



Downers Grove Choral Society

#15 DINE AND DANCE & ARTIST RECITAL

DINE AND DANCE WITH TONY AND THE FEDERALES

SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 2010

6:30 COCKTAILS

7:00 DINNER

A VERY SPECIAL EVENT TO BENEFIT

The Downers Grove Choral Society

When was the last time you danced to the music of a live band? In these days of the DJ, the art of live band music, and the interaction of the band with the diners and dancers, has been all but lost. Here is an opportunity to recapture that, and to support a cultural gem of the community in the process.



DGCS member Justin Sisul is well acquainted with Tony Kidonakis and the Federales. "The Federales are a group of outstanding and versatile musicians. Each time I have had the pleasure of hearing them perform they simply ignite the room with their incredible energy and talent. Tony Kidonakis spent many years teaching in Downers Grove, leaving him not only with a strong connection to our community but a solid fan base here as well. This performance will be one of Tony's only appearances in the area this year, and we are thrilled to be able to offer the opportunity to see him play live once again!"



Live entertainment is only part of the exciting activities that are planned for March 5. The Doubletree will create an appropriate atmosphere for the evening and provide dinner, and a cash bar will be available.

At the silent auction you will be able to bid on a BluRay DVD player, among many other exciting items. A gift card raffle will guarantee every participant a card worth more than the purchase of the raffle ticket that can be used locally – there are NO losers for this raffle.

The elegance of the Grand Ballroom at the Doubletree will combine with the passion of the musicians, the dinner, and the opportunity for prizes to provide one and all an unforgettable evening.

As you are probably aware, arts organizations such as the DGCS are struggling to survive due to serious cutbacks to arts funding during the current economy. If arts are to survive in the community, it is more important than ever that you do what you can to contribute. The DGCS has set up this event for the purpose of providing you great value for your contributions.

When: Saturday, March 5, 2011
Where: Doubletree Guest Suites, Grand Ballroom, 2111 Butterfield Rd, Downers Grove, IL
Time: 6:30 pm cocktails and silent auction, 7:30 pm dinner
Tickets: \$50 per person, cash bar

Bring friends and family to this evening you certainly won't want to miss. For more information or to purchase tickets, call 630-515-0030 or visit www.dgcs.org.

Downers Grove Choral Society Artist Recital Series Presents:

“A Portrait of American Song”

Featuring: Gail Millas -- Soprano.
Assisted by: James Rank – Baritone
Patrick Tierney -- Tenor
Ram Natarajan -- Baritone
Maggie Clennon Reberg -- Mezzo-Soprano
Robert Holst -- pianist

Sunday February 27, 2011- 3:30 p.m.
Performing Arts Center
The Avery Coonley School
1400 Maple Ave
Downers Grove, Illinois

Program Overview

“A Portrait of American Song” is a journey, a visual portrait of America through music. The inspiration for this program was a love affair with The American Art Song. Performing these pieces always feels like coming home.

The program selections paint a “portrait” of our beautiful America. They take us through the complexities and horrors of War; draw reference to the cultural experiences, traditions and freedoms on which our country was founded and explore the joy and pain of love.

Renowned American Baritone Thomas Hampson said it best

“These are the songs born of our life experiences as Americans, in the language of our hearts and minds. Our songs say everything about the culture we call American. And when we sing our own songs, when we see through the eyes of our poets and hear with the ears of our composers the diary of our land, those who hear us will experience the best of what freedom of thought and purpose can achieve in the creation of great art. We need these songs in our cultural landscape.”

As children, some of our first musical experiences came directly from the movies. How many times did the movie event end with a children’s chorus from the back seat of our parents’ car? We will visit songs from, and influenced by, the movies.

American Songs in their abundance and diversity, speak to us personally because they are our music, our expressions. They continue to inspire me as they do many others. I hope that you will fall in love with the musical gems that are “A Portrait of American Song”.

Gail Millas



Gail Millas - Soprano

Gail has performed as a soloist with numerous organizations in Wisconsin and Illinois. A sought-after vocalist, Gail has appeared as a soloist in many of the DGCS concerts. This is Gail's eighth Artist Recital appearance with the DGCS.



James Rank - Baritone

James has had an active career in musical theater, opera and concert venues, which has included a Jeff nomination for Best Actor for his role at Drury Lane Water Tower in *A Little Night Music*. Jim has sung concerts with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, The Ravinia Festival, The Elgin Symphony Orchestra and The Chicago Sinfonietta.



Patrick Tierney – Tenor

Since May 2008, Patrick has been working as an actor in Chicago (his home town). In the summer of 2010, Tribune theatre critic, Chris Jones named Patrick one of the 10 “Hot New Faces” to watch for on Chicago-area stages.



**RamNatarajan-
Baritone**

A sought-after baritone, Ram has performed several times as a soloist with the DGCS. He has been active as a soloist in Downers Grove since high school. He has been trained in South Indian Classical Performance and successfully balances musical careers in Chicago and India. Ram released his first CD “Epiphany” in 2006.



Maggie Clennon Reberg - Mezzo-Soprano

The American mezzo-soprano has appeared with the opera companies of Chicago, Los Angeles, Detroit, Atlanta, New York, Toledo and Indianapolis. She is a frequent soloist with symphonies and choral ensembles, as well as appearing in classical theatre, and has sung many times with the DGCS.



Robert Holst - Pianist

Dr. Holst was appointed fourth Music Director of the Downers Grove Choral Society in 1992 and celebrates his 19th and final season as Music Director of the DGCS in 2010-2011. Holst has extensive experience in conducting choral ensembles and working with singers of all types and levels. He is an Associate Professor of Music at Lewis University. A specialist in Baroque music, he enjoys performing music of all periods and genres. In addition to his work on the podium, he continues to perform as an accompanist and chamber music player.

For More Information, please call:

630-515-0030

Suggested Free Will Donation: \$20

Love's Sweet Songs – A Hit!



On Sunday, February 13, the DGCS presented a program of love songs to tie in with Valentine's Day. The program was a great success, with many enthusiastic comments from concert-goers. As one person said, "As the program went on it just got better and better!"

Satisfying both performers and members of the audience, the concert was successful in many additional ways. Of great importance is the ability to attract new people to programs, and one third of the audience surveyed were new to DGCS. Also, the ability to attend a concert and also have dinner turned out to be an attractive option. The DGCS had partnered with nearby Capri Restaurant, which was packed with concert attendees after the program. Many thanks to Capri and their staff for adding to the enjoyment of this day!

Last season's Youth Award winners, Anna Burton and Elyse Warnecke (above), sang "Where is Love" from *Oliver* during the program, a delightful addition.

Anyone wishing to support this year's Youth Award should send donations made out to the DGCS at P. O. Box 655, Downers Grove, IL 60515. Please specify that the donation is to be applied to the Youth Award.

White Fence Farm Fundraiser Night – February 22

Since the 1920s White Fence Farm has been serving what is said to be the World's Greatest Chicken – but chicken is not the only thing on the menu. If you have never been there, certainly it is time you gave it a try. If you have been there, certainly you crave it now and then. Twenty percent of your purchase from White Fence Farm on **Tuesday, February 22**, either restaurant or any carry-out location, will benefit the DGCS, but you **MUST USE THE FLYER** in order for DGCS to get the credit. So why not skip a night of cooking, or pick some up and freeze it for a future night you don't want to cook. **Remember to bring your flyer and only on Tuesday, February 22!**

Here is a list of the locations:

Restaurant:	1376 Joliet Road, Romeoville	Phone 630-739-1720
Carry-outs:		
Downers Grove:	5005 Fairview (& Maple)	Phone 630-964-5505
Romeoville (behind restaurant):	1376 Joliet Road	Phone 815-838-1152
Plainfield:	12337 S. Rt 59 #23	Phone 815-609-4477
Riverside:	3704 Harlem (& Ogden)	Phone 708-447-9325
Joliet:	70-80 Barney Drive (& Jefferson)	Phone 815-744-2072

Check the web site : <http://whitefencefarm-il.com/restaurant.htm>.

See separate attachment to this email for flyer to print and present with your food order, restaurant or carryout.