DGMC Newsletter

A WEST SUBURBAN NETWORK FOR MUSICIANS AND FRIENDS

Vol. 20, No. 4 | A Downers Grove Music Club Publication | February, 2012

Hello from your Prez …

A ***NEW*** year, ***NEW*** challenges, ***NEW*** opportunities – and always – exposure to ***NEW*** music! Welcome to Downers Grove Music Club's exciting offerings in the months ahead.

Have you noticed that Todd Diehl, VP of Artistic Development, has scheduled TWO programs for February, March and April? That's because there are so many musicians anxious to perform at our programs. Wow! So now, for those of you who have conflicts with Tuesday nights, take a look at the Saturday and Sunday offerings (in your directory) and come support your fellow musicians for an hour of fine music.

Under the direction of Rose Verona, our VP of Business Development, your board of directors has created a ***NEW*** vision statement and a ***NEW*** mission statement. Look for them on page two. Your board is investigating the possibility of some grant writing in the future – ***NEW***. Your board is using ***NEW*** venues for some of our programs this year – the Brigantine Gallery in Downers Grove on Main Street (for small instrumental ensembles) and First United Methodist Church (for Mike Surratt's lecture / demonstration of "how the organ works"). We are thrilled with ***NEW*** performers in the club, both youth (for the upcoming Rising Stars program in March) and adult (heard already this fall, to great acclaim).

Be sure to consider supporting the annual highly-rated ***fundraiser event*** on ***Saturday, March 10, 7:30 p.m.*** at Chris Garofalo's home. Once again, Chris will present selections on the clavichord, harpsichord and piano. This year he will be joined by flutist Carolyn May to premier a new sonata for flute and piano – written by Chris. What a wonderful treat! Tickets are $35 per person. Seating is limited. See page 2 for more details.

A ***NEW*** year! Include Downers Grove Music Club in your top priorities for 2012. Not only do we enjoy beautiful music of all types at our programs, we thoroughly enjoy the networking and fellowship over cookies and punch, lovingly provided at each program by the "consummate hostess", Nancy Mundinger, and her committee.

*Happy **NEW** year!*
Marilyn E. Wilgocki

February Programs

Once again, we have two very different programs planned for February. Both should be excellent. And both are described in more detail on page 2.

The first program is our regular monthly program on ***Tuesday, February 7th*** at ***7:30 pm*** at ***Hendricks Pianos.*** It is an ambitious program which begins with a complete Beethoven piano sonata and ends with a complete Mozart piano concerto. We are honored to have as a guest pianist Dr. JeongSoo Kim, an Associate Professor of Piano at NIU, who is playing the concerto with Abigail Demirgian.

Our second program is on ***Saturday, February 18th*** at ***4:00 pm*** at the ***First United Methodist Church of Downers Grove***). This program, *How the Organ Works*, is a Lecture-Recital presented by DGMC member, Michael Surratt. Mike's expertise is vast. At age twelve, he was already serving as church organist. He received the Bachelor of Music degree in organ performance at Oberlin College Conservatory of Music and the Master of Music degree in organ at Northwestern University.

Mike served as Director of Music and Organist at the Union Church of Hinsdale for 32 years. He is currently serving as interim organist at First United Church in Oak Park. He has played organ recitals throughout the Midwest and southeastern United States and in Europe. He has been heard on Minnesota Public Radio's nationally syndicated program *Pipedreams*, and on local Chicago radio stations. He has been an Adjunct Instructor of Organ at Elmhurst College, and has been accompanist for the Downers Grove Choral Society and Western Springs Tower Chorale. He has appeared as organ soloist with the Hinsdale Chamber Orchestra, West Suburban Symphony, DuPage Symphony and Evanston Symphony.

String Festival & Competition

The String Festival & Competition will be held in early March. The competition will take place on Sunday, March 4th at Faith United Methodist Church. The Winners Recital is Sunday, March 18th at 1:00 pm at Oak Trace Great Hall (formerly Fairview Village).

The application deadline is ***February 20th.*** For more details, visit our website, www.dgmusicclub.org, call Mary Ellen Newsom at 630-910-7170 or e-mail Mary Ellen at *m.e.newsom@comcast.net*.

Fun Facts ☺

What's higher, the pitch of a note played during the time of Bach or Mozart, or the pitch of the same note as played today?
(answer on page 3)

How the Organ Works

a Lecture-Recital presented by Michael Surratt

Pipe organs have been played in churches for hundreds of years - but how much do you really know about them? Michael Surratt will give a one-hour Lecture-Recital at the Phelps pipe organ in the Sanctuary of the First Methodist Church of Downers Grove.

How do today's organs differ from the organs that J. S. Bach played? What happens between the organist pressing a key and sound coming out of the pipes? Come and hear repertoire chosen to illustrate many of the different sounds an organ can produce.

Saturday, February 18, 2012
4:00 PM
First United Methodist Church
1032 Maple Avenue, Downers Grove

DGMC Notes

♪ ***We wish to thank the Wheaton law firm of Rolewick & Gutzke, P.C. for donating their time*** to review a few legal questions for our club. We appreciate the time and advice they have given us.

♪ ***The December programs were great successes.*** There are too many pictures from them to choose just a few for the newsletter. Be sure to visit our website to view them by clicking the *Latest Photos* icon under *Quick Links*.

♪ ***Please note that reservations for the Benefit Recital must be made by March 3rd.*** The concert is always wonderful but even if you can't attend, you may still contribute to the fundraiser. A separate announcement is coming with this newsletter that provides all necessary info. Please feel free to make copies and distribute them to friends who might enjoy this event.

Rising Stars Scholarship

Benefit Recital & Reception

Donation $35 per person

RSVP by March 3rd
to Nancy Mundinger
630-971-0785 or *nmundi2@hotmail.com*

Saturday, March 10, 2012
7:30 p.m.
110 S. Washington St., Westmont

OUR VISION

A dynamic musical arts community.

OUR MISSION

To encourage and engage musicians and friends through educational programs, scholarships, and performances for the community.

An Evening at the Piano

Tuesday, February 7, 2012
7:30 PM

Hendricks Pianos

421 Maple Avenue, Downers Grove

Sonata in C Major for piano, Op. 53 **Beethoven**
(No. 21, "Waldstein", 1804)

Jim Molina, piano

Prelude, Op. 33, No. 1 **Scriabin**
Prelude, Op. 17, No. 3 **Scriabin**
Prelude, Op. 15, No. 4 **Scriabin**
Album Page, Op. 45, No. 1 **Scriabin**

Charlotte Ewing, piano

Nocturne **Jon Polifrone**
A Reverie **Leo Ornstein**

Donald Newsom, piano

True Light *from D. N. Angel* **Shunichi Miyamoto**

Susan Lee, piano

Concerto in A for Piano and Orchestra, K. 488 **Mozart**
(No. 23, 1785)

I. Allegro

Abigail Demirgian, piano
Dr. JeongSoo Kim, orchestra*

II. Adagio
III. Allegro assai

JeongSoo Kim, piano
Abigail Demirgian, orchestra

* ***Guest performer:*** *Dr. Kim is an Associate Professor of Piano at Northern Illinois University.*

Program Chair: Todd Diehl

Organizations and Events

Acappellago: Director, **Dennis Smith**, visit *www.Acappellago.org* or phone (708) 484-3797 ext 2. Tickets are $15 adults, $12 seniors and students.

Affinity String Trio: with **Anny Moravec**. Visit *www.affinitymusicchicago.com* for details.

Artists' Showcase West: Downers Grove Concert Association series. See *www.dgconcerts.org* or call box office at (630) 963-9093 or subscription manager at (630) 691-9099. Pre-concert conversations at 2:00 PM, concerts start at 3:00 PM. Concerts held in various locations.

Sunday, Feb. 19 at 3:00 PM*:* The Gryphon Piano Trio will perform trios for violin, cello and piano by Rebecca Clarke, Antonin Dvořák and a piece written in 2012 by Dan Visconti. This concert will be held in the Johnson Auditorium at Downers Grove North High School, 4436 Main Street, DG.

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 .

College of DuPage Chamber Orchestra (CODCO): Director, **Dan D'Andrea.** For more information about orchestra openings or upcoming concerts at McAninch Arts Center, contact Dan at (630) 322-9187. For tickets call Mac Ticket Office (630) 942-4000.

Debe Welch Band: with **Anny Moravec**. Visit *www.debewelch.com* for details.

Downers Grove Arts Council: The DG Arts Council was formed in 2008 to promote not-for-profit Fine & Performing Arts in Downers Grove. Contact President **Jim Stahulak** at *jimstahulak@yahoo.com* or visit the council's website at *www.dgarts.org* for more info.

Downers Grove Choral Society: Director Dr. Amy G. Weller. Visit *www.dgcs.org* .

The DGCS performs Rossini's *Petite Messe Solennelle* at the following two concerts:

- **Saturday, Feb. 25, at 7:30 PM** at Saint Cletus Church, 600 W. 55th Street, LaGrange.
- **Sunday, Feb. 26, at 3:00 PM** in Wentz Concert Hall at North Central College, 171 E. Chicago Avenue, Naperville.

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 of Chicago: President **Thomas Zoells,** Fazioli Pianos. Visit *www.pianofortefoundation.org* or phone Mr. Zoells at (312) 291-0000 for the many upcoming concerts. On the first Friday of every month, at 12:15 PM, listen to the *Pianoforte Salon Series at Columbia College Chicago* on WFMT 98.7 FM or enjoy the live performance at the Sherwood Conservatory.

Sinfonietta Bel Canto: Dan D'Andrea, Director. All concerts ***except*** the *Family Christmas Concert* are held at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 5211 Carpenter St., DG. For more details, visit www.SinfoniettaBelCanto.org or call (630) 384-5007.

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 light-hearted choral music. **Sarah Jett Flanagan** is their accompanist. For further information, visit *www.villagevoicesdg.org* or contact **Marilyn** at 630-971-1594.

The West Towns Chorus: an international quality barbershop style men's chorus.

The deadline for the next newsletter is Friday, February 10. Please call Charlotte Ewing at 630-985-8472 or e-mail her at CharEwing@aol.com with news.

ANSWER (from ***Fun Facts***, ***page 1)***

Based on studies of old instruments and tuning forks, pitch varied widely in times past. The pitch of A above middle C played at the Cathedral Organ in Halberstadt, Germany (1361) is 507 Hertz (vibrations per second), while the organs played by Johann Sebastian Bach in Hamburg, Leipzig and Weimar were pitched lower, with A = 480 Hz. A tuning fork of Handel gave A = 422 Hz. Today, the pitch of A above middle C is defined precisely as 440 Hz by international standard.