



A good-sized crowd was on hand to enjoy the [Fall-O-Rama Concert](#) performed on Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup> at the DG Library. Pianist Chris Garofalo and soprano Olga Saad, who was accompanied by Charlotte Ewing on piano, gave dazzling performances to an appreciative audience.

If you missed the concert, check out the video recording online! Recent videos and upcoming events may be found on our homepage, <https://downersgrovemusicclub.org>. Also be sure to visit our Calendar & Events webpage: <https://downersgrovemusicclub.org/calendar.html>, where you can see our entire concert season of events, as well as view videos from our previous season. We urge everyone to come out and support our wonderful musicians at these free public concerts. 🎵

## *Interested in performing?*

We still have room for a performer or two for our annual holiday treasures concert, which will be held on Sunday, December 8, 2024, at 2pm at the DG Public Library. This popular event features holiday music presented in a fun, spirited way. Contact Joyce Tumea at [joytumea@sbcglobal.net](mailto:joytumea@sbcglobal.net) for more information. As always, Charlotte Ewing is looking for members to perform at our upcoming concerts in 2025. Email Charlotte at [vp-art@downersgrovemusicclub.org](mailto:vp-art@downersgrovemusicclub.org) or call 630-251-0247 to inquire.

# Fall House Benefit Concert



Another successful Student Music Awards Benefit Concert was held on Saturday, November 16<sup>th</sup>. The event featured performances by 2023 Rising Stars Award Recipient Evangeline Selking

(flute); Robert Gordon (oboe) and Jason Deroche (guitar); Jue He and Xiaomin Liang (piano duet); and Chris Garofalo on harpsichord.

DGMC board member Chris Garofalo always creates a wonderful event – each unique from prior ones, but equally amazing. Afterwards, audience members enjoyed a relaxed time of conversation with musicians and each other over a glass of wine and a generous selection of hors d'oeuvres and desserts. The proceeds from this event, the first of two benefit concerts, exceeded



our goals and will be used toward funding this year's Student Music Awards.



We are very grateful to our amazing artists who donated their time and talent, as well as our generous supporters – many of whom are regulars at these benefits. Thank you so much for truly making our Student Music Awards program possible! 🎵

# Holiday Treasures Concert & Singalong



Our next free public concert will be our annual Holiday Treasures Concert on December 8th at 2 pm at the Downers Grove Public Library. This annual event is a family favorite and wonderful welcome to the holiday season. It features a colorful cast of DGMC musicians and other guest performers and ends with a sing-along.

Reservations are highly recommended through the DG Public Library for this popular event. Visit our website for more info. 🎵

## 2025 Piano Festival & Competition

Registration is open for the Downers Grove Music Club's Piano Festival and Competition for 2025



February 1, 2025 is the deadline for registering for the Piano Festival and Competition. This important event is fast approaching. Piano teachers who have participated in this event in recent years have already been notified by email. Newcomers are welcome!

All registration must use the online form at [downersgrovemusicclub.org/pianofest.html](https://downersgrovemusicclub.org/pianofest.html). Complete information about the event can also be found at the same webpage. We expect the upcoming fest to be another wonderful event!

### KEY FESTIVAL DATES

**February 1, 2025**

Registration deadline

**March 2, 2025**

Festival and Competition (All Students)  
Community United Methodist Church,  
Naperville

**March 9, 2025**

Honors Recitals (Selected Students)  
Afternoon times TBD, Downers Grove Public  
Library

**April 8, 2025**

Rising Stars Concert (Competition First Place  
Winners), 7:00 pm, Downers Grove Library

Volunteers are needed to assist the judges on March 2<sup>nd</sup> from noon to 6:00 pm. If you are interested in helping for a few hours, call Gloria Salazar at 630-968-8997 or email her at [pianofest@downersgrovemusicclub.org](mailto:pianofest@downersgrovemusicclub.org). 🎵

# Membership

## Don't forget to Renew!

The Downer Grove Music Club offers free public concerts; sponsors an annual piano festival for local students; recognizes talented high school students with music awards to help them further their studies; and encourages younger students with private lesson awards.

All our support comes from annual membership dues and generous donations.

*Donate, renew or join today!*

A big thanks to our many members who have renewed already, as well as for the generous donations we have received. We simply could not accomplish our goals of providing free public concerts and music education programs without the help and involvement of our many committed supporters.

*Thank you so much for supporting us! 🎵*

# 2024-2025 CONCERT SERIES

The Concert Series is sponsored by the Downers Grove Music Club and the Downers Grove Public Library. Concerts are free to the public and held at the Downers Grove Public Library on Sundays at 2 pm. Reservations are strongly recommended and can be made from our website or by calling the library.



**December 8, 2024 at 2 pm, DG Public Library**

## Holiday Treasures

Enjoy a musical welcome to the holiday season with a delightful hour of holiday music, led by Joyce Tumea. This annual event features a colorful cast of DGMC musicians and other guest performers and ends with a sing-along.

**January 12, 2025 at 2:00 pm at the DG Public Library**

## Suenos Latin Jazz

Stylistic music encompassing Afro-Cuban, Brazilian, Flamenco, Fusion, and more, led by Steve Hashimoto.

**Sunday, February 9, 2025 at 2 pm, DG Public Library**

## DG Music Club Concert

Plan to join Downers Grove Music Club musicians and friends for an hour of delightful music.

**March 2025 at 2 pm – DG Public Library**

## DG Library concert

Details TBD.

**April 2025 at 2 pm at the DG Public Library**

## DG Library concert

Details TBD.

**Sunday, May 4, 2025 at 2 pm – DG Public Library**

## DG Music Club Concert

Featuring DGMC musicians. Details TBD.

## Special DGMC events

---



**Sunday, March 2, 2025, Community United Methodist Church, 20 Center Street, Naperville**

### 2025 Piano Festival & Competition

A well-established, adjudicated event open to piano students in Downers Grove and surrounding communities.

**Sunday, March 9, 2025 – DG Public Library**

### 2025 Piano Festival Honors Recitals

Recitals featuring the piano students who excelled at the 2025 Piano Festival & Competition.



**Saturday, March 15, 2025 at 7 pm – private home**

### Spring Benefit House Concert

The final of two annual fundraising events featuring a Benefit Concert with all proceeds used to fund the Rising Star and College Music Awards.



**Tuesday, April 8, 2025 – DG Public Library**

### Rising Stars Concert

An exciting concert featuring the 2024 Rising Star recipients and other talented young musicians in the Downers Grove community. 🎵

IN MEMORIAM

---

## Wayne Reid

We were saddened to learn that longtime DGMC member, Wayne Reid, passed away earlier this year in April. Wayne devoted his life to teaching piano and was a well-loved teacher in the Downers Grove area.



## Meet the 2024-2025 DGMC Board

**President** – Tom Ewing  
president@downersgrovemusicclub.org

**VP Artistic Development** – Charlotte Ewing\*  
vp-art@downersgrovemusicclub.org

**VP Business Development** – Chris Garofalo  
vp-bus@downersgrovemusicclub.org

**Secretary** – Gloria Salazar  
secretary@downersgrovemusicclub.org

**Treasurer** – Maureen Breau\*  
treasurer@downersgrovemusicclub.org

**Member-At-Large** – Rich Penner\*  
member1@downersgrovemusicclub.org

**Member-At-Large** – Angela Presutti Korbitz  
member2@downersgrovemusicclub.org

\*Officers elected to the DGMC Board during May 2024 elections

## ORGANIZATIONS and EVENTS

**Four Seasons Chamber Music Society** was formed in May 2023 to give inspired chamber and contemporary music performances by talented artists in the western suburbs. Learn more at <https://www.fourseasonschambermusicsociety.com/>

**Dan Moroz** is a Chicago saxophonist, composer, and music educator. Dan's original music can be found on all major streaming services, including Spotify, iTunes, and Amazon. Website: <https://www.danmoroz.com/>

**Downers Grove Choral Society** has been performing concerts in the western suburbs of Chicago since 1959. Learn more at [www.dgcs.org](http://www.dgcs.org).

**Grant Street String Quartet:** This quartet was formed in 2010 by four professional musicians in the western suburban area of Chicago. Recordings may be purchased online. Learn more at: <http://www.grantstreetstringquartet.weebly.com>.

**PianoForte Studios: Thomas Zoells**, director and owner of the PianoForte Chicago piano store. PianoForte Studios, 1335 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago. For more information, call (312) 291-0000 or visit <https://pianofortechicago.com/>.

**West Towns Chorus:** Chartered in 1948, the group is one of the premier men's a cappella choruses in the Chicago area. Their Christmas program, *Music and Mischief, A West Towns Grich-mas*, will be held on December 14<sup>th</sup>. For details and to purchase tickets, visit [www.westtowns.org](http://www.westtowns.org).

**Sinfonietta Bel Canto** provides an outlet to enjoy premier classical symphonic and chamber opera works. Dan Pasquale D'Andrea is the Artistic Director/Conductor. For information, call 630-384-5007 or visit [www.SinfoniettaBelCanto.org](http://www.SinfoniettaBelCanto.org). 🎵