



MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Oral History Collection

**OH109: WAYZATA ELEMENTARY STRING
PROGRAM ORAL HISTORY PROJECT**
Oral History Interviews

OVERVIEW OF THE RECORDS

- Creator:** Wayzata Elementary String Program Oral History Project.
- Title:** Oral history interviews of the Wayzata Elementary String Program Oral History Project.
- Dates:** 2001 January – 2002 January.
- Quantity:** 27 sound cassettes (90 min. each); 27 transcripts in 29 folders
- Location:** See Detailed Description section for locations.

SCOPE AND CONTENTS OF THE RECORDS

Interviews documenting the history of the Wayzata Elementary String Program, offered in the elementary schools of Independent School District 284, Wayzata Public Schools, Wayzata, Minnesota, from 1963 through May 2001. Begun using traditional methods and involving mainly only fifth and sixth grade students, by 1967, the Suzuki approach was being used and students in grades one through six were included. At its height, more than 500 children were involved, roughly fifteen percent of the elementary population in grades kindergarten through five. Support was given by the Wayzata String Boosters. The program was eliminated in May 2001 due to budget constraints.

The narrators are program teachers, administrators, participants, or parents of participants; the interview record their impressions, anecdotes and memories of their involvement with the program.

The interviewer, Lynne Weber, was a Wayzata Public Schools cello and bass teacher who worked with the program during the 1998-1999 school year.

Included with the transcripts are an introduction to the program, with general description and background, outline of the program's structure, and ensemble photographs; a history of the Suzuki teaching method; a description of the reason for and method used in the oral history program; and a master index of names and topics. Each transcript also includes an individual index of names and topics and photographs of the interviewees. Many of the photographs were taken during actual program concerts and events in the 1970s-1990s.

INDEX TERMS

This collection is indexed under the following headings in the catalog of the Minnesota Historical Society. Researchers desiring materials about related topics, persons or places should search the catalog using these headings.

Topics:

Bowed stringed instruments—Instruction and study—Minnesota—Wayzata.
Bowed stringed instruments—Methods.
Elementary schools—Minnesota—Wayzata.
School music—Instruction and study—Minnesota—Wayzata—Photographs.
Student activities—Minnesota—Wayzata.

Persons:

Anderson, Audrey, interviewee.
Armwood, Gwen, interviewee.
Beaver, Janis, interviewee.
Bill, Donna, interviewee.
Bjork, Mark, interviewee.
Bryant, Carol, interviewee.
Clark, Virginia, interviewee.
Fallstad, Barbara, interviewee.
Fallstad, Russell, interviewee.
Gaudette, Angelique, interviewee.
Gaudette, Danielle, interviewee.
Gaudette, Jeanie, interviewee.
Gaudette, Lucas, interviewee.
Gaudette, Nicholas, interviewee.
Haines, Sandra, interviewee.
Hembre, Ruth, interviewee.
Hembre, Turi, interviewee.
Holmes, Nancy, interviewee.
Hong, Kee-Won, interviewee.
Hong, Sunwha, interviewee.
Howe, Sondra Wieland, interviewee.
Hughart, Theodore, interviewee.
Hutchinson, Rebecca, interviewee.
Jantzen, Christopher, interviewee.
Jantzen, Nicholas, interviewee.
Lamb, Barbara, interviewee.
Landswerk, David, interviewee.
Leonard, Kristin, interviewee.
Loing, Helen, interviewee.

Trewick, Mike, interviewee.
Urke, Susan, interviewee.
Weber, Lynne, interviewer.
Young, Elizabeth, interviewee.
Young, Leah, interviewee.
Young, Mary Anne, interviewee.

Organizations:

Wayzata Elementary String Program (Wayzata, Minn.)—Photographs.

Types of Documents:

Interviews.
Oral histories.
Photographs.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Preferred Citation:

[Indicate the cited transcript and page or sound recording here]. Wayzata Elementary String Program Oral History Project. Oral History Interviews of the Wayzata Elementary String Program Oral History Project. Minnesota Historical Society.

See the Chicago Manual of Style for additional examples.

Accession Information:

Accession number(s): AV2007.12

Processing Information:

Processed by: Oral History Office
Catalog ID No.: 6388442

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

Note to Researchers: To request materials, please note the format (sound recording or transcript) and location shown below.

Sound recordings. 27 cassettes.

Location

OH109.1	Anderson, Audrey, August 7, 2001.
OH109.2	Armwood, Gwen, January 9, 2001.
OH109.3	Bill, Donna, January 15, 2001
OH109.4	Bjork, Mark, June 7, 2001.
OH109.5	Bryant, Carol, September 4, 2001.

Location

- OH109.6 Clark, Virginia, January 4, 2002.
- OH109.7 Fallstad, Barbara and Russell, August 23, 2001.
- OH109.8 Gaudette, Angelique and Danielle, January 4, 2001.
- OH109.9 Gaudette, Jeanie, January 4, 2001.
- OH109.10 Gaudette, Lucas and Nicholas, January 9, 2001.
- OH109.11 Haines, Sandra, January 4, 2001.
- OH109.12 Hembre, Ruth and Turi, February 3, 2001.
- OH109.13 Holmes, Nancy, August 7, 2001.
- OH109.14 Hong, Kee-Won, June 6, 2001.
- OH109.15 Hong, Sunwha, January 15, 2001.
- OH109.16 Howe, Sondra Wieland, June 8, 2001.
- OH109.17 Hughart, Ted (Theodore), March 13, 2001.
- OH109.18 Hutchinson, Rebecca, June 6, 2001.
- OH109.19 Beavers, Janis; Jantzen, Christopher and Nicholas, June 6, 2001.
- OH109.20 Lamb, Barbara, June 21, 2001.
- OH109.21 Landswerk, David, June 8, 2001.
- OH109.22 Leonard, Kristin, August 14, 2001.
With comments by Mary Anne Young.
- OH109.23 Loing, Helen, January 9, 2001.
- OH109.24 Trewick, Michael, September 10, 2001.
- OH109.25 Urke, Susan, February 18, 2001.
- OH109.26 Young, Elizabeth and Leah, August 14, 2001.
With comments by Mary Anne Young.
- OH109.27 Young, Mary Anne, August 14, 2001.

Transcripts. 29 folders.

Location

- OH109 Background materials, [ca. 2002].
Wayzata Elementary String Program: An Introduction.
The Suzuki Method of Early Childhood Education.
Wayzata Elementary String Program: An Oral History.
Ensemble photographs, [undated], [1986?], 1994. 9
photographs.
Touring Strings, [1986?].
Curt Carlson, Founder and Chairman of Carlson
Companies, with members of Wayzata
Elementary Strings at a birthday celebration, July
7, 1994.
Wayzata Elementary Strings at an elementary school
assembly, [undated].
Wayzata Elementary Strings, All-district Concert,
violinists facing to their right, [undated].
Wayzata Elementary Strings, All-district Concert,
violinists facing to their left I, [undated].
Wayzata Elementary Strings, All-district Concert,
violinists facing to their left II, [undated].
Wayzata Elementary Strings, All-district Concert,
cellos and basses led by Sandra Haines, 1990.
Wayzata Elementary Strings, All-district Concert,
cellos close-up, [undated].
Jessica Thompson, left, and Robby Myers, right,
performing at a program [undated].
- OH109 Master Index of Names and Topics, [ca. 2002].
- OH109.1 Anderson, Audrey, August 7, 2001.
Photographs: Anderson at time of interview; Anderson
Family: Darin, Gregg, Audrey, Logan, Evan, Jordan,
1988.
- OH109.2 Armwood, Gwen, January 9, 2001.
Photograph: Armwood at time of interview.
- OH109.3 Bill, Donna, January 15, 2001
Photograph: Bill, Barbara Lamb, and Lynne Weber,
August 1998.
- OH109.4 Bjork, Mark, June 7, 2001.
Photograph: Bjork at time of interview.
- OH109.5 Bryant, Carol, September 4, 2001.
Photograph: Bryant at time of interview.

Location

- OH109.6 Clark, Virginia, January 4, 2002.
Photograph: Clark in her office, January 4, 2002.
- OH109.7 Fallstad, Barbara and Russell, August 23, 2001.
Photograph: Fallstads at time of interview.
- OH109.8 Gaudette, Angelique and Danielle, January 4, 2001.
Photograph: Angelique, Danielle, and Jeanie Gaudette at time of interview.
- OH109.9 Gaudette, Jeanie, January 4, 2001.
Photographs: Angelique, Jeanie, and Danielle at time of interview; Jeanie Gaudette speaking at a concert, [undated].
- OH109.10 Gaudette, Lucas and Nicholas, January 9, 2001.
Photographs: Lucas, Nicholas, and dog Baxter at time of interview; Nicholas with bass, [undated]; and Lucas and Darin Anderson with cellos, [undated].
- OH109.11 Haines, Sandra, January 4, 2001.
Photographs: Haines at time of interview; Haines with cello and presenting awards, Wayzata Elementary String Program, All-district Concert, [2 photographs, undated]; and Haines and Kjell Nafstad as All-district Concert, November 17, 1992.
- OH109.12 Hembre, Ruth and Turi, February 3, 2001.
Photograph: Hembres at time of interview.
- OH109.13 Holmes, Nancy, August 7, 2001.
Photographs: Holmes at time of interview; Sally Holmes and others in concert, April 29, 1977; and students at recital rehearsal, April 29, 1977.
- OH109.14 Hong, Kee-Won, June 6, 2001.
Photograph: Kee-Won, with his mother Sunwha, at time of interview.
- OH109.15 Hong, Sunwha, January 15, 2001.
Photograph: Sunwha, with Yoon-Hee and Kee-Ju, at time of interview.
- OH109.16 Howe, Sondra Wieland, June 8, 2001.
Photograph: Howe at time of interview.
- OH109.17 Hughart, Ted (Theodore), March 13, 2001.
Photograph: Hughart at time of interview.

Location

- OH109.18 Hutchinson, Rebecca, June 6, 2001.
Photograph: Hutchison at time of interview.
- OH109.19 Beavers, Janis; Jantzen, Christopher and Nicholas, June 6, 2001.
Photographs: Janis, Christopher, Nicholas, and Theodore at time of interview and Theodore, Nicholas, and Janis at a lesson, Fall 1998.
- OH109.20 Lamb, Barbara, June 21, 2001.
Photographs: Lamb at time of interview; Lamb with members of Wayzata Strings at Minnesota Twins game, [September 28, (?)]; Lamb and students demonstrating sting bass, 1987; Lamb, Helen Loing, and the Touring Strings in performance, [undated]; Lamb at All-district Concert, [undated]; and Lamb with student at All-district Concert, [undated].
- OH109.21 Landswerk, David, June 8, 2001.
Photograph: Landswerk at time of interview.
- OH109.22 Leonard, Kristin, August 14, 2001.
With comments by Mary Anne Young.
Photograph: Leonard at time of interview.
- OH109.23 Loing, Helen, January 9, 2001.
Photographs: Loing, with Harganger fiddle, at time of interview; Loing at All-district Concert, carrying roses (1989); Loing at All-district Concert, [2 photographs, undated]; Loing and Barbara Lamb, [undated]; Loing in rehearsal or teaching, [undated]; and Loing on a float titled *Fiddling for Gold*, [2 photographs, 1985].
- OH109.24 Trewick, Michael, September 10, 2001.
Photograph: Trewick at time of interview.
- OH109.25 Urke, Susan, February 18, 2001.
Photograph: Urke at time of interview.
- OH109.26 Young, Elizabeth and Leah, August 14, 2001.
With comments by Mary Anne Young.
Photograph: Elizabeth, Leah, and Mary Anne Young and Kristin Leonard at time of interview.
- OH109.27 Young, Mary Anne, August 14, 2001.
Photographs: Elizabeth, Mary Anne, and Leah at time of interview; Young Family at the American Suzuki Institute, Stevens Point, Wisconsin, [undated].

INTERVIEW: Anderson, Audrey
 YEAR: 2001

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Audrey Anderson
DATE: August 07, 2001
PLACE: The home of Gregg and Audrey Anderson, Wayzata,
 Minnesota
INTERVIEWER: Lynne Weber

PROJECT SERIES: *Wayzata Elementary String Program: An Oral History*

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: Audrey Anderson began life in an ethnic neighborhood in Passaic, New Jersey amidst an extremely rich musical background. Her father had been a violin prodigy as a small child, before a bout with spinal meningitis caused him to lose his hearing and necessitated putting down the violin and taking up piano. Audrey's mother, a professor, was a pianist. The grandfather of Audrey, a Russian Orthodox priest, wrote the first English liturgy for his church, while another grandfather held the position of principal trumpet in the MGM orchestra and served as leader of his own band.

Because the household was always full of the sound of musical practice, Audrey was in reality a premiere Suzuki student years before the work of Shinichi Suzuki was known in the United States. Early in life Audrey amazed her family by copying the music she had heard from those around her on the piano and the violin. Always a high achiever, Audrey was thrown into the world of competition as a piano performer at an early age.

After marriage and the arrival of four sons, Audrey and Gregg became very interested in the Suzuki method and, based upon Audrey's childhood experiences, had every reason to believe the method would work. Because Audrey had had considerable experience as a very young performer, she worked to shield her children from the adverse effects of performance competition. Each son started a string instrument at an early age and studied strings within the Wayzata School District. As a result of the family's hard work, music has offered the Andersons the opportunity to travel all over the world.

Presently, Jordan holds the position of principal bassist with the Seattle Symphony. Violinist Evan studied in Graz, Austria, thus returning to the continent from which his great-grandfather emigrated with violin in knapsack. Since then he has studied with Glenn Dicterow. Darin has studied cello at the Juilliard High School Division and at the Manhattan School of Music in New York, and Logan, formerly a violist, is presently studying genetics.

Audrey summarizes the experiences of her family this way: "I can't think of a more exciting way--and my husband agrees--to spend our life... than what we started with Suzuki all those years ago and none of these children will ever forget...that they started basically with Helen Loing"

Biography is based upon information supplied by Audrey Anderson. Written by LW June 2004. Approved by Audrey Anderson July 2004.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Audrey discusses the musical accomplishments of each of her sons Jordan, Evan, Darin and Logan and the importance of the Wayzata elementary string program in launching them on their remarkable paths. She emphasizes the teamwork, consideration for the progress of the whole group and democracy of the program, talks about the unparalleled support the string teachers offered to the whole child and describes the ways in which the program shaped the life of the entire Anderson family.

SOUND RECORDINGS:	User Copy: None
	Original: 1 90-minute audiocassette

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW:	Approximately 65 minutes.
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RESTRICTIONS ON USE:	none
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TRANSCRIPT:	24 pages
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ACCESSION NUMBER:	AV2007.12
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INTERVIEW: Armwood, Gwen
YEAR: 2001

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Gwen Armwood
DATE: January 9, 2001
PLACE: The Armwood home, Plymouth, Minnesota
INTERVIEWER: Lynne Weber

PROJECT SERIES: *Wayzata Elementary String Program: An Oral History*

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: Gwen Armwood, a native of Fargo, North Dakota, received her Bachelor of Music Education with a cello minor at Northeast Louisiana University, Monroe, Louisiana and completed a Masters in Educational Administration at Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Before joining Neuqua Valley High School (Naperville, Illinois) in 2001 she taught in Wayzata, Minnesota as director of the Wayzata High School Orchestras and Wayzata East, West and Central Middle School Orchestras. In the 1995-96 season she was elected as Minnesota Orchestra Director of the Year and most recently in October 2001, she was elected by Minnesota ASTA as School Orchestra Director of the Year. She also served on the Minnesota Music Educators Association Board of Directors and held offices on the MNSOTA Board of Directors.

During her fifteen years in Wayzata, her orchestras maintained a busy schedule of concerts and festivals throughout the community as well as internationally. Her middle school orchestras performed in 1988 and 1993 at the Mid-West Band and Orchestra Clinic and also at the MENC convention in 1992. The high school orchestra performed in the Vienna Competition, 1989 and the Bournemouth, England, Music Makers Festival, 1994 where the orchestra received the first place trophy. Her orchestras performed in Carnegie Hall, 1992 and 2000 and the Illinois Music Educators Association Convention, January 2001.

Ms. Armwood is in her third year at Neuqua Valley High School. During her tenure at Neuqua, Ms. Armwood has worked to expand the orchestra program. She was responsible for the creation of the ninth grade Honors Orchestra and planning the first orchestra tour to Toronto, Canada. Ms Armwood has also worked with the chamber orchestra students to promote quartet playing in the community, thereby increasing the visibility of the Neuqua Valley Orchestra programs. August 2003, Ms. Armwood created an inter-district "Welcome Back" orchestra camp with Waubonsie Valley High School to promote musicianship among our high school students. Last year Ms. Armwood was selected by an orchestra senior as one of the District 204's "Most Influential Educators."

Ms. Armwood has also made her mark on the Chicagoland music community during her short time at Neuqua Valley. In the summer of 2002, Ms. Armwood taught a cello class for string educators at VanderCook College of Music. She also served as a guest conductor for a middle school orchestra at the February 2003 Minnesota Music Educators Association Convention in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Gwen Armwood describes the string program where she taught in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and recounts the circumstances that brought her to the Wayzata secondary orchestra program. She describes the structure, size and organization of the Wayzata program and its growth during her thirteen years within the system along with the increasing visibility of the orchestra as a result of tours and playing engagements in the Twin Cities area. She discusses district support for music, music opportunities that cross economic and academic lines and her views on the importance and advantages of music education for every child.

COMMENTS ON INTERVIEW:

SOUND RECORDINGS:

User Copy: None

Original: 1 90-minute audio cassette

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW:

Approximately 24 minutes.

RESTRICTIONS ON USE:

none

TRANSCRIPT:

13 pages

ACCESSION NUMBER:

AV2007.12

INTERVIEW: Bill, Donna
 YEAR: 2001

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Donna Bill
DATE: January 15, 2001
PLACE: Bill home, St. Louis Park, Minnesota
INTERVIEWER: Lynne Weber

PROJECT SERIES: *Wayzata Elementary String Program: An Oral History*

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: Donna Bill holds a degree in violin performance from Baylor University and has studied summers at Meadowmount in Westport, New York. Early in her career she taught elementary string music using traditional pedagogy—first in the Sioux Falls Public Schools for three years and afterwards in the Madison (Wisconsin) Public Schools. In addition, she is a well-experienced private studio teacher and it was in this capacity that she became interested in the Suzuki method, which led her to attend the American Suzuki Institute at Stevens Point, Wisconsin, and also the Ithaca College Suzuki Institute.

When Donna applied for employment in Wayzata Public Schools she was unaware that a modified Suzuki method was used in the elementary string program, but found the program an excellent match for her experience and expertise. As a teacher within the system from 1996 through 2001 she worked closely with Barbara Lamb and Sandra Haines and later with Kim Iverson, Lynne Weber, Lissa Thomas and Clark Sheldon, teaching violin and coordinating the demands of an extremely large and popular elementary string program. In the fall of 2002 Donna joined the faculty at The Blake School, where she is building an all-school string offering. After hours, she teaches violin at Dolce Studio and serves as concertmaster of the Minnetonka Symphony. Donna and her husband have restored an older home where they live with their American bull dog, Jack, their Old English bull dog, Maggie, and enjoy life in the metropolitan Twin Cities.

Biography is based upon information supplied by Donna Bill. Written by LW July 2003.
 Approved by DB August 2003.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Donna Bill discusses her own background and music activity and then describes the structure of the Wayzata elementary string program and the many advantages of using the modified Suzuki curriculum and repertoire in the public school in a situation where the groups are very large. She talks about the significance of peer influence in the lessons, respect for individual learning styles, ear training, note reading, insistence upon excellent technique and emphasis on student responsibility for preparing the lesson. Additionally she discusses the importance to the child of early music education.

COMMENTS ON INTERVIEW: Jack barks during the interview.

SOUND RECORDINGS: **User copy:** None
 Original: 1 90-minute audiocassette

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW: Approximately 52 minutes.

RESTRICTIONS ON USE: none

TRANSCRIPT: 18 pages

ACCESSION NUMBER: AV2007.12

INTERVIEW: Bjork, Mark
 YEAR: 2001

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Mark Bjork
DATE: June 7, 2001
PLACE: Studio of Mark Bjork, University of Minnesota,
 Minneapolis
INTERVIEWER: Lynne Weber

PROJECT SERIES: *Wayzata Elementary String Program: An Oral History*

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION:

Mark Bjork, associate professor of violin and pedagogy at the University of Minnesota School of Music, is a graduate of Indiana University where he studied violin under the renowned pedagogue Josef Gingold, and chamber music with David Dawson, Harry Farbman, and Janos Starker. Deeply committed to the study and performance of chamber music, he performed more than forty works with the LaSalle Trio in an annual concert series as well as in radio, TV, and tour performances.

Mr. Bjork is recognized internationally as a leader in the field of Suzuki Talent Education. In 1967 he started one of the first Suzuki programs in the United States at the MacPhail Center For The Arts, which was part of the University of Minnesota at the time. At about the same time he accepted a part-time position in the Wayzata Public Schools, where there was expressed interest in starting an elementary string program based upon the Suzuki model. The Wayzata program grew and developed substantially during Mr. Bjork's tenure in that district.

In the early seventies he studied with Shinichi Suzuki at the Talent Education Institute in Matsumoto and during years of active involvement within the Suzuki Association of the Americas worked very closely with both Dr. and Mrs. Suzuki.

Workshops, master classes and clinics, often related to Suzuki Talent Education, have taken Mr. Bjork throughout the U.S., Canada, South America, Europe, Australia, New Zealand, Korea, and Japan. His former students include concertmasters, chamber music performers, and teachers.

Biography is taken from www.music.umn.edu/welcome.html and based upon information contained within the interview. Compiled and written by LW, July, 2003. Approved by MB, July 31, 2003.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Mark Bjork describes the structure of the Wayzata elementary string program at the time of his arrival and its growth and transformation during his years. He talks about the Suzuki approach used within the public elementary

schools in Wayzata, his own strong connection with Dr. Suzuki and the Talent Education Institute at Matsumoto, his work within the Suzuki Association of the Americas and teacher training pedagogy now offered at the University of Minnesota and a few other places in the United States. He includes some very colorful stories about his association with the Suzukis and ends by describing his vision of the best music education for the very young child.

Mr. Bjork evidences considerable energy within the interview; his excitement for the subject is summarized in the concluding paragraph, "To have been involved with the Suzuki method has been a most exciting kind of a life and particularly I feel fortunate to have been involved early."

SOUND RECORDINGS:	User copy: None Original: 1 90-minute audio cassette
LENGTH OF INTERVIEW:	Approximately 57 minutes.
RESTRICTIONS ON USE:	none
TRANSCRIPT:	23 pages
ACCESSION NUMBER:	AV2007.12

Interview: Bryant, Carol
Year: 2001

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Carol Bryant
DATE: September 4, 2001
PLACE: The Caribou Coffee House, St. Louis Park, MN
INTERVIEWER: Lynne Weber

PROJECT SERIES: *Wayzata Elementary String Program: An Oral History*

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: Dr. Carol Bryant came to Wayzata School District in 1986 and was principal of Plymouth Creek Elementary School at the time of her retirement in 1999. Before coming to Wayzata, she had served as an elementary principal in Stillwater, as math coordinator at the senior high in Spring Lake Park and as an elementary and senior high classroom teacher for approximately twenty years. After her retirement she was a faculty member at St. Mary's University, Twin Cities Campus and is presently serving as a consultant at a parochial school in International Falls.

Carol was raised in an opera-loving household, and as a child studied piano for a number of years. She started her college studies as a music theory major, and during her career in education she has been a strong advocate for the arts.

Biography is based upon information contained with interview. Written by LW, December 2002. Updated June, 2004.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED:

Carol begins by describing her own background in education and the arts, remembers the positive qualities of the Wayzata elementary string program as she observed it at Plymouth Creek Elementary, and discusses the importance of arts education in the public schools. She talks about the benefit of early music study on the development of the child, describes some of the administrative difficulties encountered with pullout programs, and, finally projects the future of strings in Wayzata while lamenting the demise of the current program.

SOUND RECORDINGS: **User copy:** None
 Original: 1 90-minute audiocassette

[Tape inexplicably speeds up around A 031 on the tape counter. For the tape to be understandable it must be played on low speed from about A070 on Marantz model PMD201.]

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW:

Approximately 38 minute [played at low speed from A070 to end]

RESTRICTIONS ON USE:

none

TRANSCRIPT:

14 pages

ACCESSION NUMBER:

AV2007.12

INTERVIEW: Clark, Virginia
 YEAR: 2002

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Virginia Clark
DATE: January 4, 2002
PLACE: Clark home, Minnesota
INTERVIEWER: Lynne Weber (not present)

PROJECT SERIES: *Wayzata Elementary String Program: An Oral History*

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION:

Virginia D. Clark holds the Bachelor of Science degree from St. Cloud State University, and the Master of Arts and PhD from the University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa. Prior to coming to the Wayzata school district, she was employed in the Iowa City, Algona, and Solon, Iowa, schools, where she served in a variety of roles-teaching at the kindergarten, second, third and fourth grade level, serving as Elementary Media Specialist, Teacher Effectiveness Trainer and Principal. After coming to Wayzata (Minnesota) District #284 in 1991 she served as Principal of Oakwood Elementary until 2000, when she became the District's Director of Professional Development for three years.

Ginny will begin her thirty-first year in education in the fall of 2003 at Wayzata's Greenwood Elementary School, where she is serving as Principal. In addition to her demanding career in educational administration and leadership she has been active in several professional organizations-National Association of Elementary School Principals, the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, Phi Delta Kappa, and the National Staff Development Council.

Biography is based upon information supplied by Virginia Clark. Written by LW, August, 2003. Approved by Virginia Clark, 2003.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Ginny discusses the value of the Wayzata elementary string program, describes its structure, the source of instruments for the students, the program cuts and discusses the virtue of music education in general. She describes what she perceives as shortcomings of the Wayzata program—the large number of children taking private lessons, the retention level, the audition requirement for Touring Strings, the difficulty of pulling children from class, a lack of teamwork between string and classroom teachers, the parent attendance requirement that had existed in earlier years and the power of the parents organization. Ginny concludes by presenting her vision of ideal music education--an offering that will include all children.

COMMENTS ON INTERVIEW: Interviewer Lynne Weber came to the Central Middle School office of Virginia Clark to conduct an interview on January 3, 2002, 10:00 A.M. Because the recording equipment malfunctioned and it was not possible to record the interview Ms. Clark offered to respond to the printed script and offer her memories and assessment of the Wayzata elementary string program by speaking into a tape recorder from her home, which she did. No interviewer was present. Ms. Clark mailed the cassette tape to LW, who then followed with a phone call to Clark at an agreed-upon time. Again, the conversation could not be recorded so finally Ms. Clark summarized the content of the conversation in the e-mail appended to the end of this transcript.

SOUND RECORDINGS:	User copy: None Original: 1 90-minute audiocassette
LENGTH OF INTERVIEW:	Approximately 19 minutes.
RESTRICTIONS ON USE:	none
TRANSCRIPT:	7 pages
ACCESSION NUMBER:	AV2007.12

Interview: Fallstad, Russell and Fallstad, Barbara
Year: 2001

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Barbara Fallstad and Russell Fallstad
DATE: August 23, 2001
PLACE: Fallstad home, Plymouth, Minnesota
INTERVIEWER: Lynne Weber

PROJECT SERIES: *Wayzata Elementary String Program: An Oral History*

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: Barbara Fallstad studied Business Administration at the University of Minnesota and College of St. Catherine. For the past forty years she has worked in her field of study--as Executive Secretary for a Vice President of Investors Diversified Services, Executive Secretary for the officers and founders of National City Bank (now M & I), as an assistant to her husband Russ when he started a business, and for the past twenty years as Business Administrator for a church.

Barb's involvement with Wayzata Strings started when her son Russell was in first grade, continued until he graduated from Wayzata High School, and included assisting with fundraising for Wayzata Orchestra's European tour in the mid-1980's, a trip upon which she accompanied the orchestra. During all the years Russell was involved with strings in Wayzata Public Schools and at MacPhail Center for the Arts Barb and her husband were active volunteers with string program activities. They are past chairs of the Wayzata Orchestra Boosters organization.

Biography is based upon information supplied by Barbara Fallstad. Written by LW December 2002. Approved by Barbara Fallstad December 30 2002.

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION:

Russell Fallstad began violin lessons at age five in kindergarten in the Wayzata Public Schools, and remained a part of the orchestra program as a violin and viola student through high school, while studying privately and participating in The Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies. He received Bachelor and Master degrees from Northwestern University, as a student of Gerardo Ribeiro, and was the recipient of the Civic Orchestra of Chicago Graduate Fellowship. Russell has played violin and viola with various chamber groups, appeared as soloist with several Chicago area orchestras, and taught at Northwestern University, DePaul University, The Music Center of the North Shore, and the Western Springs School of Talent Education.

In 1997, Russell and violinist Rebecca McFaul founded the Fry Street Quartet, a string ensemble which participated in a chamber music workshop under the direction of the late Isaac Stern at the Jerusalem Music Center, and afterwards performed in Stern's series at Weill Recital Hall, Carnegie Hall, in November, 2001. The Quartet was selected to serve as ambassadors of the Carnegie Fellows Program, and toured the Balkan States in July, 2002, performing composer J. Mark Scare's, "Y2K," a work composed for the group with a grant from Meet the Composer.

Other awards include first prize at the 2000 Chamber Music Yellow Springs Competition, the 2000 Millennium Grand Prize at the Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition, and two fellowships to the Aspen Music Festival's Center for Advanced Quartet Studies. During the 2002-2003 season the quartet will appear as part of Chicago's Jewel Box Series and at a tribute concert for Isaac Stern at Sweet Briar College on the invitation of Linda Reynolds Stern. The Fry Street's debut recording of works by Janacek and Beethoven was issued in December 2001.

During 2002, the Fry Street Quartet completed their three-year tenure in Chamber Music America's "Rural Residencies" program at Hickory, North Carolina, and in September of the same year became the Faculty String Quartet in Residence at Utah State University.

Biography based upon information contained within interview and from www.frystreetquartet.com. Compiled and written by LW December 2002. Approved by Russell Fallstad January 2 2003.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Russell and Barbara recount their involvement with Wayzata strings, with emphasis on the enormous importance it has had shaping the life of their family, the significance of starting early childhood, and the impact of peer involvement. The interview turns from remembering to discovery, as mother and son discuss the difficult but inevitable process of Russell's separation from his parents and evolution into an independent, mature musician.

COMMENTS ON THE INTERVIEW: In line 963 LW says that Ted Hughart came to Wayzata in 1967. This is in error since in his own interview Mr. Hughart indicates that he taught in the Wayzata District from 1963 until 1965 [HUGH A011].

SOUND RECORDINGS:

User copy: None
Original: 1 90-minute audio cassette

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW:

Approximately 86 minutes.

RESTRICTIONS ON USE:

none

TRANSCRIPT:

37 pages

ACCESSION NUMBER:

AV2007.12

INTERVIEW: Gaudette, Angelique and Gaudette, Danielle
 YEAR: 2001

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Angelique Gaudette and Danielle Gaudette
DATE: January 04, 2001
PLACE: Gaudette home, Plymouth, Minnesota
INTERVIEWER: Lynne Weber

PROJECT SERIES: *Wayzata Elementary String Program: An Oral History*

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: Angelique is a 1997 graduate of Wayzata High School and completed her studies in music at Lawrence University in 2001. She started her study of violin as a first grader in the Wayzata Public Schools, changing to viola in junior high school. Angie was a member of Touring Strings for one year, an active participant in the orchestra program throughout high school, a member of The Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies and All-State Orchestra. She continues to participate in the family quartet, which frequently performs for social events. Angie is a very experienced studio teacher, and maintained a sizeable violin class within the K-12 Academy at Lawrence. Shortly before this interview she had studied in Spain for five months, taking courses taught in Spanish while learning the language. In 2004, Angie will complete her Master's degree in viola at the University of Washington in Seattle, where she continues to live and work as a free-lance musician and teacher.

Biography based upon information contained within interviews of the Gaudette family and information supplied by Jeanie Gaudette. Compiled and written by LW, December, 2003. Approved by Angie January 26, 2004.

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: From a very young age Danielle attended the lessons of her siblings in the company of her mother. Because of her very early exposure Helen Loing permitted Dani to start viola study through the Wayzata program before she entered kindergarten. Dani has continued string study since her early start, and is still a part of the Wayzata public school orchestra program. In addition, she has participated in Touring Strings, The Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies, and All-State Orchestra, where she will sit as principal violist in 2004. She has tutored a number of students within the Wayzata district in viola and is a member of the family quartet. At the time of this writing Dani is preparing to participate in the Iowa Honors Orchestra. In addition to her very full schedule of music activities, she loves to play soccer. Dani's career goals are twofold--music and forensic pathology --but at present, as a senior in high school, her greatest interest seems to be in the area of viola performance.

Biography based upon information contained within interviews of the Gaudette family and information supplied by Jeanie and Dani Gaudette. Compiled and written by LW, January 2004. Approved by Dani, January 20, 2004.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Angie and Dani remember the mass concerts, the touring strings performances and the trips they have taken with Wayzata string groups. They discuss practicing briefly and the opportunities, such as Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies, that have come about as a result of their string training through the Wayzata public schools. Angie draws upon her substantial experience as a string teacher, talks about her studies at Lawrence University and impending graduate studies, while Dani discusses her interest in soccer and her career aspirations. They discuss the advantages of string education and specifically, the advantages connected with the early start.

COMMENTS ON INTERVIEW: Jeanie Gaudette, mother of Angie and Dani, is in the room and occasionally can be heard supplying information.

SOUND RECORDINGS:	User copy: None Original: 1 90-minute audiocassette
LENGTH OF INTERVIEW:	Approximately 29 minutes.
RESTRICTIONS ON USE:	none
TRANSCRIPT:	13 pages
ACCESSION NUMBER:	AV2007.12

INTERVIEW: Jeanie Gaudette.
 YEAR: 2001

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Jeanie Gaudette
DATE: January 4, 2001
PLACE: The home of David and Jeanie Gaudette, Plymouth, Minnesota.
INTERVIEWER: Lynne Weber

PROJECT SERIES: *Wayzata Elementary String Program: An Oral History*

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: Jeanie Gaudette is a registered nurse and the mother of four children--Angelique, Lucas, Nicholas and Danielle--who have participated in the Wayzata strings program from kindergarten or first grade through twelfth grade. Jeanie has been an organizational force within the Wayzata Orchestra Boosters and has worked tirelessly at every level within the organization since her children first entered the program. She has served as chairwoman of the organization for a number of years, a position she will leave in the spring of 2004 when her youngest child graduates high school. Three of her four children have gone on to pursue the study of music at the university level and at the time of this writing it appears that Dani, a high school senior, will also choose a course of study in viola performance.

After the arrival of the Gaudette's third child Jeanie chose to stay at home for several years, an option made possible because Jeanie owned and operated a vegetable stand based in the family garage and ran a Christmas boutique. While the children were young, the family spent summers camping around the US and Jeanie served as a leader for both boy and girl scouts. Later on, a highlight of summer vacation for the children was attending to the Mankato String Conference sponsored for the American String Teachers Association.

In 1997 Jeanie returned to critical care nursing at Fairview University Medical Center, worked as a medical sales representative for a short time, and returned to Fairview where she serves presently as a nurse manager of the critical and acute care float pool. In addition, she is attending night school to work on a degree in Health Care Management. Jeanie makes no claim to a musical background, but believes her musical education and appreciation have come by way of her children's experiences.

Biography contains information supplied by J. Gaudette in January 2004. Written by LW, January, 2004.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Jeanie discusses the public school music participation of each of her four children, describes other music activities which have reinforced the strong school program, describes the studies of her children since high school and her

own extensive volunteer work with the orchestra boosters. Because she has been affiliated with the Wayzata string program since 1985, she is able to describe various structural changes within the district, the debate about the string offering for kindergarteners and the controversies over the digital day schedule for elementary string lessons and the parent attendance requirement.

COMMENTS ON INTERVIEW: Angie Gaudette is present at the beginning of the interview. During the later part of the interview string music can be heard in the background.

SOUND RECORDINGS: **User copy:** None
 Original: 1 90-minute audiocassette

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW: Approximately 65 minutes.

RESTRICTIONS ON USE: none

TRANSCRIPT: 26 pages

ACCESSION NUMBER: AV2007.12

INTERVIEW: Gaudette, Lucas and Gaudette, Nicholas
 YEAR: 2001

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Lucas Gaudette and Nicholas Gaudette
DATE: January 09, 2001
PLACE: Gaudette home, Plymouth, Minnesota
INTERVIEWER: Lynne Weber

PROJECT SERIES: *Wayzata Elementary String Program: An Oral History*

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: Lucas Gaudette is the second oldest of four children in his family, and like his siblings participated in the Wayzata string program--the elementary lessons, Touring Strings and the secondary school orchestras--throughout his public school study. In addition he has participated in The Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies, String Conferences sponsored by ASTA at Minnesota State University, Mankato, All-State Orchestra, National Honors Orchestra, has maintained a cello studio and has been a member of the family string quartet. At the time of his 2001 interview he concluded his comments with, "I couldn't ask for a better life style."

At the time of this writing (January, 2004) he has completed a Bachelor of Music degree in cello at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and is working to complete a second Bachelor's degree in Geography at UWM. In a recent e-mail he indicated that his career plans include owning a landscape company in Minneapolis.

Biography based upon information contained within interviews of the Gaudette family and information given by Jeanie Gaudette and Lucas Gaudette. Compiled and written by LW, January 2004.

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: Nicholas Gaudette started his string study in the Wayzata program as a kindergartener. Because of his determination to study bass Barbara Lamb and Helen Loing devised a modification of a cello to provide him with an instrument. Their ingenuity paid off – Nick participated in the program from kindergarten through twelfth grade and in addition participated in GTCYS, the ASTA String Conference in Mankato, Minnesota, All-State Orchestra and a post-secondary options program which allowed Nick to play in an orchestra at the University of Minnesota. At the time of this writing Nick is completing his Bachelor's degree in bass at The Cleveland Institute, where he plans to stay and complete the Masters degree. His aspirations include becoming a member of a professional symphony or a successful rock band. In addition to his considerable performance experience, Nick is also a well seasoned bass teacher and coach. Needless to say, he is a member of the family quartet. Nick ended the interview with this: "It's been everything for me -- music. That's about it."

Biography based upon information contained within interviews of the Gaudette family and information from Jeanie Gaudette. Compiled and written by LW, January, 2004. Approved by NG January 20, 2004.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Luke and Nick describe their own backgrounds in the Wayzata string program, their fondest memories (the many trips come up several times), describe other music activities, their current college studies and career plans. Nick describes the circumstances leading to his first string bass (a modified cello) quite specifically, a colorful story which is also told in the interviews with Helen Loing, Sandra Haines and Jeanie Gaudette. Luke and Nick discuss the importance of early string education in their lives and the positive impact their opportunities in music have had upon them. The final moments of the interview are dedicated to Baxter and other family dogs, who have always responded positively to and supported the family music-making.

COMMENTS ON INTERVIEW:

1. Jeanie Gaudette, mother of Luke and Nick, is in the room and occasionally can be heard supplying information. Baxter is present throughout.
2. On line 152 Luke indicates that he began cello in first grade and Angie began violin in second grade. This is at odds with the information given in the interviews with Jeanie Gaudette and Angie Gaudette, who indicate that Luke began cello in kindergarten and Angie in first grade.

SOUND RECORDINGS: **User copy:** None
 Original: 1 90-minute audio cassette

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW: Approximately 21 minutes.

RESTRICTIONS ON USE: none

TRANSCRIPT: 18 pages

ACCESSION NUMBER: AV2007.12

INTERVIEW: Haines, Sandra
 YEAR: 2001

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Sandra Haines
DATE: January 04, 2001
PLACE: Haines home, Hopkins, Minnesota
INTERVIEWER: Lynne Weber

PROJECT SERIES: *Wayzata Elementary String Program: An Oral History*

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: Sandra Haines holds a Bachelor of Music Education degree along with Master's degrees in cello performance and psychology. She had taught at Kansas State University, as well as in the schools in Edina and Roseville, Minnesota, before coming to the Wayzata elementary schools in 1989 as an elementary cello and bass teacher. During the nine years she was in Wayzata Sandra developed the elementary level lower string program significantly by arranging and editing bass music as well as by consulting with professional bassists. At the time of her departure, the number of elementary students involved in lower strings had increased from a handful to approximately 100.

Since leaving the Wayzata teaching position, Sandra has been an active cellist in the Twin Cities area, and is presently a member of The Ariel Trio, The Regency Trio and a performing member of Thursday Musical. Additionally, Sandra has established an active connection with instrument makers in Bologna, Italy, and she and her husband visit in Italy for approximately one month each year.

Biography based upon information contained within the interview. Compiled and written by LW, February, 2004.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Sandra describes her recruitment to the Wayzata string program, her work with the lower strings and effort to create appropriate music and tutorial materials for the basses. She describes the structure of the program, the work load and the varied responsibilities in some detail, with emphasis on the remarkable working relationship that she, Barbara Lamb and Helen Loing enjoyed. She tells about the joys of Wayzata strings along with the difficulties and gives some detail about her full life since leaving the teaching position.

SOUND RECORDINGS: **User copy:** None
Original: 1 90-minute audio cassette

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW: Approximately 59 minutes.

RESTRICTIONS ON USE: none

TRANSCRIPT:

25 pages

ACCESSION NUMBER:

AV2007.12

INTERVIEW: Hembre, Ruth and Hembre, Turi
 YEAR: 2001

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Ruth Hembre and Turi Hembre
DATE: February 03, 2001
PLACE: Ruth & Jim Hembre home, Plymouth, Minnesota
INTERVIEWER: Lynne Weber

PROJECT SERIES: *Wayzata Elementary String Program: An Oral History*

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION:

Ruth Mandsager Hembre is a native of Thor, Iowa and attended Eagle Grove public schools. As a child she studied piano and flute, participated in state music contests, accompanied school choirs and played piano and organ at church from about age 10. Ruth's organ study continued at St. Olaf College, where she also did some accompanying, and graduated with a B.A. in Nursing in 1961. Her nursing career included working several years as an RN at Fairview Hospital and at the Mound (MN) Medical Clinic.

In 1962 Ruth married St. Olaf graduate, Jim Hembre, and ultimately moved to Plymouth, where Jim taught chemistry at Wayzata High School. After 37 years of teaching, Jim has now gone to work as a chemist for 3M. The Hembres have four children, all St. Olaf graduates—Turi, Erik, who has a PhD in Chemistry and is a research chemist for Eli Lilly, Leif, who has a PhD in Biology and is a professor of biology at Hamline, and Anna Lisa, an elementary teacher in Burnsville—and three grandchildren.

Ruth's career in music developed in the late 1970s when she began teaching privately and participating in MMTA [Minnesota Music Teachers Association] and MMTF [Minneapolis Music Teachers' Forum]. She accompanied Suzuki students at Oakwood elementary for at least twelve years and participated in many district concerts. At present she continues to participate in church choirs and church accompanying and serves as organist for many weddings, funerals and other special events.

Biography is based upon information supplied by Ruth Hembre. Written by LW, December, 2003. Approved by RH, December 30, 2002.

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION:

Turi Hembre is the oldest of four children born to Jim and Ruth Hembre and a first grade teacher at Kimberly Lane Elementary School in Wayzata. A graduate of Wayzata High School, she is probably the only faculty member within the Wayzata Public School system to have participated throughout her school career in the district's string program. During the years she was involved in Wayzata strings Turi studied violin privately, attended the American Suzuki Institute in Stevens Point, Wisconsin, participated in The

Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies and studied piano--first with her mother and later with private teachers, one of whom was Gloria Chell. Turi is a graduate of St. Olaf College, where she continued her study of violin and played in the Chamber Orchestra, and she holds the Masters of

Education degree from Washington University, St. Louis. Now that she is married and the mother of a young daughter and son she and her husband are contemplating a Suzuki start for the next generation.

Biography based upon information contained within interview and from Ruth Hembre. Compiled and written by LW, September, 2002. Approved by Turi Hembre, September 22, 2003.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Ruth Hembre and daughter Turi discuss the importance and impact of the Wayzata string program in the life of their family. They emphasize the importance of the participating parents, give considerable information about the early years of the program and discuss the importance of the Suzuki philosophy in their lives. At that time of the interview Turi was teaching first graders who were entering the same string program she had participated in as a child so she talks about the special significance of her own experience in relationship to her students. Ruth discusses music education for the very young and both women express their hope that opportunities within the Wayzata system will exist for the next generation.

COMMENTS ON INTERVIEW:

SOUND RECORDINGS:	User copy: None Original: 1 90-minute audio cassette
LENGTH OF INTERVIEW:	Approximately 39 minutes.
RESTRICTIONS ON USE:	none
TRANSCRIPT:	30 pages
ACCESSION NUMBER:	AV2007.12

INTERVIEW: Holmes, Nancy
YEAR: 2001

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Nancy Holmes
DATE: August 07, 2001
PLACE: Holmes home, Plymouth, Minnesota
INTERVIEWER: Lynne Weber

PROJECT SERIES: *Wayzata Elementary String Program: An Oral History*

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION:

Nancy Holmes was born in Champaign, Illinois, obtained the Bachelor of Arts degree from Albion College, Albion Michigan, and the Masters of Education from the University of Rochester in Rochester, New York. She completed here dietetic internship at the University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa. A registered dietitian, Nancy worked as a clinical dietitian in several university hospitals before going to work for General Mills for twenty-two years as a nutritionist.

Nancy has played the piano since childhood and during the years that her children were studying violin in the Wayzata elementary string program she served as one of the parent accompanists and, in addition, performed substantial other volunteer work for the program. A strong proponent of the Wayzata strings, Nancy indicates that the program benefited participating daughters Sally and Gretchen as well as the entire Holmes family and that she learned a great deal about music without ever learning to play the violin.

At present, Nancy continues to enjoy playing piano and plays in English Handbell choirs.

Biography is based upon information supplied by Nancy Holmes. Written by LW, August, 2003. Approved by NH, August 20, 2003.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Nancy Holmes discusses the background of daughters Sally and Gretchen in the Wayzata elementary string program and the impact the program had on the entire family. She discusses difficulties with practice, music activities outside of school and the value that a background in strings has had upon her children until the present day. In addition, she describes the work and the difficulties of being a parent volunteer and the wonderful education available not only to the children but to their parents, as well.

COMMENTS ON INTERVIEW: After the interview Nancy Holmes sent LW a number of slides of photos taken at performances that occurred in the early seventies. When LW returned the slides to the Holmes residence Nancy loaned LW several black-and-white portraits of Helen Loing, Sally and Gretchen Holmes and other Wayzata

children taken at American Suzuki Institute, Stevens Point, Wisconsin and some other portraits taken at performances in Wayzata, Minnesota.

SOUND RECORDINGS:	User copy: None Original: 1 90-minute audio cassette
LENGTH OF INTERVIEW:	Approximately 30 minutes.
RESTRICTIONS ON USE:	none
TRANSCRIPT:	16 pages
ACCESSION NUMBER:	AV2007.12

INTERVIEW: Hong, Kee-Won
 YEAR: 2001

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Kee-Won Hong
DATE: June 06, 2001
PLACE: Hong home, Plymouth, Minnesota
INTERVIEWER: Lynne Weber

PROJECT SERIES: *Wayzata Elementary String Program: An Oral History*

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION:

At the age of three Kee-Won Hong began the study of piano in Butte, Montana, after his parents became aware of a Suzuki program there. After moving to Plymouth, Minnesota the Hong family was delighted to learn that there was a Suzuki string program integrated into Wayzata Public Schools. Kee-Won began the study of violin as a kindergartner and was steadily involved in the school program through twelfth grade, supplementing the resources of the public school with private lessons for several years. In addition, he participated in Minnesota Youth Symphonies, the String Conference at Minnesota State University, Mankato, and All-State Orchestra. His years of participation in various orchestras offered the opportunity for wide and varied travel.

A National Merit Scholar Semi-Finalist, Kee-Won has had a number of activities aside from music, including tennis, fencing, math club, Korean language school and a number of special computer projects. At the time of the interview Kee-Won was graduating from Wayzata High School and preparing for study at Northwestern University. Kee-Won explains his dedication to violin and orchestral activities in these words, "I think that music always plays such a part in defining me, that I would have missed out on a great part of my life if I didn't have the chance to play a stringed instrument."

Biography is based upon information obtained during the interview. Written by LW.
 Approved by Kee-Won Hong, 12/22/2003.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Kee-Won Hong outlines his thirteen years in the Wayzata elementary string program, talks about the importance of related music activities in Wayzata High School, Minnesota Youth Symphonies, the Minnesota State University, Mankato String Conference and All-State and the thrill of moving toward the concertmaster's chair from the back of the section. He remembers the many tours, and reflects upon the importance of the Wayzata program in his own life while lamenting the passing of the opportunity for other Wayzata students. He describes his acceptance at Northwestern University and discusses the future role of the violin in his life.

COMMENTS ON INTERVIEW: Around line 349 the telephone rings and the tape is stopped briefly.

SOUND RECORDINGS: **User copy:** None
 Original: 1 90-minute audiocassette

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW: Approximately 23 minutes.

RESTRICTIONS ON USE: none

TRANSCRIPT: 12 pages

ACCESSION NUMBER: AV2007.12

Interview: Hong, Sunwha
Year: 2001

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Sunwha Hong
DATE: January 15, 2001
PLACE: Hong home, Plymouth, Minnesota
INTERVIEWER: Lynne Weber

PROJECT SERIES: *Wayzata Elementary String Program: An Oral History*

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION:

Sunwha Hong was born in Seoul, Korea, and came to the United States in 1967. Prior to earning the Bachelor's degree in Medical Technology from the University of Cincinnati, she interned at Christ Hospital and worked there following graduation. After her marriage in 1975 she was employed as a medical technologist in Butte, Montana, where the Hongs' three children were born.

In the interview Sunny indicates that she and her husband, Hee- Hong, did not have the opportunity to study music as children but have been deeply committed to a solid music education for their family. They became aware of the advantages of the Suzuki method and enrolled their oldest son, Kee-Won, in a Suzuki piano program in Butte at the age of three. When the family moved to Plymouth, Minnesota in 1987 they were delighted to learn of the opportunity for Suzuki string training through the public schools and enrolled all three children at the time each one started kindergarten. As a result, each child has been actively involved in the Wayzata string program for a number of years.

In addition to being a dedicated string parent, Sunwha has given many hours of her time to the string program in the schools. When not tending to the needs of her immediate family and her mother, Sunny continues to attend meetings of Wayzata Music Boosters and to volunteer for orchestral activities. Presently Kee-Won is studying at Northwestern University and son Kee-Ju is studying in a pre-dental program at Creighton University. Both Kee-Won and Kee-Ju are in a university orchestra for non-music majors and enjoy playing violin for others.

Daughter Yoon-Hee continues to participate in the Wayzata Orchestra and is treasurer for Tri-M in behalf of the orchestra.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Sunny describes participation of her three children in the Wayzata string program and talks about the significance of the offering to her family. She elaborates on the importance of the kindergarten start for string players, the impact of string music in the lives of her children, and her own volunteer efforts within the Wayzata strings.

SOUND RECORDINGS: **User copy:** None
 Original: 1 90-minute audiocassette

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW: Approximately 24 minutes.

RESTRICTIONS ON USE: none

TRANSCRIPT: 12 pages

ACCESSION NUMBER: AV2007.12

INTERVIEW: Howe, Sondra Wieland
 YEAR: 2001

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Sondra Wieland Howe
DATE: June 08, 2001
PLACE: Howe home, Orono, Minnesota
INTERVIEWER: Lynne Weber

PROJECT SERIES: *Wayzata Elementary String Program: An Oral History*

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION:

Sondra Wieland Howe is an independent piano teacher in Wayzata, Minnesota. She taught Suzuki strings in the summer school program of the Wayzata public schools from 1976 to 1982, and her three children (Deborah, Philip, and Stephen) studied in the Wayzata Suzuki program in the 1970s and 1980s. Dr. Howe has four degrees in music: A.B. from Wellesley College, A.M.T. from the Harvard Graduate School of Education, and an M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota. She is an independent scholar and publishes articles in academic journals on the history of music education and women in music.

Biography was written by Sondra Wieland Howe and submitted September 22, 2003.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Sondra Wieland Howe is able to discuss the Wayzata elementary string program as a parent, since her three children began string study in kindergarten and continued for many years, and from the perspective of a well-experienced music educator and researcher. She begins by describing her family during the years of participation in Wayzata strings, the importance of music to her generational family, the impact of the Wayzata program upon her young family and the ongoing influence now. Dr. Howe continues by describing her summers as a teacher in the Wayzata program, her lifelong involvement in various phases of music education and her research. She presents a picture of the program during the seventies until the mid-eighties, offers comments about the value of music education, specifically Suzuki-based, and the importance of music curricula in the schools.

SOUND RECORDINGS: **User copy:** None
Original: 1 90-minute audio cassette

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW: Approximately 42 minutes.

RESTRICTIONS ON USE: none

TRANSCRIPT:

18 pages

ACCESSION NUMBER:

AV2007.12

Interview: Hughart, Ted
 Year: 2001

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Ted Hughart
DATE: March 13, 2001
PLACE: The apartment of Ted Hughart in San Diego, California
INTERVIEWER: Lynne Weber

PROJECT SERIES: *Wayzata Elementary String Program: An Oral History*

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: Ted Hughart began his professional career as a jobbing musician in the Minneapolis area while he was a student at the University of Minnesota. After receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree in music in 1957, he played professionally with the Kansas City Philharmonic, served as principal bassist with the 7th Army Symphony Orchestra for two years, and afterwards returned the Twin Cities as a free-lance musician. In 1963, upon earning a degree in music education from the University of Minnesota, he was invited to Wayzata Public Schools, where he established and taught in an elementary string program. He left in early 1965, departing for Los Angeles with his young family and embarking upon a free-lance career. Between 1965 and 1991 Ted worked with many well-known artists, including Vicki Carr, Dick Haymes, Ray Conniff, Liberace and played in TV orchestras for Carol Burnett, Joey Bishop and Steve Allen, among others. His list of TV film, musical theater and live performances is long and rich.

In 1992 Ted's life took a new, equally exciting turn when he and his wife took a year to sail the Sea of Cortez aboard a Bristol Channel Cutter. Afterwards, they relocated in San Diego, where Ted has made guest appearances with the San Diego Symphony Orchestra, has worked as a free-lance musician for musical theater productions (Starlight Theatre and the Old Globe Theatre) and has continued to be an active jazz musician. In his free time, Ted pursues body surfing in the beautiful ocean near his home.

Biography based upon information contained within interview and a professional vita presented at the time of the interview. Written by LW 7-2003; approved by Ted Hughart 7-29-2003.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Ted Hughart describes his recruitment to Wayzata Public Schools in 1963 as the first elementary string teacher, refers to the secondary school string offering already in existence, talks about the structure of the elementary program during his year and one-half within the district and the strong administrative and parental support for the new program. He then discusses his concern about lack of respect for professional musicians, public funding for arts education and the importance of opportunities in early childhood.

COMMENTS ON THE INTERVIEW:

1. Following the interview Ted Hughart gave LW copies of these documents:
 - a. Resume
 - b. Letter to Wayzata elementary teachers explaining upcoming recruitment (11-25-1963).
 - c. Memo to parents of prospective string students.
 - d. Information sheet for Wayzata string parents.
 - e. Information flyer for April 21, 1964 school bond election.
 - f. Handwritten information letter from a parent (06-03-1964).
 - g. Handwritten letter of thanks from a student.
 - h. Employment contracts and letters of confirmation (10-28-1963 and 06-08-1964).
 - i. Letter of recommendation (01-19-1965).
 - j. Wayzata School District calendar (1964-1965).
 - k. Itemized bill for elementary orchestra string supplies (04-05-1964).

2. Helen Loing's narration includes a conversation she had with Ted Hughart about his coming to teach in the Wayzata string program and her estimation that Ted had come to Wayzata in the mid-fifties after coming "out of the University system" [LOIN A006]. In this interview, Ted indicates that he came to Wayzata in 1963 [HUGH A011]. Ted's resume indicates that he received two degrees from the University of Minnesota: a BA degree in music in 1957 and a BS in music education in 1963. Helen may not have been aware of the second bachelor's degree.

SOUND RECORDINGS:

User copy: None
Original: 1 90-minute audiocassette

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW:

Approximately 41 minutes.

RESTRICTIONS ON USE:

none

TRANSCRIPT:

16 pages

ACCESSION NUMBER:

AV2007.12

VIEW: Hutchison, Rebecca
YEAR: 2001

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Rebecca Hutchison
DATE: June 06, 2001
PLACE: The home of Chris and Rebecca Hutchison, Medina,
Minnesota
INTERVIEWER: Lynne Weber

PROJECT SERIES: *Wayzata Elementary String Program: An Oral History*

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION:

Rebecca Hutchison was raised in a music-loving home. The daughter of a college professor who spent thirty-five years on the campuses of University of North Carolina and Winona State University, Rebecca was a serious piano student who practiced several hours a day. After attending the University of Minnesota, she and her husband lived four years in Texas, eight years in California, but chose to return to Minnesota to raise their family.

At the time of their return to Minnesota, the Hutchisons debated buying property in Edina or in the Wayzata Public School District. It was the unique elementary string program that drew them to Wayzata, and at the time of the interview sons Adam, Connor and Max were studying violin, cello and viola, respectively. In addition to attending her sons' school lessons and functioning as the home teacher, Becky served as the Strings Coordinator for Kimberly Lane Elementary School and as a Co-chair for the Booster Parents Board. Because of her own immersion in music as a student, Becky appreciated the value and importance of the peer involvement that the inclusive Wayzata string program could offer since lessons and orchestra rehearsals took place during the school day.

In the summer of 2001 the Hutchison family moved to London, England, and in 2003 relocated again in Massachusetts. Compiled from information contained within the interview and written by LW, January, 2004.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Rebecca Hutchison discusses her family's reasons for moving to Wayzata, describes their participation in the Wayzata string program, in string activities not connected to the school program, and the many advantages the string program offered. She describes earlier reduction and changes to the program and the program's elimination, which was scheduled to occur immediately. Throughout the interview she refers to her own musical upbringing and how it would have been enriched through the opportunities offered by Wayzata elementary strings.

SOUND RECORDINGS:

User copy: None

Original: 1 90-minute audiocassette

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW:

Approximately 48 minutes.

RESTRICTIONS ON USE:

none

TRANSCRIPT:

18 pages

ACCESSION NUMBER:

AV2007.12

INTERVIEW: Beavers, Janis
 YEAR: 2001

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Janis Beavers
DATE: June 06, 2001
PLACE: The home of Steven Jantzen and Janis Beavers, Plymouth, Minnesota
INTERVIEWER: Lynne Weber

PROJECT SERIES: *Wayzata Elementary String Program: An Oral History*

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION:

Janis Beavers and husband Steven Jantzen became involved in the Wayzata Public School District string program because of their own music backgrounds. Steven had played cornet in middle school and high school. Janis started piano lessons in kindergarten and as a high school student studied organ with a college professor. She served as church organist two years during that time. Their appreciation for music enabled them to recognize the string program as a wonderful opportunity to instill a love of music in their children and the Suzuki approach represented an opportunity to involve the family, working together to develop music education.

The Jantzen children attended Redeemer Lutheran School thus necessitating that Janis provide transportation from Redeemer to the public schools within the Wayzata district. She always attended lessons, as the home teacher in the Suzuki method and in part because she wanted to enhance her own music education. Jantzen family participation in the program represented a balancing act, since Janis had to coordinate the demands of a private school with lessons, orchestra practice, before-school repertoire class and Touring Strings—all part of the Wayzata elementary string program. In addition, there was the need to attend all-District rehearsals before the two annual concerts and to participate in daily home practice with each child.

Although the family had intended that their three sons participate in the Wayzata strings program, only Christopher and Nicholas were able to do so, since the district closed the doors to out-of-district students in the fall of 1998, before Theodore was old enough to enter string class. Nevertheless, all three children continue their study of strings on a private basis and as the Jantzen family grows it is increasingly involved sharing music with church and community.

Steven Jantzen is an architectural/structural engineer and Janis Beavers is a self-employed accountant working half time.

Biography is based upon information supplied within the interview. Written by LW, January, 2004 and edited and approved by Janis Beavers, January 2004.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Janis Beavers begins by describing her surprise upon learning that children from non-public schools were permitted to participate in the Wayzata Public Schools string program. She tells about the structure of the program, including group lessons, repertoire classes, and orchestra rehearsals, and the logistical challenges of assuring that sons Christopher and Nicholas Jantzen, students at Redeemer Lutheran School, could participate in the Wayzata string program to the fullest. Janis describes the immense benefit of participating in an offering with so much peer interaction and the terrible loss when, during the 1998-1999, private school and home school students were denied further access to the string program by the School District. Near the conclusion of the interview Janis says, "It has been a very long grieving process because it's a very large loss experience. I would almost say to the extent of losing a member of your family."

COMMENTS ON INTERVIEW:

1. Christopher Jantzen, age 12, eldest child of Janis Beavers and Steven Jantzen, is present throughout the interview and offers a few comments about the structure of the program and the Touring Strings' visit to Albuquerque, New Mexico.
2. Janis refers to the Touring Strings' Albuquerque trip as occurring in 1998 [JANT A081]. The excursion to Albuquerque, New Mexico, occurred during the spring break of the only year the interviewer was employed by District 284, which was 1998-1999. This fact places the Albuquerque trip as spring 1999.

SOUND RECORDINGS:

User copy: None
Original: 1 90-minute audiocassette

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW:

Approximately 48 minutes.

RESTRICTIONS ON USE:

none

TRANSCRIPT:

19 pages

ACCESSION NUMBER:

AV2007.12

INTERVIEW: Jantzen, Christopher and Jantzen, Nicholas
 YEAR: 2001

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Christopher Jantzen and Nicholas Jantzen
DATE: June 06, 2001
PLACE: Beavers/ Jantzen home, Plymouth, Minnesota
INTERVIEWER: Lynne Weber

PROJECT SERIES: *Wayzata Elementary String Program: An Oral History*

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION:

Christopher Jantzen graduated from Redeemer Lutheran School in June 2003, at the completion of eighth grade. He began his violin study in the Wayzata elementary string program as a kindergartner at Redeemer and continued until the beginning of fourth grade in 1998, when non-public students were suddenly denied access to the public string program. After most of that school year without string instruction he and his brother were able to join the studio of Steve Stenson at the end of the school year. Presently Chris, Nic and their mother often play with a group called Joysound for contemporary church worship services and Chris has begun playing in a church youth band. Most Recently, Chris played with Allegro Sinfonia Youth Orchestra the first half of eighth grade and with the Greater Twin Cities Youth Symphonies the last half of eighth grade.

His passions are drawing faces and playing goalie in competitive soccer. He is currently a freshman at Wayzata High School and takes freshman orchestra class.

Biography based upon information contained within interview. Written by LW, August 2003, and edited and approved by Janis Beavers, January 2004.

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION:

Nicholas Jantzen has completed fifth grade at Redeemer Lutheran School. He began his cello study in the Wayzata elementary string program as a kindergartner, studying the first year with Kim Iverson and as a first grader with Lynne Weber. After the Wayzata program was no longer available to non-public students he and his brother were without string instruction for most of the school year until the end of the school year they began string study with instructor Steve Stenson. Nic and his brother Chris frequently lead worship music instrumentally in church with their mother, Janis Beavers.

Nic played in Allegro Sinfonia Youth Orchestra in fifth grade. He is currently a sixth grader at Redeemer Lutheran School and participates in competitive soccer and basketball.

Biography based upon information contained within interview. Written by LW, August 2003 and edited and approved by Janis Beavers, January 2004.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Christopher remembers his participation with the Touring Strings, their trip to Albuquerque, New Mexico, and participation in the Wayzata elementary strings program. Nick talks about cello performance and his current piece.

COMMENTS ON INTERVIEW: This interview is found on side B of the tape containing the interview with Janis Beavers and Christopher Jantzen.

SOUND RECORDINGS:

User copy:	None
Original:	1 90-minute audiocassette

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW: Approximately 5 minutes.

RESTRICTIONS ON USE: none

TRANSCRIPT: 7 pages

ACCESSION NUMBER: AV2007.12

Interview: Lamb, Barbara
Year: 2001

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Barbara Lamb
DATE: June 21, 2001
PLACE: The home of Barbara Lamb in Eden Prairie, MN
INTERVIEWER: Lynne Weber

PROJECT SERIES: *Wayzata Elementary String Program: An Oral History*

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION:

Barbara Lamb received BS, MA and Ph.D. degrees in music from the University of Minnesota. She has taught strings in several Twin Cities School districts including twenty-two years in Wayzata. She is founder of the Arioso Youth Orchestra, a west suburban youth orchestra in Golden Valley, Minnesota which is in its third year of operation. She is presently teaching strings and band in four St. Paul Public Schools.

Dr. Lamb's groups have performed for Minnesota Music Educators, Indiana Music Educators, for two MENC Regional conventions, at the Midwest International Band and Orchestra Clinic in Chicago, where they were the first elementary school group to perform in the convention's forty-seven year history, as well as for Texas Music Educators in San Antonio.

Barbara is a private teacher, a free-lance musician in the Twin Cities area and a member of the Regency Trio. She has served on the executive board of MNSOTA as President, treasurer, newsletter editor and as chairwoman for the Minnesota String Fair. She has served as a music adjudicator in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and North Dakota and as a clinician and panelist for state and national music conventions. Her professional affiliations include ASTA, SSA, MENC and MMEA, TMEA.

Biography submitted by Barbara Lamb, February 2004.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Barb recounts the early years of the program, the remarkable collaboration that existed among Helen Loing, Sandra Haines and herself, describes the structure of the program, and remembers the wonderful achievements of the Wayzata elementary string program. She ends with a discussion of her philosophy of early childhood music and the role it can play in the life of every child.

SOUND RECORDINGS: **User copy:** None
Original: 1 90-minute audiocassette

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW:	Approximately 49 minutes.
RESTRICTIONS ON USE:	none
TRANSCRIPT:	17 pages
ACCESSION NUMBER:	AV2007.12

INTERVIEW: Landswerk, David
YEAR: 2001

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Landswerk, David
DATE: June 08, 2001
PLACE: Caribou Coffee House, Plymouth, Minnesota.
INTERVIEWER: Lynne Weber

PROJECT SERIES: *Wayzata Elementary String Program: An Oral History*

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION:

David Landswerk holds degrees from Luther College, Drake University and a PhD in Administration/ Curriculum from the University of Iowa. He began his thirty-eight year career in education as an elementary teacher and then moved into administration, serving first as Elementary Principal in Ames, Iowa. From there he went to the Owatonna Public School District, a district nationally recognized and respected for choral and instrumental music offerings, where he served as Elementary Principal, Director of Elementary Education, Assistant Superintendent and in 1974, Superintendent.

Dr. Landswerk assumed the position of Superintendent of Wayzata Public School District in 1986. During his years of leadership both junior high schools were designated as National Schools of Excellence in 1989 by the U.S. Department of Education, the senior high school was designated a National School of Excellence in 1991 by the U.S. Department of Education, Wayzata was the first metropolitan public school system to become Smoke/ Tobacco Free and the first Minnesota public school system to offer a Student Graduate Guarantee. During his eight-year tenure voters approved \$103.5 million in bonds and \$55 million in operating levy authority.

The author of the twice-reprinted *Executive Positions in Business and Education*, David Landswerk has been a Bush Executive Fellows Program Participant, the recipient of the Columbia University Superintendents Fellowship, the recipient of the 1991 Educational Administrator of the Year Award from the Minnesota Association of Educational Office Professionals and the 1991 Superintendent of the Year Award from the Minneapolis/St. Paul Suburban NAACP.

He has appeared as featured keynote speaker at any number of state and national conventions. Among the groups he has addressed has been the National Association of Life Underwriters, several Fortune 500 companies, state bankers associations and conventions of state superintendents.

David Landswerk retired from the Wayzata superintendence in 1994, but continues to keep a full schedule of public appearances and remains active within the community where he formerly served as superintendent.

Biography based upon information supplied by David Landswerk. Written by LW, December 2003. Approved by David Landswerk, January 20, 2004.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: David Landswerk attributes his commitment to the importance of a strong arts curriculum to the influence of Owatonna orchestra teacher Arnold Krueger and to New Trier-Winnetka Illinois Township superintendent Rod Bickert. He discusses “quality education” in the abstract and then gives specific examples (which are cut from the recording but summarized below.) He ends by describing his own wonderful experience with the Decorah Drum and Bugle Corps.

COMMENTS ON INTERVIEW:

After line 90 a portion of the interview was inadvertently lost. In this paragraph Dr. Landswerk enumerates some of the characteristics of quality education: a high school offering of two years college-level math; a quality orchestra, choir and band; national merit scholars; an international baccalaureate program; an APP program; out-of-the-ordinary language offerings, such as Japanese and Russian.

During the course of the Wayzata elementary string program oral history, Dr. Landswerk’s name comes up many times as an individual who supported elementary strings in Wayzata and in her interview, Helen Loing indicates that one of the reasons Dr. Landswerk decided to come to the Wayzata district was the legendary strength of the string program.

Interview takes place at a table in front of the Caribou Coffee House. As noon approaches, traffic noise becomes increasingly audible.

SOUND RECORDINGS:	User copy: None Original: 1 90-minute audiocassette
LENGTH OF INTERVIEW:	Approximately 7.5 minutes.
RESTRICTIONS ON USE:	none
TRANSCRIPT:	06 pages
ACCESSION NUMBER:	AV2007.12

Interview: Leonard, Kristin
Year: 2001

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Kristin Leonard, with comments by Mary Anne Young

DATE: August 14, 2001

PLACE: The home of Les and Mary Anne Young,
Medicine Lake, Minnesota.

INTERVIEWER: Lynne Weber

PROJECT SERIES: *Wayzata Elementary String Program: An Oral History*

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION:

A native of Minnesota, Kristin (Kip) Leonard attended the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, and earned the Bachelor of Arts in journalism from Metropolitan State University in one of the first classes to graduate from that institution. As an undergraduate Kip worked for Hamline University's news bureau. Later she worked for the St. Paul Companies in St. Paul and following that for Zurich American Insurance Company in Chicago, as a reporter and an editor for employee publications. In 1977, after the arrival of twins Aaron and Joshua, Kip chose to stay at home to care for them and later for Teigen, who was born in 1979.

Kip and Bill Leonard and their young family lived in Shakopee, Minnesota, where the twins started violin at age four, and from there moved to Sydney, Australia, and Toronto, Canada, before returning to Minnesota in 1985. Upon arriving in the Twin Cities area the Leonards chose to live within the Wayzata school district, partially because of the Suzuki method string program which Aaron and Teigen participated in for years. Later Kip and Bill became active volunteers with the secondary school strings and the school district's Fine Arts Council. Today Kip has returned to the work force as an independent editor and curriculum developer/writer.

Biography is based upon information supplied by Kristin Leonard. Written by LW, September, 2003. Approved by Kristin Leonard, 9/21/2003.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED:

Kip Leonard discusses her family's background in Suzuki and the family delight in coming to Wayzata and finding an early childhood string program integrated into the school day. She describes the various tours taken by the high school orchestra, the importance of those opportunities to the entire family and the work of her husband and her as volunteers. She discusses the discipline and quality exemplified by the high school

program and the impact it has had upon the lives of her children. She ends by expressing regret for the cuts and hope for the future of string in Wayzata.

SOUND RECORDINGS:	User copy: None Original: 1 90-minute audiocassette
LENGTH OF INTERVIEW:	Approximately 28.5 minutes.
RESTRICTIONS ON USE:	none
TRANSCRIPT:	15 pages
ACCESSION NUMBER:	AV2007.12

INTERVIEW: Loing, Helen
 YEAR: 2001

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Helen Loing
DATE: January 09, 2001
PLACE: Wayzata Public Library, Wayzata, Minnesota
INTERVIEWER: Lynne Weber

PROJECT SERIES: *Wayzata Elementary String Program: An Oral History*

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: Helen Loing is a native of Minneapolis, Minnesota, and earned the Bachelor of Science in Music Education and the Master of Arts in Musicology degrees from the University of Minnesota. Her instrumental studies centered on violin and among her teachers were Clifton Jackson, Jenny Cullen, and Raphael Druian. Early in her career she was employed in several Minnesota schools, teaching band and vocal music in Orono, and music, choir and geography in Robbinsdale. After the birth of daughters Kari and Inger she became very interested in the Suzuki method of early childhood education and attended the American Suzuki Institute in Stevens Point, Wisconsin, with her children who were beginning string study in the Wayzata School District. Helen was persuaded to fill the elementary string position in Wayzata in early 1975 following the sudden death of Gloria Chell in the fall of 1974.

During her twenty years within the Wayzata district through the collaboration of Helen, Barbara Lamb and Sandra Haines the elementary string program expanded several times over and was transformed to combine the strengths of the Suzuki method with the advantages of traditional string pedagogy. At this time Helen was extremely active with the Suzuki Associations of the Americas, where she served as a member of the Public School Committee and as a clinician at the American Suzuki Institute for twelve years. Nationally known for her role in an immensely successful public school program, Helen was chosen Minnesota ASTA (American String Teachers Association) Outstanding Music Educator of the Year in 1993.

Since her retirement, Helen and her husband Ole have pursued a wide array of interests, including bicycling, skiing, birding and Norwegian folk arts but presently grandparenting is undoubtedly the activity that brings them the greatest joy.

Biography is based upon information supplied by Helen Loing. Written by LW, July 2003. Approved by HL, July 30, 2003.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Helen reviews some of the early history of Wayzata elementary strings, describes the circumstances of her coming and the structure of the program at various points during her career. She talks about the advantages of the Suzuki method in the schools, the difficulties, the modifications that were devised and the

struggles during various school board cuts. Helen describes the work of colleagues Barb Lamb, Sandra Haines and the parents of children within the program, and the impact the string program had within her own family. Because she holds a strong belief in the immense value of early music education in the life of the child, the interview is filled with heartening stories. The spirit of the interview reflects Helen's summary of her career, "My job was just unbelievably fulfilling."

COMMENTS ON INTERVIEW:

1. Helen follows the interview script, which she received ahead of time, closely and often refers to it during the interview.
2. At the conclusion of the interview Helen offered a copy of concert program given for MMEA, Minnesota Music Educators Association, February 17, 1979 with a description of Wayzata elementary strings program, a copy of a description of the Wayzata strings program written in 1982 for the school board and a letter from Susan Vaughan, Music Specialist, Minnesota State Department of Education (02-22-1979).
3. In the paragraph beginning on line 25 Helen describes a conversation with Ted Hughart, one of the first elementary string teachers in the Wayzata School District:

"One day I was coming out of the Birchview School and in the parking lot I met Ted Hughart who had come to see me. ...I knew him from the University of Minnesota, where he was one of my classmates. He said, 'Do you know that I taught here in Wayzata Schools back when I first started teaching and came out of the University system?' And I'm figuring that would have been in the 1950s, probably 1956, when he would have graduated from the University. He said he was the first string teacher in Wayzata Schools. That's something that needs to be checked..."

Helen's statement is at odds with the resume Ted offered at the time of the interview and information contained within the Hughart interview. Ted Hughart says:

"I was approached by Howard Bergstrom [Wayzata Public Schools – Director of Instruction] in the fall of 1963 because they had wanted to establish a supply line of young string players to keep the secondary orchestra busy and fuller, hopefully. So they hired me as their first.." [HUGH A006]

According to the Hughart resume Ted received a Bachelor of Arts degree in music from the University of Minnesota in 1957 and returned to earn a degree in music education in 1963 and at this time he was invited to Wayzata Public Schools, where he established and taught in an elementary string program. Helen may not have been aware that Ted returned to the University for his teaching degree after he received his Bachelor's degree.

SOUND RECORDINGS:

User copy: None
Original: 1 90-minute audiocassette

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW: Approximately 83 minutes.

RESTRICTIONS ON USE: none

TRANSCRIPT: 35 pages

ACCESSION NUMBER: AV2007.12

INTERVIEW: Trewick, Michael
 YEAR: 2001

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Michael Trewick
DATE: September 10, 2001
PLACE: Principal's office, East Middle School, Plymouth, MN
INTERVIEWER: Lynne Weber

PROJECT SERIES: *Wayzata Elementary String Program: An Oral History*

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION: Mike Trewick holds certification as a Business Manager, a Superintendent of Schools and holds a Business Education minor. He has taught physical education at the elementary and secondary levels along with driver's education and has served as head basketball and baseball coach for 12 years. Mike was a high school principal in Garden City, Minnesota, was assistant principal and athletic director in Sartell, Minnesota for five years and worked as an activities director for 4 years. In St. Cloud, Minnesota, he served as elementary principal in a K-6 building for two years before coming to Wayzata where he first spent five years as principal at Birchview Elementary and afterwards became principal of East Middle School, where at the time of this writing, he is entering his fourth year. In addition, he coached and taught at St. Cloud State University for one year.

Biography based upon information contained within interview and from information supplied by Michael Trewick. Written by LW, August 2003. Approved by MT, August 15, 2003.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED: Mike Trewick gives some insight into his own background in public education and discusses the Wayzata elementary strings program, which was based at Birchview Elementary where Mike was formerly principal. He talks about the high quality of the program, the difficulties inherent in any school specialist program when it is necessary to pull children from class, the controversy regarding the string program and digital days, the program's parent attendance requirement and the contributions, high visibility and power of the Wayzata String Boosters. Finally, he describes a little of the work of the Fine Arts Committee, discontinuing the kindergarten level of strings and finally the drastic budget cut in the spring of 2001, which led to the elimination of the elementary string and band programs.

COMMENTS ON INTERVIEW: The interview is interrupted for about fifteen minutes so that Mike can attend a meeting within the building.

SOUND RECORDINGS: **User copy:** None
Original: 1 90-minute audiocassette

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW: Approximately 32 minutes.
RESTRICTIONS ON USE: none
TRANSCRIPT: 13 pages
ACCESSION NUMBER: AV2007.12

INTERVIEW: Urke, Susan
YEAR: 2001

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Susan Urke
DATE: February 18, 2001
PLACE: Urke home, Plymouth, Minnesota
INTERVIEWER: Lynne Weber

PROJECT SERIES: *Wayzata Elementary String Program: An Oral History*

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION:

Sue Urke received a degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Minnesota in 1985. She worked for 3M in new product development until her first set of twins were born in 1993.

Her involvement with Wayzata Strings started when her daughters started Kindergarten and continued until the program was discontinued after their second grade year. During this time she volunteered, assisting with group rehearsals and other Strings activities.

After Wayzata Strings ended, her children continued their music education in a private Suzuki program. Additionally, her three younger children started in this program at the age of four. Sue is currently very involved in the Suzuki strings training of all five of her children.

Biography was written by Sue Urke and submitted to LW August 28, 2003.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED:

Susan Urke describes the involvement of her oldest two children in the Wayzata elementary string program, the many advantages and strengths of the program, including the accommodation of different learning styles found between her two daughters, and the delight of her children as they grow as musicians and have opportunities to play in group lessons, in orchestra, in mass concerts and in solo recitals. Several times during the interview she refers to the impact that the program has had upon her entire family and expresses her hope for similar opportunities in the public school for her three younger children.

COMMENTS ON INTERVIEW:

When Lynne Weber arrived at the Urke home on a Sunday afternoon, Sarah and Lauren each welcomed her by playing solos. Afterwards, Sarah, Lauren, Amanda and the twin boys left the house with their father, Brian, while LW and Susan participated in the interview.

SOUND RECORDINGS:

User copy: None

Original: 1 90-minute audiocassette

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW:

Approximately 30 minutes.

RESTRICTIONS ON USE:

none

TRANSCRIPT:

13 pages

ACCESSION NUMBER:

AV2007.12

INTERVIEW: Young, Elizabeth
YEAR: 2001

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Elizabeth Young
DATE: August 14, 2001
PLACE: The home of Les and Mary Anne Young, Medicine Lake,
Minnesota
INTERVIEWER: Lynne Weber

PROJECT SERIES: *Wayzata Elementary String Program: An Oral History*

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION:

Elizabeth Young, the daughter of Les and Mary Anne Young, is the fourth of the family's five children, all of whom attended Redeemer Lutheran School through grade eight, transferred and graduated from Wayzata High School. Elizabeth began studying violin at age four and was a part of the Wayzata public school string program from kindergarten through high school. In addition to music opportunities provided by the public school she studied violin privately, attended the American Suzuki Institute at Stevens Point, Wisconsin, and was a member of the family string quartet. Elizabeth began her college studies at the University of Minnesota, where she played in the general orchestra, and now is a nursing student at the University of Montana, where she has played her violin in a band as part of the campus ministry.

Biography is based upon information obtained during the interview. Written by LW, January 12, 2003. Approved by Elizabeth Young, January 1, 2004.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED:

Elizabeth Young describes her background as a student at Redeemer Lutheran, a parochial school, and the opportunity she and her siblings had to be a part of the Wayzata string program from kindergarten through high school. Elizabeth reflects upon the many ways the string program enhanced her education and life. Her mother, Mary Anne Young, describes the intricate schedule that her family established each year so that the children could participate fully in the Wayzata elementary string program while being absent from their home school as little as possible. This interview offers a close look at the commitment required by one parent to assure that her family had the opportunity to partake of a remarkable public school offering.

SOUND RECORDINGS: **User copy:** None
Original: 1 90-minute audiocassette

[Interview begins on cassette side A, Tape counter #215, using Marantz Model PMD 201 Tape Recorder. Interview with Leah Young precedes on same cassette tape, side A.]

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW: Approximately 17 minutes.
RESTRICTIONS ON USE: none
TRANSCRIPT: 11 pages
ACCESSION NUMBER: AV2007.12

Interview: Young, Leah
 Year: 2001

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Leah Young. At one point Mary Anne Young supplies information.
DATE: August 14, 2001
PLACE: The home of Les & Mary Anne Young in Medicine Lake, Minnesota.
INTERVIEWER: Lynne Weber
PROJECT SERIES: *Wayzata Elementary String Program: An Oral History*

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION:

Leah Young, age eighteen at the time of the interview, is the youngest of five children of Les and Mary Anne Young. Along with the other children in the family, Leah attended Redeemer Lutheran School through the eighth grade while participating in the Wayzata string program. As a preschooler she accompanied her mother to the lessons of her older siblings, and at Leah's request her mother started her on violin at age three. Helen Loing invited Leah to participate in school lessons at age four, prior to kindergarten, since she was always present when her mother attended the beginner's class with older sister Elizabeth. As a result, Leah may have participated in the string program longer than anyone else in the district, having been a part of the program from pre-school through grade twelve.

Leah participated in the Chamber Orchestra at Wayzata High School, attended the American Suzuki Institute at Stevens Point, Wisconsin several times, studied violin privately and was a member of the family string quartet. In addition to music activities, during high school Leah was an active participant in soccer, cross-country running and skiing.

She is currently at the University of Montana, Missoula where she is majoring in Journalism.

Biography is based upon information obtained during the interview and from Mary Anne Young. Written by LW, October 14, 2003. Approved by Leah Young, December 31, 2003.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED:

Leah discusses her early start in strings and her music activities, within and outside of the school district, indicates the high priority that string program participation had in the Young family, and describes the importance of the early start. She indicates that very meaningful parts of the string experience for her have been the ensemble tours and the family string quartet.

SOUND RECORDINGS:

User copy: None

Original: 1 90-minute audiocassette

LENGTH OF INTERVIEW:

Approximately 10 minutes.

RESTRICTIONS ON USE:

none

TRANSCRIPT:

10 pages

ACCESSION NUMBER:

AV2007.12

INTERVIEW: Young, Mary Anne
YEAR: 2001

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEW

NAME: Mary Anne Young
DATE: August 14, 2001
PLACE: The home of Les and Mary Anne Young, Medicine Lake, Minnesota.
INTERVIEWER: Lynne Weber
PROJECT SERIES: *Wayzata Elementary String Program: An Oral History*

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION:

Mary Anne Young and her husband Les are the parents of five children--Matt, Therese, Sarah, Elizabeth and Leah--all of whom attended Redeemer Lutheran School through eighth grade while participating fully in the Wayzata elementary and junior high string programs. This full-family string participation represented a complicated matrix for Mary Anne, who was responsible for transportation along with overseeing practice and listening. In addition to managing her family's schedule, Mary Anne served as an accompanist for the elementary repertoire classes for many years along with taking on many tasks as a parent volunteer for Wayzata Orchestra Boosters.

The Young family has a standing tradition of playing in a church orchestra at Christmas time, with Mary Anne serving as conductor. An ensemble made up of the Young daughters has offered music at family reunions and weddings, including the marriages of their cousin and brother. In Mary Anne's words, "The finest elements of musicianship, listening, developing the ability and desire to focus and concentrate have enhanced every aspect of our lives. We thank the Wayzata Public Schools, our excellent string faculty and Dr. Suzuki for making this happen."

Les works in the Insurance Industry, and is currently with The Hayes Group in Minneapolis. Mary Anne is currently Mayor of the City of Medicine Lake, and an active volunteer at Ascension School in north Minneapolis. Mary Anne enjoys playing the Suzuki piano accompaniments for her grandchildren Isaac (3 1/2) and Luke & Katherine (17 months) while they all play rhythm instruments. Suzuki lessons are in the near future for the next generation!

Biography written by Mary Anne Young and LW September 24, 2003.

SUBJECTS DISCUSSED:

Mary Anne Young describes the involvement of her five children in the Wayzata string program and the impact the program had upon the life of the family. She talks about their music activities, the practice routine, music study innovations, home recitals, and her own heavy involvement as a repertoire class accompanist and parent volunteer. The many

manifestations of string study in the life of the family represented a juggling act for her as a parent, since she was primarily responsible for considerable transport and also home practice. Finally, she describes the lives of her grown family in the present, and the role that music still plays for the children.

SOUND RECORDINGS:	User copy: None Original: 1 90-minute audiocassette
LENGTH OF INTERVIEW:	Approximately 21.5 minutes.
RESTRICTIONS ON USE:	none
TRANSCRIPT:	16 pages
ACCESSION NUMBER:	AV2007.12