



We are 90! Let's Celebrate!

*Thanks to the Shelby Bulut Memorial Fund we are able to present
a very special program to celebrate the 90th Anniversary
of the Downers Grove Music Club.*

A Message from our President

Welcome to the 90th year of the Downers Grove Music Club. I would like to thank our past president, Chris Garofalo, for his leadership during the last four years. The significant accomplishments during his tenure include the musical programming partnership with the Downers Grove Public Library, the increased fundraising efforts, and the expansion of the student music award program to include support for the elementary and middle school orchestra program. We begin this new decade with a very strong foundation to continue the mission of enriching our community with music.

The DGMC is in good hands with a very dedicated and enthusiastic leadership team at the helm. I hope you will join me in welcoming several new board members: Janis Sleeter joins the board as the Vice President of Business Development; Remus Bedea joins the board as Secretary; Dan Moroz joins the board as Member at Large and has taken on the role of managing the DGMC social media. Returning members include Charlotte Ewing as Vice President of Artistic Development, Kristina Phelps as Treasurer, Chris Garofalo as Member at Large, and Christine and Ron Paryl as Piano Festival Chairs. We can always use more help so if you have any interest in getting involved in assisting with and/or running some of the DGMC projects, please let any of us know. Or if you have any suggestions on how the DGMC can better serve its membership and/or the community, please share these ideas as well.

We have an exciting year of programs planned. We kick off the season on **September 10th** with a musical celebration of this significant anniversary. Please join us at the Downers Grove Public Library for a lovely afternoon of music and a delicious reception.

Gloria Salazar

Wolfgang Amadeus

Mozart's Sister

**Sunday, September 10, 2017
2:00 p.m.**

Downers Grove Public Library
1050 Curtiss Street, Downers Grove

Jeff Award-winning actress Megan Wells portrays Maria Anna 'Nannerl' Mozart in a program that has delighted audiences of all ages.

Watch Mozart's stories and music come to life, as 'Nannerl' (in period costume) tells them. Pianist Chris Garofalo performs as Mozart.

The Shelby Bulut Memorial Fund is sponsoring Ms. Wells' performance.

The concert is free, but patrons are asked to register on the Events Page of the library website <http://dglibrary.org/events> or by calling the library at 630-960-1200

New Awards for Elementary Students

Private Lesson Music Awards

This spring, the DGMC reached out to the Orchestra Directors in District 58 to offer financial assistance for 3 months of private lessons for young string students. The goal of this new music award program is to motivate families to seek out private lessons to help further their children's music studies as well as enhance the school orchestra programs. The Orchestra Directors -- Lisa Rose, Julie Spring and Madelyn Fiene -- enthusiastically supported this program and collaborated with the DGMC on its implementation. It was agreed that the financial assistance would be made available to 5th, 6th and 7th grade students enrolled in the District 58 Orchestra program and who have not previously taken private lessons from a professional musician. Each interested student would be required to complete a written application and commit to 3 months of regular weekly lessons beginning no later than October 15th of this year, in order to be considered for the award.

The response of the students and their families was overwhelming. 26 students applied for these awards; 6 students were selected to receive the award. It was very difficult to narrow the applicant pool down. The enthusiasm that these young students have for their music education came through loud and clear in their applications which underscores the importance of this new program in support of our local student musicians.

It is through the Shelby Bulut Memorial Fund that these private lesson music awards are financed. The DGMC is very grateful for the very generous donation made in memory of Shelby Bulut, a gifted musician who performed in the Chicago area in several Oratorio societies and choral groups in addition to her work as an English and music teacher.

The 2017–2018 Season Begins

You Can Now Pay Dues On-line

With the beginning of a new club year, it is time to pay dues. We use the money from dues to pay for our operating costs. They remain at: Individual (\$30), Family (\$35), Student (\$10), Ensemble (\$60) or Organization (\$60).

You may now pay your dues on-line by choosing the **Pay Dues** option on the left hand side of our website or by following the link <http://downersgrovemusicclub.org/renew.html>.

Of course, you may still pay your dues at one of our upcoming programs or by mailing a check to:
Downers Grove Music Club, P.O. Box 551, Downers Grove, IL 60515

The new Directory will be available on October 22.

The 2017-2018 Directory will be available at our second program on Sunday, October 22nd. If any of your contact information has changed recently, please let Charlotte Ewing know by e-mailing her at charewing@aol.com or calling her at 630-985-8472.

Club Program Schedule

Five of our club programs are part of the Concert Series DGMC co-hosts with the Downers Grove Library. All of these concerts are held at the library.

- Mozart's Sister*** ♦ Sunday, September 10, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. ♦ 90th Anniversary celebration
- Haunting Melodies*** ♦ Sunday, October 22, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. ♦ New Directories Available
- Holiday Treasures*** ♦ Sunday, December 3, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. ♦ Holiday Concert & Sing-along
- Love Is in the Air*** ♦ Sunday, February 4, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. ♦ Celebrate Valentine's Day
- Classical Jam*** ♦ Sunday May 20, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. ♦ Club Elections after the Concert

There will be two Benefit Concerts at Chris Garofalo's home. All proceeds will be used to fund the Rising Star and College Music Awards. These are ticketed events with limited seating. Tickets are \$35.

- Fall House Concert*** ♦ Friday, November 17, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.
- Spring House Concert*** ♦ Friday, March 23, 2018 at 7:30 p.m.

Finally, there are three annual events which are part of our music education programs.

- Piano Festival & Competition*** ♦ Sunday, March 4, 2018 ♦ Locations / times TBD
- Piano Festival Honors Recitals*** ♦ Sunday, March 11, 2018 at 1:30 & 3.00 p.m. ♦ DG Public Library
- Rising Stars Concert*** ♦ Tuesday, April 3, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. ♦ DG Public Library

Musical notes



New Members

Welcome to new members **Janis and Tom Sleeter** of Downers Grove. The Sleeters are music lovers who have been supporting our fundraisers for a number of years. Janis has agreed to serve DGMC as VP of Business Development.

2017 Rising Star and College Music Award Recipients

Last May, the DGMC presented monetary awards to eight talented District 99 music students.

The \$400 Rising Star awards are given to juniors to use for their musical education during the summer just before their senior year. This year our winners are: Jennifer Casey, euphonium (DGN); Cedia Kowara, soprano (DGN); Allison Brandt, clarinet (DGS); Nicolette Cheure, viola (DGS); Dandy King, clarinet (DGS).

Two seniors were presented with \$1,000 College Music Awards. They are Elise Cismesia, soprano (DGN) and Lydia Walsh-Rock, soprano (DGS). A \$500 Honorable Mention award was given to Kristina Mucha, clarinet (DGS).

Congratulations to all winners! We look forward to hearing our Rising Stars award recipients at the DGMC Rising Stars program on April 3, 2018.

To remind us of why we devote time and money to support DGMC's student music awards, we'd like to share the following note our dub received from one of our Rising Stars:

To the Downers Grove Music Club:

Thank you so much for both your generous scholarship and the opportunity to perform in your Rising Stars program. Without your contribution, I would not have been able to experience the professional lifestyle at Birch Creek, where it has been made possible for dozens of student musicians to play along professionals in a dedicated, hardworking orchestra. I sincerely thank you for making my dreams a reality.

*Musically yours,
Alice Brandt*

Look What DGMC has Accomplished

At the end of each dub year, all the board members and committee chairs turn in a report describing what they have done during the year. These reports are important documentation of the current responsibilities and procedures of each position. In his report this year, Chris Garofalo concluded with a summary of what the dub has experienced during the four years (2013-2017) he served as president. It's an impressive list:

- A Notable Celebration of the Arts: Concert, Auction and Reception 2013 - 2016
- Rising Stars and College Awards and Piano Festival Awards - over \$5,000 annually
- By-laws revised in the spring of 2016.
- Partnered with the Downers Grove Public Library for programs in 2015
- Increased attendance at regular DGMC programs to 35– 80 members
- Community Projects:
 - Funded the restoration of the concert piano at DG South High School
 - Funded the Purchase of two digital pianos at DG North High School
 - Purchased and donated a 7'2" Feurich Concert I Grand Piano to the DG Library
- Increased awareness of the dub in the community
- Mildred Drew Bequest 2013
- Shelby Bulut Memorial Fund 2015
- Mary Jane Faulkner Memorial Fund 2016
- The dedicated board of the Downers Grove Music Club has achieved many goals and will continue to work for growth in programming, visibility, educational music awards and community events in 2018 – 2019 with a new president and full board of directors.
- **Volunteers are always needed!** Please contact a board member if you can help.

The rest of Chris' Annual Report can be found on page 4. Please take time to read it. It provides important details about the 2016-2017 Club year.

Annual Report 2016-2017

President, Downers Grove Music Club

The Downers Grove Music Club continued its partnership with the Downers Grove Public Library to enrich the musical life of our community and increased the attendance at our programs for the 2016 - 2017 season. The 2017 - 2018 DGMC programs will continue to be integrated and publicized in partnership with the Library Concert Series. Charlotte Ewing, the DGMC Vice President of Artistic Development, has worked closely with the library staff to create the schedule. The Piano Festival and Rising Stars concerts, which are always well attended, will be publicized independently of the library series.

In November 2016, DGMC presented the fourth concert, auction and reception fundraiser, **A Notable Celebration of the Arts**. As part of our education process, students received free admission. The net proceeds once again fully funded \$4,500 in Rising Stars and College Music Awards in advance of the application process. The evening was charmingly hosted by Tom Ewing and Stephanie Quigley. Angela Presutti-Korbitz, soprano; Rising Star winner Brianna Imgruet, trumpet; Charlotte Ewing, piano and Chris Garofalo, piano & organ donated their time to perform. Gloria Salazar again chaired the exceptionally bountiful auction with perfect displays. Charlotte and Tom Ewing and their extended family set up the beautiful reception. Tom's artful photos are posted on the DGMC website.

For the 2017 - 2018 season, two house concerts are scheduled as fundraisers for the DGMC student music awards in lieu of a major event. The board remains committed to providing student music awards in the Downers Grove community.

Charlotte Ewing chaired the nominating committee with members Michael Surratt and Cindy Jensen. The elections occurred in May with all candidates voted in unanimously. The 2017 -2019 VP of Business Development position was still open at the time of the election. This summer, Jan Sleeter accepted the appointment as the VP of Business Development from new dub President Gloria Salazar. DGMC has a full board for 2017 2018!

The DGMC 2017-2018 Board of Directors

President: *Gloria Salazar* Vice President of Artistic Development: *Charlotte Ewing*
 Treasurer: *Kristina Phelps* Vice President of Business Development: *Jan Sleeter appointed in July 2017*
 Secretary: *Remus Badea* At-Large Members: *Dan Moroz and Chris Garofalo*

Christine and Ron Paryl will continue as co-chairs of the Piano Festival which they administered very successfully this year. The festival served 99 students from 15 teachers. The DG Rotary Club and the family of Bee Chiswick continue to sponsor the 1st and 2nd place festival awards through DGMC.

Kristina Phelps, a CPA and the DGMC Treasurer, maintains detailed financial records and files the federal and state paper work for the club's 501(c)3 responsibilities. The records continue to be reviewed annually also by a certified public account without correction.

Gloria Salazar, as Education Chair, seamlessly administered the Rising Stars and College Music Awards' application process, presentations and concert. The DGMC board is still looking for a new Education Chair for 2017 2018.

Elaine Cook created the newsletter and distributed it through MailChimp in an artistic vein.

Charlotte and Tom Ewing continue to maintain the dub's engaging website. In addition to her role as Vice President of Artistic Development, Charlotte held multiple roles as the membership chair and co-webmaster. We are all grateful for her and her family's dedication to DGMC.

The dub continues to operate on a balanced budget for programs, fundraising and student music awards and is in excellent financial condition.

DGMC members continue to provide engaging monthly performance programs.

This spring, DGMC initiated the Elementary String Awards, a new program for tuition assistance for beginning elementary string students. Six students were selected by their applications through local schools and the lessons will be funded through the Shelby Bulut Memorial Fund.

To celebrate the Downers Grove Music Club's 90th Anniversary this fall, award winning adress Megan Wells will present the program *Mozart's Sister* at the DG Library on Sunday September 10th at 2:00 p.m. Megan Wells performance is sponsored through the Shelby Bulut Memorial Fund.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris Garofalo

August 10, 2017

Photos by Tom Ewing



*A Pairing of the Arts
Books & Music
May 7, 2017*



*2017 Piano Festival
2nd Place Senior
Competition Winner*



*Teapot
from
Beauty
and the
Beast*



*To view the complete set of photos
please visit the Photo Archives on www.downersgrovemusicclub.org*

Organizations and Events

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

American Music Institute: With campuses in Downers Grove, Clarendon Hills and St. Charles, AMI is dedicated to professional music performance and to providing a high level of music education and lessons for students in all instruments, levels, ages, and styles of music. Visit [the AMI website](#) for more information.

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.

Community United Methodist Church: Chris Garofalo, Music Director. This summer, the Community United Methodist Church (20 N. Center St., Naperville) purchased a 96" Bösendorfer Imperial Concert Grand Piano.

The "Piano Dedication Recital" will be held at **3 p.m. on Sunday, September 24th**. Concert features works of Handel, Chopin, Debussy, Reynolds and more. Chris Garofalo, pianist, will be joined by other musicians on saxophone, horn and voice. The program is FREE. Because the building is under renovation, please enter on the corner of Benton and Franklin streets.

Downers Grove Choral Society: John Patrick Rakes, artistic director. Visit www.dgcs.org for more information.

First United Methodist Church: 1032 Maple Avenue, Downers Grove

"Concert in Memory of Mary Ellen Newsom" will be held at **noon on Saturday, September 2nd** featuring the DG Choral Society, Chicago Master-Singers, vocal and string soloists, string ensembles and string orchestra. Admission by donation to the Music for Life Alliance.

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., Downers Grove. Individual tickets are available at the door for \$22 for adults, \$19 for seniors 65 and older and \$7 for students under 21, with children six and under free when accompanied by an adult. There is a \$2 discount for advanced purchases. For more details or to purchase tickets visit www.SinfoniettaBelCanto.org.

"SBC Voice Competition Local Applicants" will be held at **3 p.m. on Sunday, September 24**. The program features Mendelssohn's Symphony No. 5 "Reformation", Gade's *Echoes from Ossian* and a mix of vocal selections performed by talented applicants from last season's SBC Voice Competition and by two SBC soloists.

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. For further information contact Marilyn at 630-971-1594 or visit www.villagevoicesdg.org.

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Follow us on: [TWITTER](#) at twitter.com/DGMusicClub and [INSTAGRAM](#) at instagram.com/DGMusicClub

Please Note

Two of our members are involved in special events this month. The family of Mary Ellen Newsom is holding a concert in her memory on September 2nd. On September 24th, there is a Piano Dedication Recital featuring Chris Garofalo. More details are in the listing above.

The Downers Grove Music Club is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization.

Our mailing address is:
P.O. Box 551, Downers Grove, IL 60515
www.downersgrovemusicclub.org