

DGMC Newsletter

A WEST SUBURBAN NETWORK FOR MUSICIANS AND FRIENDS

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A Downers Grove Music Club Publication

May, 2013

Hello Music Club Friends ...

This indeed is my last official note to you. Four years have zipped by since I was elected your president and it has been a fruitful and satisfying four years in so many ways.

A huge bouquet of thanks goes to each board member and committee chair who so faithfully has followed through on his/her responsibilities. When I contact one of these dear people to see how things are going regarding an issue or a project, usually progress is already in place; sometimes the job is already done! So I quickly am assured that it will be done well, promptly and with a willing heart. What a joy to work with such a responsible and talented board. So thank you again – Todd, Rose, Cindy, Sarah, Chris, Barbara, Char, Nancy, Lorie, Gloria, Darlene and Elissa! What a great team of hardworking folks.

Looking back over the past four years . . . I think our organization is healthy and is growing in membership. I think we are reaching out more and more to the community with a variety and plethora of monthly programs. I think we are following through with our efforts to assist the musical youth of this community with our Rising Stars Awards and our newly-established College Scholarships. Our website is a delight and is well maintained. We keep close in touch with each other through phone calls and e-mails. We have the distinct pleasure of holding most of our programs at Hendricks Pianos, our sponsor, with plenty of parking, a welcoming staff and an excellent facility with outstanding pianos. We enjoy happy fellowship together around the refreshment table after programs. We take advantage of some networking opportunities which is so helpful in many ways. But most of all – we enjoy making music!

However, my final wish is one which needs to be stated over and over again! We need to intentionally encourage our members and visitors to attend our monthly programs as often as is possible. Many of us love to perform to an enthusiastic and appreciative audience – but then do we take the time to support our fellow musicians when THEY perform as well? Some of us contribute in non-musical ways, such as serving as part of a refreshment committee or recording a program for a CD available at the next program, or speaking about the advantages of club membership. Whether we perform or help in other ways – we need to attend these well-planned and well-executed musical programs! As I turn the baton over to your next president, Chris Garofalo, who will surely provide outstanding leadership, give him the support needed. As Woody Allen has been quoted, “90% of life is showing up!”

Thank you all for your valued contributions these past four years. I still will continue to serve – now as one of your members at large. I value your friendships, your participation, your great ideas. Through our club, let's continue to keep the music scene in Downers Grove vibrant and meaningful, with high standards and a welcoming spirit.

Good Luck, carry on and God bless . . .

Marilyn E. Wilgocki

Show Tune Night

Our final program for the 2012-2013 Season is on **Tuesday, May 7th at 7:30 pm at Hendricks Pianos**. As we did last year, we are ending an outstanding program year with show tunes. This is a more relaxed evening and a perfect way to ease into the busy month of May.

April Programs

ALL of our programs in April were superb! We had a huge group of students participate in the Rising Stars Concert on April 2nd. We heard all of our 2012 Rising Stars Award winners plus many other very talented young people. It was wonderful to *hear* all of the performers but it was also wonderful to *see* how the young people from all ages interacted, especially at the reception afterwards. It was an exciting evening. A few days later, on April 7th, we were treated to a full recital by *thesix* – a six-piece wind, brass and piano ensemble. Then, within the week following the tremendous storm that hit our area, we had two additional concerts – both of which were excellent. Our DGMC concerts are truly treasures.

Piano Festival and Competition

The 2013 Piano Festival and Competition ended on April 28th with two Honors Recitals featuring the highest scoring participants. The first place winners were Akila Shanmughan (junior level) and Stephen Strong (senior level). The second place winners were Angelina Stepanova (junior level) and Jason Wu (senior level).

Co-Chairs Darlene Crilly and Elissa Metropoulos deserve a big thank you for the work they have done to organize our very successful Piano Festival. Darlene and Elissa would like to give special thank you's to the Downers Grove Rotary Club and to the family of Bea Chiswick. The Rotary Club donated both first-place awards. The family of Bea Chiswick has established a yearly scholarship which supplied both second-place awards as well as the third place award at the senior level. They also wish to thank Divine Savior Church, Hendricks Pianos, Marilyn Wilgocki, Chris Garofalo, and Jane Timmerberg for the use of their pianos and facilities during the festival. And finally, they wish to thank the following members or friends of DGMC who gave generously of their time to make the Festival and Competition a success: Barbara Dickerman, Beth Ciner, Eve Ciner, Lorie Crnkovich, Chris Hudson, Gail Quillman, Susan DelRosario, and Abi Habbegger.

2013 Scholarship Awards

Gloria Salazar and Chris Garofalo headed a small committee to choose six juniors to receive \$400 Rising Stars Scholarship Awards and two seniors to receive \$1,000 College Music Awards. On May 7th, Barbara Dickerman will present our awards at the Awards Assembly at Downers Grove South High School. On May 14th, Marilyn Wilgocki and Rose Verona will present our awards at the Awards Assembly at DGN.

DGMC Notes

◆ **Our annual "open" board meeting** will be held on **May 18th** at 3:00 pm at the home of Marilyn Wilgocki (5963 Chase Ave., DG). All interested club members are encouraged to attend this meeting which ends the current club year and begins the next one.

◆ **Results of the elections held at the April 2nd program:** Chris Garofalo was elected President, Rose Verona will continue being Vice-President of Business Development, Jen Leckie was elected Secretary and Marilyn Wilgocki was elected Member-at-Large. Congratulations to all!

◆ **Village Voices**, the community chorus founded and directed by Marilyn Wilgocki and accompanied by Sarah Flanagan, is presenting its Spring Concert on Sunday, May 5th at 3:00 pm at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Downers Grove (see page 3 for more details).

Show Tune Night!

**Tuesday, May 7, 2013
7:30 p.m.**

**Hendricks Pianos
421 Maple Avenue, DG**

**What a fun way to end our season.
This program will be less formal than our usual
programs - but not less enjoyable!**

**We are looking forward to hearing the Cove
Creek Brass Ensemble, Dennis and Pat Smith,
Don Newsom, Todd Diehl and guest performers,
Scott and Carol Conger.**

Program Chair: Todd Diehl



Marilyn Wilgocki's face expresses the joy everyone in the audience felt at the Rising Stars Concert on April 2. On the left are some members of the Lakeview Junior High Jazz Ensemble. On the right, are members of the Chapappella Choir at College of DuPage.

Please visit our website, www.downersgrovemusicclub.org to view a complete set of photos from this concert.

Organizations and Events

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

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

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.

Next concert is Wednesday, May 1 at 7:30 PM.

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

Downers Grove Choral Society: Director Dr. Amy G. Weller. 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 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. Concerts 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.

Sunday, May 5 at 3:00 PM: Village Voices presents its annual spring concert at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 5211 Carpenter St., DG. Open to the public, no admission charge. Bring your friends for an afternoon of fun filled song followed by a yummy reception table!

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

The Grant Street Quartet performing on April 23.



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PIANOS