



This handbook is a resource for Suzuki families as they prepare for participation at Blue Lake Suzuki Family Camp. It provides practical information relating to packing and other preparations, camp life, and what to expect upon arrival and departure. Please take the time to review these materials, and contact the registrar or Blue Lake with any concerns or questions. Download this PDF to save as a reference.

Thank you, and we look forward to seeing you soon!

Helpful Contacts

Anne Kearney-Looman, Registrar	suzuki@bluelake.org
BettyAnne Gottlieb, Program Director	gottlibe@ucmail.uc.edu
Gerardo Ascheri, Piano Coordinator	gercelasch@gmail.com
Marla Smith, String Chamber Music Coordinator	marla@pharmerjeff.com
Scott Hardy, Campus Coordinator	scott@hardyelectric.com
Blue Lake Administrative Offices	Blue Lake Administration
	(231) 894-1966 or (800) 221-3796

Table of Contents

UPCOMING DEADLINES.....	2	SWIMMING POOL HOURS	7
2024 REVIEW REPERTOIRE	2	TEACHER TRAINEE INFORMATION	8
CAMP LIFE	2	MORE ABOUT BLUE LAKE	8
IMPORTANT POLICIES	3	MORE ABOUT BLUE LAKE (CONTINUED)	9
SUGGESTED PACKING LIST	3	CAMPING AT BLUE LAKE	9
ITEMS FOR LESSONS AND PRACTICE	3	LAST DAY SCHEDULE	9
ARRIVAL AND FIRST DAY	4	FOR THOSE ATTENDING BOTH SESSIONS	10
SCHEDULE - FIRST DAY	4	CAMPUS HEALTH AND SAFETY.....	10
SPECIAL ACTIVITIES	5	HEALTH SERVICES	11
SPECIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)	6	EMERGENCY PROCEDURES.....	12
MEALTIMES.....	6	AFTERNOON RECITAL PARTICIPATION	13
TROUBLESHOOTING AND COMMUNICATION.....	6	CAMP MAP	14
RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES.....	7	MAP KEY	15

Upcoming Deadlines

- April 1: Scholarship applications due.
- May 1: Last day to register for chamber music, piano, or strings.
- May 15: Balance due.
- May 15: String chamber music recordings and questionnaires returned to Marla Smith.
- May 15: Last day to update repertoire.
- June 1: Recital request forms returned; this is a firm deadline.

2024 Review Repertoire

Review repertoire should be prepared ahead of arrival at camp. The 2024 Review List can be found at <https://bluelake.org/suzuki/repertoire/>. Share this list with your private instructor(s) and have the review repertoire memorized and ready for use at camp.

Camp Life

The Environment

The environment at Blue Lake is rustic. We are surrounded by beautiful trees, a small lake, and simple buildings. The active campus spans more than 400 acres, with sandy foot trails and paths through the forest. The weather can vary wildly; evening lows can range from 40 - 65 while day highs can range from 65 - 95. Check the forecast for Twin Lake before you come to camp to make sure you're prepared!

A Word about the Woods

We are surrounded by wilderness in every direction; therefore, we enjoy a wide variety of bugs and critters. During the summer months, most wildlife stays far away from the hustle and bustle of daily camp activities. However, campers should be careful to follow our guidelines for storing snack foods (in sealable plastic containers) to keep unwanted guests from entering the cabin. Also, make sure to pack and use insect repellent daily to avoid bites from mosquitoes, spiders, flies, bees, and other creepy-crawlies.

Your Cabin

Cabins and facilities are rustic. Cabins have cot-sized beds and bunks and simple shelving. The cot-sized beds are slightly narrower than a standard twin size. We ask that you do not move furniture between cabins. Cribs are not available. Cabins have electricity, but do not have heat or air conditioning. Campfire rings are available nearby. Your cabin will be in a unit with other cabins having the same facilities. *Laundry facilities* are located in each unit. Bring your own laundry detergent.

You will have a 10- to 15-minute walk to classes as well as a 5- to 10-minute walk between classes.

Important Policies

- Bicycles are allowed; please wear helmets and be respectful of pedestrians.
- Pedestrians have the right-of-way on all footpaths.
- Campfires are permitted in designated campfire rings only.
- Campers under the age of ten should always be accompanied by an adult.
- We observe Quiet Hours after 9:30 pm throughout the camp.
- This is a non-smoking family camp. Marijuana and vaping products are not permitted.
- No pets allowed on campus.
- Do not charge electric vehicles on the camp. The closest charging station is at McCormick's at the 31 / Russell Road exit, approximately 5 miles from camp. Other nearby charging stations can be found at <https://www.plugshare.com/directory/us/michigan/muskegon>.

Suggested Packing List

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bedding: sleeping bags, pillows, mattress pads, extra blankets | <input type="checkbox"/> Bathing suits, beach towels, sunscreen |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Camping chairs, small throw rugs, other camping gear | <input type="checkbox"/> Indoor activities (cards, games, books, activity books, etc.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clothes (pack layers for the weather) | <input type="checkbox"/> Sealable plastic containers for food and snack storage |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bath towels, washcloths, and bathmat | <input type="checkbox"/> Rain gear |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Portable fan | <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor recreation gear (fun family games, outdoor activities, balls, Frisbees) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Comfortable walking shoes | <input type="checkbox"/> Camping lanterns, flashlights, reading lights |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Toiletry items, shower caddy | <input type="checkbox"/> Insect repellent |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Camping supplies (campfire items, handy cleaning supplies, etc.) | <input type="checkbox"/> First aid kit with digital thermometer |

Items for Lessons and Practice

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Your instrument, labeled with a nametag | <input type="checkbox"/> Current lesson music, notebook, tote bag |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Suzuki recordings and a listening device | <input type="checkbox"/> Extra strings, metronome, pencils |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pianists: footstool and / or piano bench pad labeled with your name, if necessary | <input type="checkbox"/> Cellists: stool labeled with your name |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Portable music stand |

Arrival and First Day

Prior to Arrival

Monitor your family's health just prior to arrival. If anyone has symptoms of a contagious illness or has been diagnosed with a contagious illness, contact Health Services at (800) 221-3796, x288 or healthservices@bluelake.org for guidance. To ensure you are COVID-free, we recommend that you take an at-home test one to two days before camp. Participants will be asked to complete a brief online health screening prior to arrival.

Assist your child / children in preparing the Review Repertoire. The 2024 Review List can be found at <https://bluelake.org/suzuki/repertoire/>.

Check-in

Attend Check-in before moving into your cabin or campsite.

RV drivers must meet a Blue Lake staff member for site location upon arrival.

First Individual Lesson

Each student will be asked to play a polished piece as a solo at the first individual lesson class. This will provide a means for the teacher and student to get acquainted musically and give the teacher a basis for choosing a student for the Evening Recital.

First Orchestra Rehearsal

All orchestras meet the first afternoon at 4:45 or 5:20 pm. This extra rehearsal will not be on the regular daily schedule. It will be indicated on your check-in packet.

Find Your Recital Assignment

For those who chose to participate in an Afternoon Recital, programs will be posted in Marek Hall North on the bulletin board. Please check the programs to see which location, day, and time your student will perform. If your child is chosen to play in the Evening Recital, we ask that your child *not* play in an afternoon program. See [page 13](#) for the recital request form.

Schedule - First Day

8:30 – 10:45 am Check-in. Allow sufficient time for arrival, check-in, move-in, and walking to the shell by 11:00 am.

11:00 am Orientation, Stewart Shell

11:30 am – 12:45 pm .. Lunch, Marek Hall North

1:00 pm Classes begin

4:45 pm Young Readers' Orchestra

5:20 pm Haydn Orchestra

5:20 pm Mozart Orchestra

5:45 - 6:45 pm Dinner, Marek Hall North

7:00 pm Play-ins (*all students*) various locations

Special Activities

Session 1, June 16-19

Parent / Teacher Discussion Groups

Monday, 4:45 pm Arens

Tuesday, 4:45 pm Arens

Student Solo Recitals

Monday & Tuesday, 4:45 pm

Locations posted at Marek Hall North

Parent Orchestra

Monday, 4:45 pm

Marek 125

A “for fun” chance to play your instrument in a group, just sight-reading, no performance, all instruments.

Faculty Concert

Monday, 7:00 pm

Stewart Shell

T-shirt Day

Tuesday, wear your home Suzuki program t-shirt if you have one.

Camp Photo

Tuesday, 12:30 pm

Stewart Shell seating area

Piano Chamber Music Concert

Tuesday, 4:45 pm

Kresge

Student Evening Recital

Tuesday, 7:00 pm

Stewart Shell (Well-prepared students are chosen by their camp instructors to perform.)

Final Concerts & Final Piano Solo Recital

Wednesday starting at 1:00 pm

Session 2, June 20-23

Parent / Teacher Discussion Groups

Friday, 4:45 pm Arens

Saturday, 4:45 pm Arens

Student Solo Recitals

Friday & Saturday, 4:45 pm

Locations posted at Marek Hall North

Parent Orchestra

Friday, 4:45 pm

Marek 125

A “for fun” chance to play your instrument in a group, just sight-reading, no performance, all instruments.

Faculty Concert

Friday, 7:00 pm

Stewart Shell

T-shirt Day

Saturday, wear your home Suzuki program t-shirt if you have one.

Camp Photo

Saturday, 12:30 pm

Stewart Shell seating area

Piano Chamber Music Concert

Saturday, 4:45 pm

Kresge

Student Evening Recital

Saturday, 7:00 pm

Stewart Shell (Well-prepared students are chosen by their camp instructors to perform.)

Final Concerts & Final Piano Solo Recital

Sunday starting at 1:00 pm

Special Activities (continued)

Afternoon Recitals are an optional, additional performance opportunity (all piano students perform in a solo recital the last day of camp). Recitals take place on second and third afternoons of camp at 4:45 pm. They do not interfere with scheduled classes. To ensure a good experience for all participants, we must have your home teacher's approval for your child to participate. There are no rehearsals for these recitals. Recital programs will be posted on the message board in Marek Hall the first day of camp. Check these programs to find the day and location of your child's performance. Students performing non-Suzuki repertoire must bring their own piano accompaniment and get this music to the assigned accompanist as early as possible. (Posted programs indicate assigned accompanists.) One piece or movement per student. **No requests for changes in repertoire. Students attending two sessions on the same instrument may sign-up for one recital only.**

Drop-in Eclectic Styles sessions for interested string players are available several times each day. Any family member who plays an instrument, especially guitar or bass, is welcome to join in our fun learning and jamming sessions.

Drop-in Dalcroze Eurhythmics sessions for interested students are available several times each day. Dalcroze Education is a playful, experiential approach to teaching and learning music. It is a process for awakening, developing, and refining innate musicality through rhythmic movement (often called eurhythmics), ear-training, and improvisation.

The Parent Orchestra meets for one hour during each session; time and place will be posted on the bulletin board in Marek Hall North. Any instrument is welcome, even percussion!

Mealtimes

Breakfast	7:45 - 8:45 am
Lunch	11:30 am - 12:45 pm
Dinner.....	5:45 - 6:45 pm

(Also see [More About Blue Lake, Dining Facilities](#) on page 8.)

Troubleshooting and Communication

Suzuki Headquarters are set up inside Marek Hall North just inside the west door. BettyAnne Gottlieb and Scott Hardy are usually in this area at mealtimes if you need assistance. Scott can often be found here throughout the day. Check the bulletin board in Marek North daily for important information.

BettyAnne Gottlieb, Program Director – (517) 256-4409

Scott Hardy, Campus Coordinator – (989) 225-8227

Recreational Activities

Family time is an important part of Blue Lake Suzuki Family Camp. Our extra recreational activities are often initiated and run by family members.

Arts and Crafts in the Art Barn

The Art Barn tends to be a popular place. We covet volunteer assistance from teenagers and adults who can find an hour or two to help things run smoothly. There will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the cafeteria. We greatly appreciate donated supplies ranging from popsicle sticks, white paper plates, white coffee filters, pipe cleaners, pom poms, cardboard, construction paper, paintbrushes, glue, and Q-tips to strange, donated supplies. The program has always thrived with strange, donated supplies. If you have something in bulk that you have no use for, please bring it and we will come up with a project (plastic tubes, stickers, folders, etc.). *Children 5 and younger must be accompanied by an adult or person at least 12 years old.*

Athletic Activities

Play games such as soccer and Frisbee in specified areas only. There are basketball courts, gaga ball pits, volleyball nets and ping pong tables on the campus. Check the bulletin board in Marek Hall for planned athletic activities.

Swimming

Everyone must have his or her name badge at the swimming pool. Children under the age of 12 must be accompanied by an adult in the pool area. Follow the rules of the pool and lifeguard.

The Lakefront

The lakefront is available for sand play and wading. Parents must provide supervision of their own children. No lifeguard will be on duty outside the fenced-in swimming pool area. No boats on the lake. Fishing is allowed from the shore only. There is limited access to the lake.

Swimming Pool Hours

Session 1	Session 2
Sunday 12:30 – 5:30 pm	Thursday 12:30 – 5:30 pm
Monday 10:00 – 11:30 am 12:30 – 5:30 pm	Friday 10:00 – 11:30 am 12:30 – 5:30 pm
Tuesday 10:00 – 11:30 am 12:30 – 5:30 pm	Saturday 10:00 – 11:30 am 12:30 – 5:30 pm
Wednesday 10:00 - 11:30 am	Sunday 10:00 - 11:30 am

Teacher Trainee Information

The Cello Book 1 and Violin Book 1 teacher training courses will start Friday, June 15th at 3:00 pm. For those with meal plans, dinner is served from 5:45 - 6:15 pm on the 15th. The June 19th dinner is a picnic at Lake Michigan.

Arrive between 1:00 and 2:00 pm to give yourself time to get settled. During the rest of the session, you will have approximately 5 hours of classes and / or observation each day. 100% attendance is required.

Make certain you have completed all the prerequisites for the class:

- SAA membership
- ECC Class taken and registered with the SAA
- Audition submitted and approved
- *Nurtured by Love* read ahead of time

More About Blue Lake

The Happy Camper

[The Happy Camper](#), Blue Lake's camp store and snack bar, offers a variety of basic camping supplies, toiletries, necessities, Suzuki materials, musical supplies, souvenirs, and snacks.

Dining Facilities

The camp serves meals in Marek Hall North. A menu will be provided upon arrival. Dining consists of well-balanced, cafeteria-style meals served three times daily by a professional food service staff. In addition to hot entrees and side dishes (vegetarian options available), salads, proteins, fruit, and breads are offered at each meal. Beverages include milk, juice, punch, water, tea, and coffee. We provide limited gluten-free and dairy-free options as a menu supplement for participants with those dietary needs. While we work to greatly limit some common allergens, such as peanuts and tree nuts, there is not a separate allergen-free menu or food preparation area in our kitchen. Contact healthservices@bluelake.org for more information, menus, and ingredients lists.

Families are responsible for taking care of trays after meals, and for helping to keep the community dining space tidy. There are picnic tables throughout the camp for those wishing to take meals outdoors.

Important Note: *We are no longer able to offer the purchase of individual meals for participants or visitors. Please plan accordingly.*

Health Lodge

The Health Lodge, in Central Park, offers basic first-aid services to campers in residence. The Health Staff, available 24 hours a day, can assist with basic needs, as well as serve as emergency response should circumstances dictate. If you have a specific medical problem the Health Staff should be aware of, please notify them upon arrival at camp. For more serious medical attention, there is Trinity Health Medical Group, Primary Care-Whitehall at 905 Colby Rd. (Also see [Health Services](#) on page 11.)

More About Blue Lake (continued)

Restrooms

Restrooms are not always as marked on the map. We are a co-ed camp. Restrooms are marked in each unit.

Public restrooms are available at Marek Hall, Kresge Lodge, Sleepy Hollow, camper pools, and the path between Marek Hall and Camp Sousa, near the shell.

Lost-and-Found

The camp is not responsible for lost or stolen items. However, the camp does maintain a Lost-and-Found. If an item is missing after your stay, use the form at this link to notify us <https://bluelake.org/lostandfound>. We will make every attempt to locate your item and return it to you. Make sure that all belongings are clearly marked with your camper's name. Limited-value items such as perishables, toiletries, single socks, etc. will be discarded at the end of the session. All other items will be held for 30 days after the end of the session. Unclaimed items will be donated to local charities after that time.

Camping At Blue Lake

RV Camping

Numbered sites are reserved for RVs and camping trailers only. Sites have electricity (20-amp / 120-volt duplex receptacle) and picnic tables. Bring a heavy-gauge extension cord for your own use. A 50-amp to 20-amp adapter plug will likely be needed for larger, more sophisticated RVs.

Tent Camping

There are no numbered sites for tent camping. No electricity or picnic tables are available. At check-in, tent-campers may upgrade to a numbered trailer site, paying the additional fee, if a site is available. This is on a first come, first served basis. *This must be done at check-in on the first day of camp!*

Camping Areas

Camp Bernstein has 6 numbered sites (B1 - B6) for RVs and trailers. Each site has electricity, water hookup, and a picnic table. There is no tent-camping at Camp Bernstein.

Camp Niblock has 10 numbered sites (N1 - N10) for RVs and trailers. Each site has electricity and a picnic table. Water is available at Niblock Lodge. Restrooms and showers are in Niblock Lodge. Tent-campers can choose any area to set up their campsites. Please be aware of roadways and parking areas. Most tent-campers set up around Niblock Lodge.

Sousa Field has 6 numbered sites (S1 - S6) for RVs and trailers. Each site has electricity and a picnic table. Water is available in the area. Tent-campers can choose any area around the perimeter of the field to set up their campsites. The field is used for soccer and other games during the day. Campers at Camp Sousa use the restrooms and showers in a neighboring housing unit.

Last Day Schedule

Please clean your cabins and move out by 11:00 am. Breakfast and lunch are served for those with meal plans. String chamber music concerts begin at 12:20 pm. Piano recitals begin at 1:15 pm. String concerts run from 1:00 - 4:00 pm.

For Those Attending Both Sessions

You may remain in your assigned housing between sessions. There is a picnic dinner at Lake Michigan between the two sessions. You will need to sign up ahead of time in Marek Hall.

Campus Health and Safety

Blue Lake Health Services provides general care and first-aid, support for off-site care, and emergency care on a 24/7 schedule to those within our camp community. Our staff works to keep our campus healthy by adhering to standard practices under the supervision of our consulting physicians, on-site medical professionals, and Director of Health Services. Participants are expected to do their part to keep our community healthy by practicing healthy habits such as maintaining good hygiene, staying hydrated, making balanced nutritional choices, monitoring personal health, seeking treatment if needed, and following the expectations below.

Blue Lake aims to minimize contagious illness, including COVID-19, by following current guidelines for summer camps and schools, as well as taking appropriate measures for our unique community.

Expectations for Members of the Camp Community

- Participants are encouraged to be up to date with all routine vaccinations, including Influenza and COVID-19.
- Monitor your family's health just prior to arrival. If anyone has symptoms of illness or has been diagnosed with a contagious illness, contact Health Services at (800) 221-3796, x288 or healthservices@bluelake.org for guidance.
- Monitor your family's health daily while at camp. Contact the Health Staff and do not attend activities if any member of your family is experiencing symptoms of illness.

Health Services

First Aid and Routine Care

Blue Lake's Health Lodge is in Central Park, next to Marek Hall. Our Health Staff comprises nurses, emergency responders, and other certified personnel who are on call 24 hours per day to assist with medical needs.

- You can call the Health Lodge at (231) 894-1966, x488. **Put this number in your cell phone before arriving at camp.**
- Children under the age of 10 should be accompanied by an adult for treatment.

Emergency Treatment

If you have a medical emergency, contact the Blue Lake Health Staff. They will respond immediately. You can also seek treatment off campus at Trinity Health Hospital. Directions are listed below.

If an Ambulance Is Necessary

Should your emergency require an ambulance, allow our staff to help make that determination and provide emergency care while calling for assistance. Blue Lake is in a remote area (15+ minutes for ambulance to arrive), and our staff is trained and equipped to handle emergency care.

Off-Campus Emergency Care

Trinity Health Hospital and Emergency Room (231) 672-2000 or (800) 368-4125

Emergency Services: (231) 672-3916

1500 East Sherman Avenue in Muskegon

From the camp entrance, turn left on Russell Road, travel 5 miles; turn left (south) on U.S. 31 to Muskegon. Take Sherman Avenue exit, and travel west approximately 100 yards. The hospital complex is on the right.

Off-Campus Routine Care

Trinity Health Medical Group, Primary Care- Whitehall (231) 672-8050

905 East Colby Street in Whitehall

From the camp entrance, turn right on Russell Road, travel 1 mile; turn left (west) on Holton-Whitehall Road, travel 5 miles. Colby Street begins at the traffic light at city limits. Continue straight 1.5 miles, the medical center is on the left.

Trinity Health Urgent Care – North Muskegon (231) 672-3333

2006 Holton Rd. in Muskegon

From the camp entrance, turn left on Russell Road, travel 5 miles; turn left (south) on U.S. 31 to Muskegon. Take M120 exit toward Fremont and turn right at traffic signal on to M120 South. Travel approximately .25 Miles and the Urgent Care facility is on the left.

Emergency Procedures

Severe Weather

Depending on the type of weather and its severity, you will be given instructions to act accordingly. Notification may be delivered by phone, by emergency notification system, or by camp personnel.

- Tornado: If you are told to seek shelter, take attendance for your group and escort campers in your location to the Primary Severe Weather Shelter (lower level of Marek Hall North). Upon arrival at the lower level of Marek, you will be given additional instructions. If possible, bring a flashlight and blanket or pillow.
- Severe Thunderstorm or High Winds: Should non-tornado severe weather strike without warning, or if you are told to seek shelter for non-tornado severe weather, go to the nearest camp structure until the weather has passed. It is often safest to simply stay where you are rather than move to another facility. Do not travel more than necessary in severe thunderstorms and / or high winds.

Fire Emergency

Fire extinguishers are located in all units, larger structures, and in some remote areas of camp. For all fires, remove campers from the immediate area and contact the VP of Operations at (231) 740-4000. Camp administration will call the local fire department. Use water to extinguish grass or brush fires. DO NOT throw water on an electrical fire.

Evacuating Camp

Should a widespread emergency dictate the need to leave the campgrounds, you will be notified to go to the Marek North parking lot and await further instructions from camp officials.

Security

Our goal is to create a safe environment for our participants, so that focus can remain on the tasks at hand – having a great time at camp while learning new things. Blue Lake creates a closed campus environment through employee monitoring and supervision, participant identification, signage, and standard practices for identifying guests and visitors. Employees are trained in a variety of procedures relating to identifying and reporting unknown visitors or suspicious activity and managing a range of concerns in a campus session.

Afternoon Recital Participation

Afternoon recitals are an optional, additional performance opportunity (all piano students perform in a solo recital on the last day of camp). Recitals take place on the second and third afternoons of camp at 4:45 pm. They do not interfere with scheduled classes. To ensure a good experience for all, we must have your home teacher's approval for your child to participate. There are no rehearsals for these recitals. Recital programs will be posted on the message board in Marek Hall the first day of camp. Check these programs to find the day and location of your child's performance. Students performing non-Suzuki repertoire must bring their own piano accompaniment and get this music to the assigned accompanist as early as possible. (The posted programs indicate the assigned accompanists.)

One piece or movement per student. **No requests for changes in repertoire.**

Mail or email signed and completed recital forms (do not email a photo of the form) to:

suzuki@bluelake.org
or
Anne Kearney-Looman
4805 Arapaho Trail
Okemos, MI 48864

DEADLINE, JUNE 1 (Firm)

Name _____ Instrument _____ Session _____

Piece _____ Composer _____

Suzuki Teacher: *Please sign to indicate your approval* _____

Name _____ Instrument _____ Session _____

Piece _____ Composer _____

Suzuki Teacher: *Please sign to indicate your approval* _____

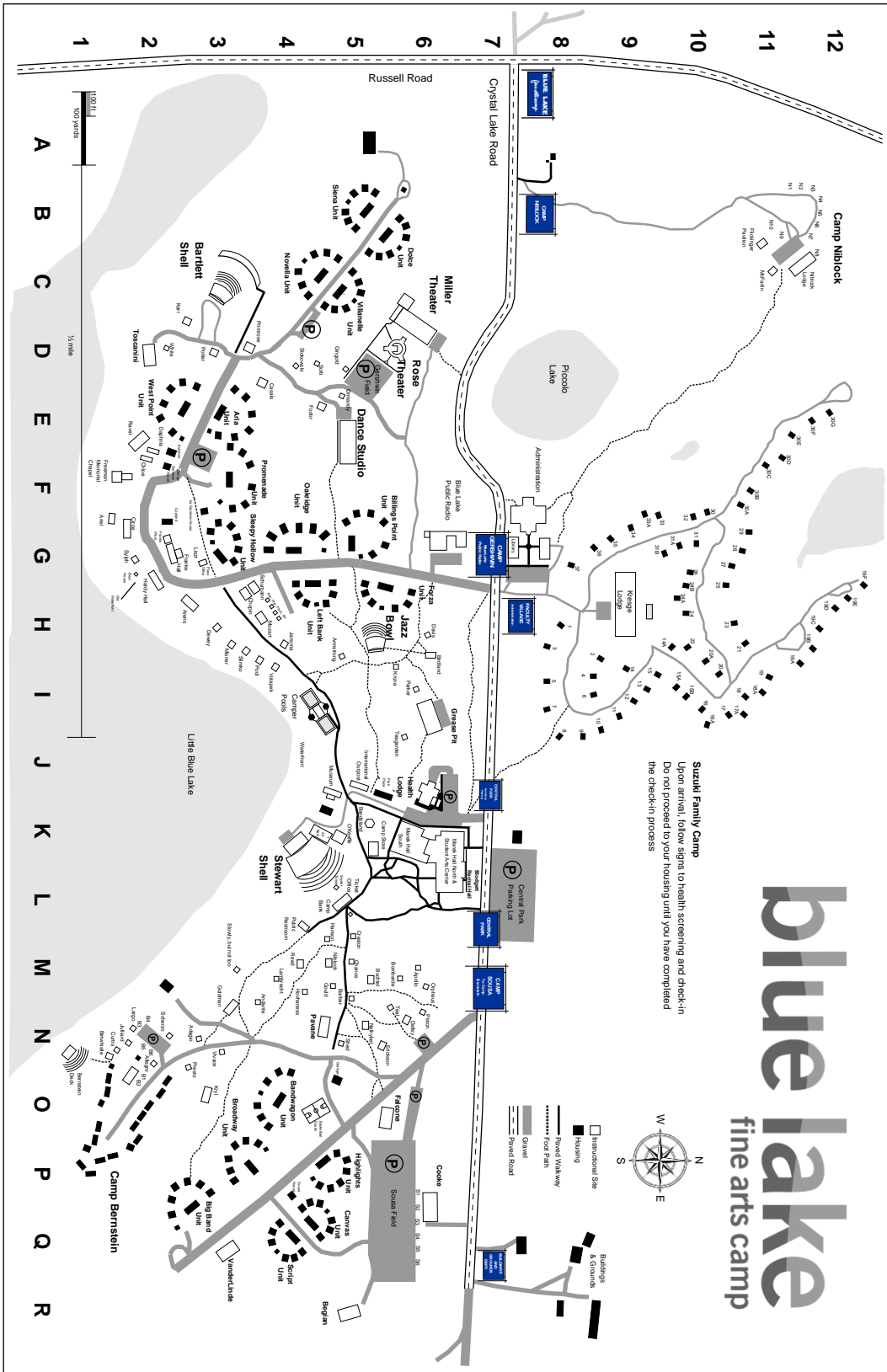
Name _____ Instrument _____ Session _____

Piece _____ Composer _____

Suzuki Teacher: *Please sign to indicate your approval* _____

Students attending two sessions on the same instrument may sign-up for one recital only.

Camp Map



Suzuki Family Camp
 Upon arrival, follow signs to health screening and check-in.
 Do not proceed to your housing unit until you have completed
 the check-in process.

blue lake

fine arts camp

