All in the family

Violinist's art is lifelong endeavor

The instrument is almost a family tradition. Her mother, great aunt, brother and cousin played the violin. When it came time for her to chose a profession, Ms. Smith though it was only natural to pick music.

"I never questioned it. That's what I've always done. After all that investment of time and money, I never thought about doing anything else," she said as she sat in her Farmington Hills living room.

said as the sat in her Farmington Hills living room.

Ms. Smith and her husband, Bruce, came to the Detroit area in 1967 to allow him to pursue a doctorate in music at the University of Michigan.

She won a position with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra that year and has been there ever since. Her husband is also a violinist with the orchestra.

Ms. Smith will be a guest artist with the Oak Park Symphony Orchestra at 7:30 p.m. Oct. 19 in the Oak Park High School, 13701 Oak Park Blvd.

Practicing the violin with her mother was part of Linda Snedden Smith's childhood. Mrs. Smith, who started taking music lessons when she was 3 years old, was prodied, encouraged and tutered in playing the violin by her mother.

The instrument is almost a family tradition. Her mother, great aunty, brother and cousin played the violin. When it came time for her to choesa with her mother which she credits with establishing her on the road to becoming a professional. It was now the mother watching her play, she avoided developing bad habits. When it came time for her to choesa with her mother's instance on regular practice sessions, she progressed at a good pace.

good pace.

In many ways, her experience with her mother echoes that parents and children have under the Suzuki method of teaching violin.

She praises that method as one which allows children to get a feel for the instrument and music without pressuring them to learn music and theory at an

them to learn music and theory at an early age.
Her own children, Erik, 10, Marlan, 9, Cameron, 7, and Andrea, 44s, are taking music lessons or will start taking them soon.
And, for the moment, she can't think of anything else she would rather do than play the vioin.
"I'm really happy with what I'm doing," she said.



Linda Snedden Smith has honed her skills through many years of practice finally winning a position with the Detroit Symphony Orches-

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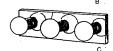




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