



Vol. 24 No. 6

A Downers Grove Music Club Publication

April 2016

Rising Stars to perform on April 5

Winners of the 2015 Rising Star awards will perform at 7 p.m., Tuesday, April 5 at Four Corners Community Church, 8251 S. Lemont Road, Darien. The church is located behind the Safeguard storage facility just north of 83rd Street/Plainfield Road.

The program, which is still being finalized, will feature Rising Stars:

Amelia Smerz, cello, performing the Brahms Sonata in e minor No. 1 Opus 38, Allegro non troppo

Akila Shanmugham, piano, performing Beethoven "Pathétique" Sonata in c minor No. 8 Opus 13, 3rd movement

Tiffany Leung, piano, performing Macdowell Improvisation No. 4 Opus 46

Tim Edwards, cello

Gabrielle Henderson, voice

In addition to the Rising Star winners, the **Eisenhower Junior High School Jazz Band** (Matt Janus, director) will perform Niehaus' "Stuck in a Groove" and Morales' "Feelin' the Funk." The **O'Neill Middle School Strings** and the **District 99 String Quartet** also may perform, pending availability.

Piano Festival & Competition



The DGMC Piano Festival & Competition is set for Sunday, April 17, chair Elissa Metropoulos reports.

Honors Recitals will follow a week later on April 24 at 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. at the Downers Grove Public Library.

Club members are encouraged to attend the recitals

DGMC receives donation in memory of Shelby Bulut

Donation honors musical legacy of Shelby Bulut

The family of the late Shelby Bulut, a Downers Grove music educator and fervent music supporter, has generously donated \$27,000 to the Downers Grove Music Club in her memory. In a letter addressed to the club, the family described Mrs. Bulut as "a phenomenal person, kind and always looking for ways to help people...Music was not just her outlet, but the expression of her kindness and generosity of spirit."

Shelby Bulut believed in the "value of music in one's life early on, and the importance it played in the development of a rich community," the family wrote. "She would be absolutely delighted to have her legacy be connected to the notion of supporting concerts in the Downers Grove library" and other endeavors such as master classes, a summer outdoor concert at Fishel Park or private instruction and scholarships for students, the family wrote.

"We are so thankful for her musical gifts over the years, and to have inherited her love of and for music, and felt it only appropriate to share this gift with an organization such as yours," the family said in its letter to the DGMC. "Thank you for what you do, and for helping us spread her love of music and the love we have for our mom."

"The DGMC is honored to receive the memorial gift from the family of Shelby Bulut and is very grateful for their generosity and support of our mission," said Chris Garofalo, club president.

"This donation is a testament to the success of the community outreach of DGMC programming over the past three years: free monthly performances, expanded student music awards, the piano festival and community projects such as the piano donation to the Downers Grove Public Library and support to the music programs at the Downers Grove high schools," he said. "The club is well positioned for the coming year to expand the student awards to other schools as well as other projects discussed with the Bulut family."

Welcome new members

William Wrobel of Downers Grove and Kristina Phelps of DeKalb are the two newest members of the DGMC. Please welcome them!

Club elections set for April

Three officers will be elected at the DGMC's April 5 program. Two nominees have been announced by the Nominating Committee (Sarah Flanagan, Alice Cummings and Charlotte Ewing) and one member-at-large position remains to be filled. We need your help as members to achieve and expand DGMC programming, so please contact Sarah at sjett@cedarville.edu if you are interested in serving on the board or a committee for the 2016-2017 club year.

The nominees are:

Treasurer: Kristina Phelps

Kristina is a new member of the DGMC, but as the daughter of long-time members Charlotte and Tom Ewing, she is very familiar with the club. Kristina was active in music growing up, taking piano lessons for many years and singing in her junior and senior high choirs. She recently earned a master's degree in accounting and has passed all four CPA exams.

VP of Artistic Development: Charlotte Ewing

Charlotte has been active in the DGMC for almost two decades, serving as newsletter editor for more than half of those years. She and her husband, Tom, currently manage the club's website. Charlotte is finishing a term as member-at-large.

In memoriam

We are sorry to report the DGMC lost two long-time members in recent weeks, **Mary Jane Faulkner** and **Jim McFarland**.

Mary Jane Faulkner, a member of the club for 61 years, died on March 9, just eight days after her 90th birthday. She was an accomplished singer who enjoyed performing and sharing her gift with the community. But most important to her was her family--husband Charles and daughters Gloria Salazar and Robin Simunek.

Mary Jane was an active DGMC member who served as president in 1970. She also was a member of the Downers Grove Chorale Society and participated in many school-related activities when her daughters were growing up.

Plans are being made to celebrate Mary Jane's life in June. Charitable contributions in memory of Mary Jane may be made to the Downers Grove Music Club online or at P.O. Box 551, Downers Grove, IL 60515.

Jim McFarland, along with his wife Jan, was a member of the DGMC for many years. Jim used his computer skills to update the newsletter format and the club's database of addresses as far back as the early 1990s. Although not a musician, Jim was a faithful supporter of the club. He worked at Sargent/Lundy for 49 years.

We offer our heartfelt sympathy to the families of Mary Jane and Jim.

DGMC recognizes donors

The Downers Grove Music Club is the grateful recipient of several donations made by individuals and businesses and as memorials during the 2015-16 club year. We'd like to offer our thanks and appreciation to these generous donors:

Richard Sifuentes * Linda Camel * Dan D'Andrea * Jan Sleeter * Dennis and Rhea Mason * Lori Crnkovich * Emily Fallert * Bill and Liz Chalberg * Community Bank of Downers Grove * Sarah Flanagan * Mary Jane Faulkner * Susan Sheehy * Cathy Lou Pearson * Julia Collins * Frances and Lambert LeLoup * Nancy McCort * Judith McDevitt * Karen Heimsoth * Ed and Mary Langbein * Susan Lee/Hedy Nowak * Miriam Cleveland * U.S. Bank * Nancy Hagen & Andy Tecson * Jennifer Leckie * In Memory of Freda Mullen * Annie Hejmanowski * Henry and Rhoda Frank * Bonnie Valiant * In Memory of Shelby Bulut * The Rotary Club of Downers Grove.

February house concert and March program



Organizations and events

Acappellago: Dennis Smith, director. Visit www.Acappellago.org or phone (708)484-3797 ext 2.

Cantores Community Choir: This non-audition group is open to anyone high school age and older who enjoys singing, wants to learn more about music and wants to perform a wide range of musical styles and genres. Under the direction of Belford Hernandez, this choir performs a wide variety of four-part musical literature and styles. Cantores Community Choir is a member of DGMC. For more information, call (630)999-1190 or visit www.cantorescc.org.

Downers Grove Choral Society: Visit www.dgcs.org.

Grant Street String Quartet: This quartet was formed in 2010 by four professional musicians in the western suburban area of Chicago. It is based in Downers Grove and is a member of DGMC. For more information, please visit www.grantstreetstringquartet.weebly.com.

Pianoforte Foundation: Thomas Zoells, executive director, and owner of the PianoForte Chicago piano store. Visit www.pianofortefoundation.org for information on upcoming piano concerts. At noon on the first Friday of every month, listen to the Pianoforte Salon Series Live on WFMT 98.7 FM or enjoy the live performance at the new home of PianoForte Studios, 1335 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago.

Sinfonietta Bel Canto: Dan Pasquale D'Andrea, director. Concerts are held at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 5211 Carpenter St., DG. Individual tickets are available at the door. Single tickets are \$20 adults, \$17 seniors and \$7 students under 21, children six and under free (\$2 discount for advanced purchases). For more details, visit www.SinfoniettaBelCanto.org or call 630-384-5007.

Concert 5: The SBC Voice Competition Finalists will be presented at 3 p.m. Sunday, May 1. As many as eight "SBC Voice" competition finalists will sing lyric solos and opera arias with orchestral accompaniment. For details on the voice competition please visit the [Sinfonietta Bel Canto website](http://www.SinfoniettaBelCanto.org).

Village Voices: This group was founded in 2006 by Director Marilyn Wilgocki. It includes 32 singers. Their music includes spirituals, gospel tunes, jazz, Broadway show songs, folk music and other lighthearted choral music. Sarah Flanagan is their accompanist. For further information, visit www.villagevoicesdg.org or contact Marilyn at 630-971-1594.

Take note!

The final program of the
2015-16 Downers Grove Music Club--Downers Grove Public Library Music Series
will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 3 at the Downers Grove Public Library