

DGMC Newsletter

A WEST SUBURBAN NETWORK FOR MUSICIANS AND FRIENDS

Vol. 19, No. 7

A Downers Grove Music Club Publication

May, 2011

Hello from your Prez ...

May greetings to each and every one of you! It's been a busy and productive recent few weeks for Downers Grove Music Club folks - a fine April program, a successful string festival and recital, a successful piano festival and now the honors recital scheduled for May 1. We have had the election of officers for the next two-year term. And we rejoice in the receipt of a wonderful monetary gift from the family of Beatrice Chiswick, which has been designated for awards for junior and senior division placements in the piano festival. Bee's family has indicated they would like this to be an ongoing gift. That's a significant list of some of the club's recent accomplishments and I am quite proud of the excellent work done by your board and your committee chairs.

One more program for this "program year" - scheduled for **Tuesday, May 3rd at Downers Grove Community Church** and chaired by Abi Demirgian-Kuehn. This all-piano program will be a wonderful way to end our season. Plan to attend to support those who perform and to enjoy visiting with other music lovers in the area. The program begins at 7:00 p.m. And please remember - ALL of our programs, unless otherwise stated, are open to the public and are free of charge. Invite a friend!

For those of you who might be statistically-inclined, I've compiled a few comments you might find interesting and noteworthy (pun intended!). Please turn to *DGMC Notes* to review some of the worthy accomplishments we have made since May 2009.

It has been my pleasure serving these past two years as your president. We have accomplished a great deal yet there are still other areas to be explored. Thank you all for participating in whatever way is possible for you.

Special thanks go to: Board members Todd Diehl, Rose Verona, Cindy Jensen, Chris Garofalo and Josh Evanovich and to Committee chairs Christopher Cox, Nancy Munding, Lorie Crnkovich, Chris Garofalo, Gloria Salazar, Char Ewing, Darlene Crilly, Eve Ciner and Mary Ellen Newsom! This is quite a team!!!

Blessings to you all ...

Marilyn E. Wilgocki

May Program

Our final program of the year is on May 3rd at 7:00 pm at Downers Grove Community Church at 6600 Fairview Avenue. (Please note this is a change of location from the one published in our directory.) On page 2 you will see the great program Abigail Demirgian has put together. We are so fortunate to have musicians who provide us with programs of high caliber. Be sure to come out to enjoy this one.

And we wish to give a huge **THANK YOU** to Andrew Remillard of ANR Pianos who is providing and delivering both pianos being used for this concert.

Piano Festival and Competition

The Piano Festival and Competition was held on April 10th. This year, the junior division had its greatest number of students in the entire history of the piano festival! There will be three Honors Recitals on **May 1st** at Faith United Methodist Church. They will be held at **1:30 pm, 2:45 pm** and **4:15 pm**. Please come to encourage the hard-working students who will be playing.

The winners of the Junior Competition are: Joy Huang (1st), Allison Kirkegaard (2nd) and Julia Roskopf (3rd). The winners of the Senior Competition are: Lydia Fern (1st), Steven Birch (2nd) and Patrick Chu (3rd).

Many thanks to Darlene Crilly and Eve Ciner for chairing this event which involved 135 students and 21 teachers. Thanks also to all of you members who volunteered your time to help make the piano festival a success.

April Program

Thank you to Christopher Cox, program chair, and to all the musicians who performed in a very fine program on April 5th. It was a fun concert with a great variety of instruments with strings.

Open Board Meeting

Our annual Open Board meeting will be held on **Saturday, May 21 at 3:30 pm** at the home of Chris Garofalo (110 S. Washington Street, Westmont) This meeting is open to any and all members of our organization. **BOARD MEMBERS:** be sure to prepare your annual reports and present them in triplicate at this meeting.

New Members

Welcome to three new DGMC members!

- **Susan Del Rosario** is a student at NIU who is working on both a BA in Music and a BS in Nursing. In addition, she teaches piano and serves as music director and accompanist at Faith Christian Church.

1845 Fitzgerald Rd., Woodridge, IL 60517
(630) 964-4288; (630) 518-0800

sdelrosario@niu.edu

- **Susan Shields** teaches violin and beginning piano. She has a Bachelors Degree in Music Education from the University of Tennessee. From 1966 - 1972, she studied in Japan with Dr. Suzuki (founder of the famous Suzuki method). She has taught at the University of Tennessee and the DePaul University Community Music School. Currently she teaches privately in Downers Grove.

5202 Washington, Downers Grove, IL
(630) 533-5233

- The **Music Institute of Chicago** is a community music school which specializes in violin and piano.

300 Green Bay Road, Winnetka, IL 60093
(847) 905-1500; (847) 448-8302
eabraham@musicinst.org

Fun Facts: Which of the following are true about Strauss' Blue Danube Waltz? a) considered politically subversive when it appeared, b) Strauss' grandfather drowned himself in the Danube, c) originally had lyrics.

DGMC Notes ... since May, 2009:

- ♪ We have added 18 new members to our roster; two are family memberships, two are student memberships and one is an organization.
- ♪ Our total membership right now stands at 96; some memberships include families of two or more persons.
- ♪ Our website has been up and running for quite some time; we were told recently that during 2010 we had 2824 "hits"; already in 2011, we have had 1635 hits. Check it out at www.dgmusicclub.org
- ♪ Our process for completion of our tax exempt status is in its final stages. Once the final "blessing" is sent by the federal government, our journey is complete. According to legal counsel, however, we are basically 501(c) (3) tax exempt as an organization. This means, of course, that tax exempt gifts may be given at any time to DGMC.
- ♪ The benefit recital, presented so beautifully by Chris Garafalo on March 19, raised \$925. This is almost twice the amount raised at last year's event.

All-Piano Performance

Tuesday, May 3, 2011

7:00 PM

Downers Grove Community Church

6600 Fairview Avenue, Downers Grove

Mélancolie

Francis Poulenc

Chris Garafalo

Piano Sonata No. 32 in C Minor, Op. 111

Beethoven

I. Maestoso

Abigail Demirgian

Petite Suite

Debussy

I. En Bateau II. Cortège III. Menuet IV. Ballet

Sarah Jett and Elissa Metropoulos

Haydn Variations

Brahms

Andrew Remillard and Ed Swarthout

Program Chairperson: Abigail Demirgian

Thank You Notes

Marilyn would like to share two kind notes she recently received on behalf of DGMC from families of Joe Cech and Bee Chiswick ...

... Thank you for the lovely Memorial to Joe. I went to the Library to see the books. THANK YOU to the Music Club for remembering my Love with these books. His first love was the piano. He treasured his friendship with many of the members and thoroughly enjoyed playing for the Club. He always looked forward to entering students in the annual contest. Your Memorial is a compliment to him and we appreciate your thoughtfulness and generosity.
Sincerely, Doris Cech

... You understand all too well how much Bee gave and received from the DGMC, its members and its support of students, teachers and performers. Our family is so delighted that her love of learning of music, and of sharing, will continue to be spread through the scholarships awarded by the DGMC.

Thank you for all of your time, thought and energy in helping us put in place appropriate tributes for Bee. We look forward to a long association!

Thank you again for your kind generosity and support. We are grateful.

Warmly, Lindy Camel

Organizations and Events

Acappellaqo: Director, **Dennis Smith**, www.Acappellaqo.org or phone (708) 484-3797 ext 2.

Advent Chamber Orchestra: For more information, visit www.adventchamberorchestra.org, call 630-226-0686, or call Elizabeth Quaintance, 630-963-3813.

Affinity String Trio: with **Anny Moravec**. Visit www.myspace.com/affinitystringtrio 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) 692-9099. Pre-concert conversations at 2:00 PM, concerts start at 3:00 PM. Concerts held in the Johnson Auditorium at Downers Grove North High School, 4436 Main Street, DG

College of DuPage Chamber Orchestra (CODCO): Director, **Dan D'Andrea**. For more information about orchestra openings or upcoming concerts at the McAninch Arts Center, contact Dan at (630) 322-9187. For concert information, visit www.AtTheMAC.org.

Wednesday, May 4 at 7:30 PM: Concert includes Mozart's *Symphony No. 31 in D major, "Paris"*, Beethoven's *Leonore Overture, No. 1, Op. 138* and Telemann's *Viola Concerto in G major*, featuring guest violist Keith Conant.

DGMC Piano Festival Honors Recitals culminate the Piano Festival & Competition.

Sunday, May 1 at 1:30 PM, 2:45 PM and 4:15 PM at Faith United Methodist Church, 59th St. & Fairview, DG

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 **Robert Holst**. Visit www.dgcs.org.

Sunday, May 1 at 3:00 PM: Robert Holst's Farewell Concert as Music Director of DGCS. Program includes Mozart's *Requiem*, Beethoven's *Choral Fantasy*, with Jeffrey Panko, piano soloist, and Convery's *As Rivers Seek the Sea* (a world premiere work commissioned to honor Dr. Holst's leadership of DGCS). Concert held at the Tivoli Theatre, 5021 Highland Avenue, DG

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.

Sinfonietta Bel Canto: **Dan D'Andrea**, Director. Concerts held at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 5211 Carpenter St., DG. Individual tickets are available at the door. Single tickets are \$15 Adults, \$12 Seniors and \$5 Students under 21, Free – 6 & under. For more details, visit www.SinfoniettaBelCanto.org or call (630) 384-5007.

Sunday, May 15 at 3:00 PM: Final concert of this sinfonietta's debut season includes Saint-Saëns' *Symphony #2 in A minor*, Schubert's *Die Zwillingsbrüder Overture* and Schumann's *Cello Concerto in A minor, Op 129*, Nazur Dzhuryn, cellist.

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, contact **Marilyn** at 630-971-1594.

Sunday, May 22 at 3:00 PM: *Village Voices Annual Spring Concert* at Immanuel Lutheran Church, Grove and Carpenter Streets, DG. Free concert - open to the public - reception following concert,

The West Towns Chorus: an international quality barbershop style men's chorus. Visit www.westtowns.org.

DGMC Member Note: Robert Holst will be conducting his final concert as director of the Downers Grove Choral Society on **May 1st**. The program will include the world premiere of *As Rivers Seek the Sea*, written by Robert Convery. This work is a cantata on five poems by Christina Rossetti and was commissioned by friends of Dr. Holst to honor his leadership of DGCS from 1992 – 2011.

If you have any items you would like included in the newsletter, please e-mail them to Charlotte Ewing at CharEwing@aol.com or call her at 630-985-8472. Dead-line for the next newsletter is September 15, 2011.

ANSWER (from **Fun Facts**, page 2)

All choices are true.