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Johns Creek Symphony Orchestra presents the Baughman Memorial Concert

Local musicians pay tribute to teacher, family member, friend
by Caron Cooper [write the author](#)



October 04, 2007

The beginnings of what will become the best part-time professional orchestra in the state performed last weekend at Northview High School, paying tribute to a legendary Suzuki string teacher.

The newly formed Johns Creek Symphony Orchestra presented the Lynn Marie Baughman Memorial Concert Sept. 30. Baughman, a Suzuki violin and viola teacher serving the Johns Creek community, passed away unexpectedly April 25 this year.

The orchestra, conducted by Lynn's husband, J. Wayne Baughman, opened with Benjamin Britten's "Simple Symphony," which was followed by a performance by Lynn's youngest daughter, Katie Baughman, singing "Je Suis Titania."

The final piece performed by the chamber orchestra was Johann Sebastian Bach's "Concerto for Two Violins," the two violin solos performed by Adelaide Federici, Lynn's firstborn, and Sheri Peck.



(CARON COOPER/Herald) The Johns Creek Symphony Orchestra presented the Lynn Marie Baughman Memorial Concert Sept. 30. The second half of the program featured a traditional "Suzuki Play-In" that incorporated more than 30 musicians, all of which were Lynn's friends and students. [\(click for larger version\)](#)

Wayne told concert attendees that every performer on the stage at one time or another has played both violin parts.

"Lynn taught it for years and years and years, and a few more years after that," said Wayne, bringing tears to his daughter Adelaide's eyes.

But Wayne also kept the concert light and attendees smiling, noting that there were 17 mistakes in the first half of the performance.

"I know most of you didn't hear them, but I heard every one. Actually, it was pretty darn perfect," he said.

The second half of the program featured a traditional "Suzuki Play-In," incorporating more musicians into each part of the performance, all of which were Lynn's friends and students. More than 30 musicians were on stage by the end of the concert that culminated with a standing ovation.

But the standing ovation wasn't just for the performance – it was also for Lynn and for her efforts to perpetuate the Suzuki Method, named for its founder, Shinichi Suzuki.

"Suzuki is a person, a philosophy and a teaching technique," said Wayne. "Suzuki believed that all children have great ability. If they are taught well and in a positive manner, they will develop music skills and a noble heart. My wife was a Suzuki teacher."

Lynn was a long-time Suzuki Association of the Americas (SAA) member and teacher trainer. At the time of her death, she was still the only SAA certified violin teacher trainer in Georgia.

Her unparalleled ability as a teacher is reflected by the achievements of her students, who have won every local scholarship offered to young string students and have occupied principal chairs of every youth orchestra.

Her husband Wayne has been working in Johns Creek at St. Benedict Catholic Church for 20 years and started dreaming about forming a symphony orchestra about 10 years ago. Within days of Lynn's death, he took the plunge, forming and incorporating the new orchestra.

"I told the chamber of commerce that our goal is to become immediately the best part-time professional orchestra in Georgia, in the not too distant future the best in the southeast and, at some point in the future, the best in the nation. We want to be the very best part-time orchestra," said Wayne.

The Johns Creek Symphony Orchestra's approach is traditional with its choice of music and playing techniques.



(CARON COOPER/Herald)Lynn's youngest daughter,

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(CARON COOPER/Herald)
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Katie Baughman.
"But our uniqueness is that this is going to be a very good orchestra, a very high quality orchestra."

The full Johns Creek Symphony Orchestra will debut Dec. 1 at the second annual St. Benedict Christmas Gala Holiday Pops Concert.

"If someone isn't satisfied, I will personally refund the price of the ticket," Wayne said.

For information or to contribute,
e-mail jcsinfo@yahoo.com. Coming soon:
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
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