



## DGN MUSIC BOOSTERS

# MUSIC NOTES

### FROM THE PRESIDENT...

Marching band uniforms, broken strings, and choir robes are not the only things that need periodic replacement!

Many of the current Board Members' students will be graduating this spring, which means that they may no longer serve on the DGN Music Booster Board. Please help the music faculty at Downers North be able to rely on a Board that has fresh ideas, insights and energies to share. In addition to many other roles, the Board serves as a steward of the financial resources for our

organization. Currently, there are only *four* more DGN Music Booster Board Meetings remaining this year. We invite parents and guardians of our music students to all of our meetings. The upcoming "passing of the baton" adds a new measure of urgency. There is no better way to learn about the organization than by attending the balance of this year's meetings. To see our meeting schedule, visit us at [www.DGNMusicBoosters.com](http://www.DGNMusicBoosters.com).

I would personally offer that serving this organization has been an extraordinarily rewarding experi-

ence.

When I attended my first meeting six years ago, I wondered if any organization could really be as warm, friendly, and yet singularly focused as the Music Boosters. Since then, I've been able to participate in many ways, from unloading fundraiser materials to serving as the Board President. Each of these experiences has offered unique rewards. I have come to learn that my first impressions were correct. Although my current tenure as president will end this

Continued on page 2

### FROM THE CHAIR...

Dear Family and Friends:

We would like to thank all the parents who contributed to making our Holiday concert season such a success. From small ensemble performances in the community, to assistance with the Holiday Mosaic concert, we feel truly fortunate to work with such dedicated and energetic volunteers!

As we continue into the second semester I would like to remind families that the Fine Arts Department is now maintaining a Blog website, featuring continuously updated articles about student musi-

cians at North, as well as an "Rolling 30-day Calendar" of Fine Arts events. You may also subscribe to the Blog via RSS feeds. We invite you to visit:

[www.csd99.org/northfinearts](http://www.csd99.org/northfinearts)

or

[www.northfinearts.blogspot.com](http://www.northfinearts.blogspot.com)

We invite you to attend one of the scheduled booster meetings that are held each month at school. These meetings are open to any and all band, choir and

orchestra parents who are interested in getting involved. Come join the team Thank you again for all you continue to do in support of the Fine Arts in our community.

Musically yours,

Brayer Teague  
Fine Arts Department  
Chairperson

FEBRUARY 2007

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

**2/28 – 3/5: Nashville Trip Choirs**

**3/3: IHSA Solo & Ensemble Contest All Day** Neuqua Valley HS, Naperville SS

**3/8: District 99 Orchestra Concert 7:00 PM** DGN Orch, WE

**3/9: North HS Vocal Festival All Day** DGN SS

**3/11: Hinsdale Center of the Arts – Art Show TBA** Hinsdale Art

**3/13: Spring Choral Concert 7:00 PM** DGN FC, CC, TC, AC

**3/15: Band Concert 7:00 PM** DGN CB, SB, WE

**3/16: Community Outreach Concert 12:45 PM** DGN WE

**3/17: NSCB Solo & Ensemble Festival All Day** Evanston SS

**3/19: Dist. 99 Choral Honors Recital 7:00 PM** Gloria Dei SS

**4/3: Great Frame-Up Art Show** Woodridge, IL Art

**4/10: Jazz Bands Concert ("Sharing is Caring") 7:00 PM** DGN JE, JLB, PE



senior band buzz



This quarter's outstanding senior is the one and only **Adam Weil**. Adam plays trumpet in the Wind Ensemble as well as in the Jazz Ensemble. Even though Adam doesn't play piano anymore, he still wanted to be photographed in front of the family piano.



**s.b.b.: How long have you been playing an instrument? Where did you get started?**

**Adam:** I started playing the trumpet in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade at Lester Elementary in Downers Grove. I chose the trumpet because I really liked trumpet music and thought that it would be a fun and new experience to learn how to play. I continued playing at Herrick Junior High and now also take private lessons.

**s.b.b.: Who has influenced your musical "career" the most and why?**

**Adam:** I would have to say that Mr. Teague has influenced me the most. He taught me to keep working at being better and to never settle for less than the best.

**s.b.b.: What are your interests outside of DGN Band?**

**Adam:** I am very involved in Speech Team and just recently competed in the IHSA Regional Meet hosted by Downers North. I am also on the Varsity Scholastic Bowl Team, and a member of the National Honor Society. Other than that, I am pretty consumed with schoolwork!

(s.b.b. note: Adam **won** the regional speech championship in original comedy and will be moving on to compete at sectionals.)

**s.b.b.: What will your life be like after DGN Band? College/work/music?**

**Adam:** I have been accepted at Grinnell College in Iowa and plan to attend there in the fall. I am not sure exactly what my major will be, but I am leaning towards economics and pre-law. Even though I don't plan to major in music, I want to continue playing music, hopefully in the jazz band at Grinnell.

**s.b.b.: What is one interesting thing about you that most people wouldn't know?**

**Adam:** I am legally blind in my right eye because I was born with cataracts, but I am used to it and it does not affect my life at all.

---

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER (CONTINUED)

spring, the memories and experiences as well as the many friendships that I've made are not subject to any statute of limitations in any by-laws anywhere. I'm con-

fident that many of the same types of positive experiences await you through *your more active involvement* in the leadership of this organization as well.

I suggest that the best way for you to see what kind of involvement makes the most sense for you is to attend our meetings. Please know that each of

you is most welcome. We look forward to working with you.

## CONFESSIONS OF A HELICOPTER MOM & TIPS ON GROUNDING THE AIRCRAFT

It's the mother of all field trips, an introduction to independent decision making before the legal system calls a teen a grown up, and a little slice of freedom under an umbrella of security. We are talking about a few days in March when lots of our little darlings will dash from cars parked in the shadow of chartered coach buses and, without much of a glance back at our furrowed brows, board transports for four glorious days of song, sightseeing and sleeplessness called the Nashville Trip.

As a parental survivor of the days of Disneyworld, Washington D.C., Toronto and St. Louis, and a well known hovercraft parent, I could reminisce for hours about packing for and with your child, the departure, the days of absence and the anticipated recap upon their return.

Girls require hours of pre-departure planning. Forget about the musical performances; it is the clothes that demand focus. They will acquire numerous coordinated ensembles to be summarily discarded like an American Idol reject in Minneapolis, prompting the lament that "I have nothing to wear." Eventually, after much packing and repacking, they will settle on outfits that look pretty much like what they've been wearing to school every day. You will wonder why it took

twelve trips to Target and the mall to fill their requisite single suitcase.

Boys throw a couple of shirts in a gym bag and go back to playing their video games. Just try to convince them that extra underwear and pajamas are desirable options while sharing a room with compatriots.

Girls assemble numerous miniature travel versions of appearance enhancing products, like shampoo, conditioner, body lotion, perfume, eye shadow, foundation, powder, eyeliner, blush, lipstick, nail polish, nail polish remover, an assortment of brushes for hair and makeup, curling irons, hair dryers and maybe even a travel iron. They pack at least one camera, and multiple rolls of film if they haven't entered the digital age. They load their backpacks with travel games, gum, Tic Tacs, perhaps a journal, pens, their phone, their phone charger, pictures, books, magazines, and of course, shoes. Several pairs. And they are likely to forget the Dinkels.

Boys, in my experience, pack an I-pod and a video game. Expect a call from the first available rest stop for advice on purchasing a toothbrush. One of these days, some enterprising young man will come up with a plan for renting out transport space in his lamentably empty suitcase for luggage

challenged young ladies. When he offers to sell you stock in his start-up, buy it.

Upon departure, don't be offended if you don't exist. There is something about being surrounded by a pack of chattering teenagers that creates a cloak of invisibility around parents. Looking for a farewell kiss from your baby boy or girl? Go home and play back a video of their first day in kindergarten. For this moment in time, they want to feel like they don't need you, won't miss you, and have no biological connection to anyone over the age of 19 who is not a member of a rock band or star of a reality television show. Do yourself a favor. Wave. Smile as though you are getting a response. Get back in the car and drive to Starbucks or Caribou where you will meet several other choir parents buying caloric coffee confections because you are awake at this ridiculous hour. Plan an evening out that will not be interrupted with a pick-up or curfew.

I would offer the same advice about their days of absence. Don't wait at home to hear their voice. Yes, this is the most connected generation on the planet. They phone, they text, they IM, and they talk. To their friends. If you do happen to get a call from your child, don't tell the rest of us. We might cry.

Then, we have the big finish. Those buses pull back into the parking lot and very tired people drag themselves down the steps. Your baby will have missed you, but will try hard not to show it. They will be exhausted, but not too tired to check their e-mail when they get home. They will have learned a smidge about being independent, but they will still act like they know it all. They will have had a great and safe time, and when they are 25, they might just tell you about it.

Thank the parent chaperones and teachers for this interlude. While they were busy holding that security umbrella over the offspring, we got to rehearse clipping our own helicopter rotors and our kids had the chance to fly solo. Then thank goodness for these practice flights. They make all of us better pilots in the future

by Diana Karge





## NASHVILLE NEWS

With the choir trip less than three weeks away, preparations continue for what promises to be a rewarding weekend of musical and cultural learning in Music City!

This week, class meetings were held with all participating students. Among the topics covered were:

- updated itinerary information
- packing guidelines
- uniform guidelines
- detailed departure instructions
- expectations for student behavior and department

Informational packets were shared with students, and tour T-shirts were distributed. Students asked many good questions about trip, and it is clear that the excitement continues to build as we near our departure on Friday, March 2nd!

## CURTAIN UP FOR “ON BROADWAY”

“*On Broadway*” was introduced this week to Freshman, Concert and Treble Choirs. Familiar hits will delight the audience along with several hidden gems of the “Great White Way”. A few of the familiar musicals featured in this year’s showcase are *Grease*, *Rent*, *Les Miserable*, and *Cabaret*. Some of the less known but fabulous shows to make an appearance are *Hairspray*, *State Fair*, *The Pajama Game*, and *Sweeney Todd*.

A new addition to our staff this year is Nancy Bocek, who will choreograph one number for each choir, along with our combined selection,

“Footloose”.

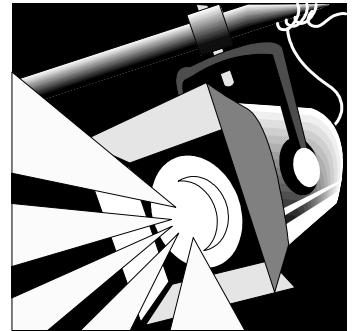
Our first rehearsal with Ms. Bocek will be **Saturday, April 14**, 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., when each choir will have a 2 1/2 hour time slot to learn the choreography for one of their songs (specific times for the choirs will be announced soon).

Another special rehearsal will take place on **Monday, May 7**, 6:30 – 9:30 p.m. for the combined choirs piece.

A final “clean-up” rehearsal with Ms. Bocek will be on **Saturday, May 12**, 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., to review all of the choreography.

The success of this year’s show depends upon the com-

mitment of each choir member to this rehearsal schedule. Classroom rehearsals on the music will begin the first week in March, following the Nashville trip. So . . . get out your best dress, your white tie and tails, and join us “*On Broadway*”!!



## CHORAL SHOWCASE MAY 15, 2007

## COOKIES ~COOKIES~COOKIES~COOKIES~COOKIES

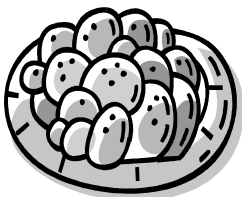
### A-Capella & Treble Choirs...

Please bring two dozen cookies to lobby area at call time

Tuesday, March 13th

for our

## SPRING CHORAL CONCERT



## IMEA ALL-STATE KUDOS

*Congratulations* to the 2007 North High School All-State Musicians, who recently traveled to Peoria, IL to participate in the IMEA Convention.

### All-State Band:

Mark Dortwegt - Clarinet (Jr)  
Emily Kirkegaard - Oboe (Jr)

### All-State Choir:

Rania El-Kareh - Soprano (Jr)  
Natalie Sanders - Alto (Sr)

### All-State Orchestra:

Joseph Beckmann - Violin (Sr)  
Renee Douglas - Viola (Sr)  
Shannon Drobney - Violin (Jr)  
Rachel Edwards - Violin (Sr)  
Katie Schranz - Viola (Jr)  
Natalie Stawarski - Violin (Jr)

### All-State Jazz Band:

Jamshed Jehangir - Drums (Jr)  
Rusty Jehangir - Trombone (Sr)

### All-State Music Composition:

Rusty Jehangir - First Place, Jazz Improvisation Composition (Sr)  
Nicholas Reinhart - First Place, Vocal Ensemble Composition (Sr)

### Future Music Educators

### Symposium:

Mary Brandenstein (Sr)



## DGN JAZZ SUCCESS!!

The North High School Jazz Program enjoyed great success at the 2007 Purdue University Jazz Festival. For the first time in the school's history, all three performing ensembles garnered "Division I" recognition in the same year.

The DGN Jazz Combo won 1st place "honor band" status. The Combo also won the "Judges Award" for their competition room. JJ Jehangir (drums) and Rusty Jehangir (trombone) garnered outstanding solo recognition, and Rusty Jehangir was named Outstanding Soloist for the day in the Combo

division.

The DGN Jazz Lab Band won 1st place "honor band" status as well, in their particular competition room. Outstanding solo recognition included Michael Walser (saxophone), Ben Tullis (flute), Sebastian Garcia (bass), Rudy Rendek (guitar) and Hannah Shatzer (piano). Additionally, Sebastian Garcia was one of two students recognized as "Outstanding Soloist" for the entire day.

The DGN Jazz Ensemble received the "Outstanding Performance" award in the Loeb Playhouse competition venue. Their average score of

95 was the highest score the band has ever attained at this prestigious Midwest festival. Outstanding solo recognition included Zach Wetta (flute), David Musselman (saxophone), Alex Binek (trumpet), and Rusty Jehangir (trombone). Additionally, Rusty Jehangir was one of two students recognized as "Outstanding Soloist" for the entire day.

Congratulations to all the DGN Jazz musicians for an outstanding weekend of jazz and many great musical accomplishments.



## BAND FAMILIES-

Be sure to mark your calendars for the  
**Annual Band Banquet and Awards Ceremony**

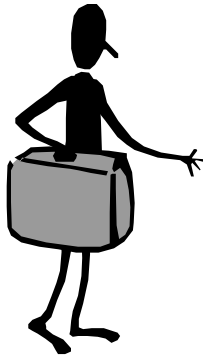
Saturday, May 19, 2007

6-11 pm

at the Willowbrook Ballroom

Reservation forms will be mailed out soon.

## HOST FAMILIES NEEDED!



District 99 enjoys a long tradition of participating in a musical and cultural exchange program with the German city of Bietigheim-Bissingen. For over two decades we have had the pleasure of hosting music ensembles from their Music School, and we have – in turn – enjoyed tours of District 99 groups to Germany.

The next German music ensemble to travel to the United States is their Concert

Band. Sixty seven students and seven adult chaperones will be with us in Downers Grove from May 24 – May 30, 2007. There is still a need for more host families.

*We are asking North and South High Band families to carefully consider this opportunity to serve as a host family for just under a week.*

Hundreds of District 99 families have been enriched through the years by partici-

pating in this experience, and we feel confident that – should you be willing to open your home for a few days to a German student musician – you and your student will enjoy the experience immensely.

Please contact the Fine Arts office (795-8080) for more information to participate in this opportunity.

## BAND COOKIES PLEASE

Hello Bando-families!!!

The next concert is March 15 at 7:00 pm. We will need 2 dozen cookies from each Concert Band, Symphonic Band, and Wind Ensemble band member.

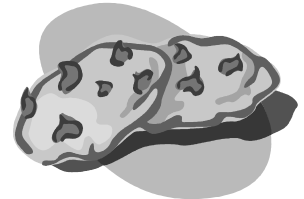
Please drop off all cookies at the cookie table at call time the day of the concert.

The DGN Music Boosters are kindly supplying donut

holes for the last concert on May 17 and for the May 31<sup>st</sup> graduation concert.

If you have any questions, or would like to volunteer to serve cookies and punch at a concert, please feel free to e-mail me at [lorimart32@yahoo.com](mailto:lorimart32@yahoo.com).

So long and thanks for all the cookies!  
Lori Delaney



## SPIRIT BOOTH THANKS!!

To everyone who assisted with the DGN Music Boosters Spirit Booth... ..we just couldn't have done it without you!

I hesitate to list names...so we wish to thank all the **Students from Marching Band** who helped carry stuff down, load us up and get us out to the field!

We would like to specially recognize **Jesse Backes** who

recruited people and helped do it all, every time!

A special recognition for adult assistance goes out to **Mary Paruszkiewicz** for helping us sell at every game, to **Corina Fallbacher** for being there to get us off the ground this year, to **Bonnie Bialek** for all her behind the scenes creativity, instruction, and labors, to **Dawn Johnson** for her donation of knit-

ted scarves and work, and to the **Custodial Staff** at North for getting us tables and chairs inside and out!

We appreciate the meritorious service of **many adults** in the running of the booth.

Thanks to **ALL** of you for your help at the games and concerts...fall and winter! We look forward to a great year next year...and we ask, in advance, for assistance

from all our music families.

It's fun to sell stuff. It's wonderful to lift and carry!

**WE NEED YOU!  
CONSIDER IT FOR  
FALL 2007!**

**THANKS TO EVERYONE  
WHO WORKED FOR  
THIS!**

Sincerely,  
Polly (and Chris) Backes

## SUCCESSFUL CHEESECAKE SALE!!

Early Saturday, February 10th, the Student Cafeteria was filled with boxes of cheesecakes. In short order, a fine group of industrious volunteers organized and pulled students' orders, so that when 9:30 chimed, students could start picking up their treasures for delivery. It all

went very smoothly, and we want to thank our volunteers for their help. The students added \$1,685 to their student accounts by selling 337 cheesecakes.

Thanks to the students for taking orders and to our great volunteers for helping on the deliver day as well as during

the Mosaic concert dinner break to serve participants cheesecake samples.

Now enjoy dessert and a little break from fundraising, until it is time to order plants for your garden.

Sincerely,  
Peggy & Dirk Gutzke  
Cheesecake Chairs

## 2007 ANNUAL BEDDING FLOWER SALE

Instructions and order packets will be distributed to Band, Choir and Orchestra students in late February. Exact order form and payment return dates will be included in these instructions. The deadline for submitting orders will be **after Spring Break**.

Pick-up will be a week earlier this year to improve sales. It will be Saturday, May 5th, to reduce the wait to get your flowerbeds planted. Remember to include orders for Mother's Day, which is the following weekend.

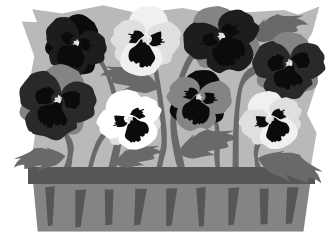
Also new this year will be

the ability to order most of the 4" potted plants individually, instead of in full carriers. As usual, the popular wide variety of hanging baskets will be available. Our supplier, as in the past, is Peterman's Greenhouse who consistently supplies a wide variety of high quality products. Profits from this flower sale will fund the DGN Music Booster's General Fund. Past contributions from this fund have included: contributions to the Listening Library, hiring of clinicians to instruct various music groups, financial support for special events like the NIU Jazz Con-

cert, funding for long-term special needs such as recent purchases of :

- a baby grand piano for the choir room
- Percussion instruments for band
- Cello and bass instruments for the orchestra
- 35 identical guitars for use in guitar classes

If you would like to volunteer to help the morning of this event, please contact the Cozza family a 963-8086 or the Rush family at 971-2590. (evenings at home).



## CHOIR REQUEST

### HELP WANTED...

Next year we will be needing a chairperson for **Choir Hospitality**. It's really a fun and easy job!

It requires making a few phone calls and a few posters to organize volunteers for the after concert receptions. There is a willing list of volunteers—**No cold calling!!!**

Parents are **GREAT** about helping! Please call Pat Caldwell if you might be interested, 963-2723. THANKS!



## REMEMBER TO ORDER MARKET DAY!

- Internet orders due by Wednesday, March 7th at Noon
- **Pick up Saturday, March 10th** 8-9 AM at the Forest St. entrance
- ??? Call Dawn Johnson at 960-0149

**WWW.MARKETDAY.COM**

**DGN MUSIC BOOSTERS  
BOARD MEMBERS**

**President:** Bill Younker

**VP Finance:** Tom Walser

**Treasurer:** Becky Connery

**Secretary:** Tina Riley

**VP Volunteer Resources:**

Marianne Moscato

**VP Volunteer Coordinator:**

Barb Mech

**Fundraising Chair:** Chuck Martin

**Newsletter:** Sharon Younker

Therese Brandenstein

**Contributing Members:**

Diana Rhoades

WE NOW HAVE 162 DONORS  
TO OUR  
CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS FUND.  
THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR GENEROSITY.



**WWW.DGNMUSICBOOSTERS.COM**

---

**DGN Music Boosters-**

Downers Grove North High School

4436 Main St.

Downers Grove, IL 60515

DGN Music Booster Board Meeting Schedule:

Tuesdays, March 6th and April 3rd

7 pm in the Alumni Room