



**Suzuki Association of the Americas**  
 Board of Directors Meeting  
*September 14, 2025*  
 Scheduled for 8:00-10:30AM PST  
 Zoom

Board Members	Staff	Guests
<b>Present:</b> Lynne Oliverius, Chair Ingrid Tung, Chair Elect Ching-Yi Lin, Secretary Kirk Cullimore, Treasurer Araceli Hackbarth Geoffrey Hill April Losey Edward Kreitman Leslie Mizrahi Nancy Modell Joseph Rogot Bruce Walker Angelica Cortez, <i>Ex officio</i>	<b>Absent:</b> Angelica Cortez, Executive Director	

	AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTIONS TAKEN
1	Call to Order & Attendance		Meeting called to order at 8:02AM PT by Lynne Oliverius, Chair
2	Approval of Agenda		Agenda Approved.
3	Approval of Minutes from May 21, 2025	Minutes approved by email: July 22, 2025	April Losey moved to approve the minutes. Bruce Walker seconded. Minutes Approved.
4	Executive Director/ISA Report (Angelica Cortez)	Course Fees: Teacher Development Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Importance of the SAA Teacher Development Program</li> <li>● Original Intent of the course structure</li> <li>● Impact of the pandemic and online training</li> </ul>	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion of changes</li> </ul> <p>Fee updates to simplify the registration process.</p> <p>Shared a plan for fee structure change by FY 2027.</p> <p><b>ISA Updates</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New ISA ED to be announced soon</li> </ul> <p>Publication committee (Angelica Cortez on committee)</p> <p><b>Key Activities for QI</b></p> <p>Conference: Key sponsors Fundraising (year-end, campaign, and other opportunities). Future thinking: Student activities</p>	
5	Combine and Change of Committee	Development and Communications Committees vote to combine into one committee and change the name to Development and Marketing Committee	Leslie Mizrahi moves to merge the committees together and change the name to Development and Marketing Committee. Geoffrey Hill seconded. Motion Approved.
6	Countries Committee (Araceli Hackbarth)	<p>SAA Countries' Committee works to bring more representation to Latin American Countries and Canada</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognition of Countries Association</li> <li>• Improve SAA's communication with Countries Association</li> </ul> <p>The Committee has been working on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Hosted an online meeting, Sept. 7, 2025 for over 150 participants from all Latin America Countries. These members came together to strengthen the partnership between SAA and the Committee of the Suzuki Organization of Latin America (in attendance were Angelica Cortez, ED, and</li> </ol>	

		<p>Lynne Oliverius, SAA chair, Nancy Modell, board member)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. The possibility of hosting an SAA event outside the United States, considering the pros and cons, and potential dates.</li> <li>3. A preliminary document for the officialization of the Suzuki Organization in Latin America and Canada. This document will merge with the chapter documents.</li> </ol> <p>Future goals: unifying the pedagogical system, acquisition of books and other materials for Latin America and Canada, and improving scholarship applications.</p>	
7	Development and Marketing Committee (April Losey)	Meeting is scheduled on Sept 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2025. Updates will be provided at the next Board Meeting.	
8	Governance Committee (Ingrid Tung)	<p>Committee will regularly review bylaws, conflicts of interest letter, strategic plan, etc. The first meeting was held on August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025.</p> <p>The committee will present a revision of documents for the Board to review at the in-person Board meeting in San Francisco.</p>	
9	Finance Committee (Kirk Cullimore)	A meeting is scheduled for Oct. 2, 2025. More detailed report to come at the next Board Meeting.	
10	Nominating Committee (Ingrid Tung)	Nominating committee will lead the recruiting and vetting of individuals to serve on the SAA and Honorary Board. A meeting is scheduled for Sept. 17, 2025. More detailed report to come at the next Board meeting.	

7	Strategic Planning Committee (Lynne Oliverius)	The next committee meeting is scheduled for Nov. 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 2025. Report to follow at the next Board Meeting.	
8	SAA 2026 Biennial Conference Hilton Union Square, San Francisco	<p>Board Meeting focused days are February 24 Noon-5:00pm, and February 25 9-5:00pm PT.</p> <p>Conference Award Discussions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Creating Learning Community Award (SAA office will work on advertising this award more).</li> <li>2. Distinguished Young Teacher Award</li> <li>3. Board members will help seek sponsors for awards.</li> </ol>	
9	Strategic Plan Focus	<p>Discussion to approve the Strategic Plan Vision, Mission and Values Statements <u>Priorities, Goals, and Objectives for:</u> Teacher Development Member Outreach Engagement Events Community Building Brand Awareness Governance Performance</p> <p>Discussion on possible date(s) to announcement this new strategic plan to the membership, ways to announce the new plan (SAA journal, Short Score, updating the website, etc.), avenues for membership to understand and ask questions (the conference, online session as part of We are Suzuki, General Meeting, etc.), and ways to ask membership to help SAA implement the plan. Talking points will be prepared for Board members by early November to aid in the discussion of the Strategic Plan with members.</p>	Geoffrey Hill moves to adopt our new Strategic Plan. Bruce Walker second. Motion Approved.
10	Meeting adjourned.		Meeting adjourned at 10:14AM

			<i>PT</i>
--	--	--	-----------

Ching-Yi Lin, Secretary

Minutes Approved on October 1, 2025