

## Recognizing those Suzuki Milestones – The Twinkles

A lot of time and effort go into learning to play the Twinkle Variations and Theme. In her popular book, 'They're Rarely Too Young and Never Too Old to Twinkle', Suzuki teacher Kay Collier Sloan, lists 34 different skills that are required!

We would like to acknowledge this accomplishment by establishing a process that students can work through in order to receive recognition for their work.

It is important to understand that students are not 'finished' with the Twinkles after this process. The Twinkles are the basis of our technical work and we will continue to work on them for years. (Suzuki extracted the rhythms used in the Variations from the concertos in Book Four).

In order to be awarded a 'Twinkle Pin' students must:

- Submit a video of all of the Twinkle Variations and the Theme performed with accompaniment.
- Perform a Variation and the Theme in a performance class or recital.

About the video recording:

This recording should be of performance quality - recorded in one take with no starting over, stops or talking. Students must demonstrate good violin position, tone, intonation and tempo (55 for a quarter note as a minimum speed).

After the recording has been accepted by the student's teacher it will be reviewed by the Suzuki Program Coordinator.

Students will then be publicly congratulated and given a pin. This program is not meant to be a competition, but an individual process, and it is completely optional. Only students who are motivated by this should do it.