events is a crucial developmental aspect; teacher trainers travelled to Italy, Poland, and Japan to teach students and teachers, further supporting the growth of the Suzuki Voice community.

#### ESA Exam Achievements

In 2025, the following ESA Voice teachers successfully passed their ESA exams:

- Hanna Vasiutkevych (Ukraine / Italy) ESA Level 1
- Yumiko Kikuchi (Japan) ESA Level 1
- Arianna Rinaldi (Italy) ESA level 2
- Tiia Pelkonen (Finland) ESA Level 3

#### Revisions and Material Development

- Digital versions of Suzuki Voice Volume 3 (voice part and piano accompaniment) have been revised by Dr. Päivi Kukkamäki.
- Suzuki Voice Level 4 and 5 Logbooks for Suzuki Voice Teacher Education have been revised by Dr. Päivi Kukkamäki.