

# The DSOL

Dubuque Symphony Orchestra League  
2024 • 2025 SEASON



*The DSOL develops and administers projects and programs that provide educational outreach and financial support to the DSO.*

## NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Thank you to all who continue to renew your memberships each year and those who continue to volunteer, support, and attend our events. I also want to welcome our new members who have joined us in our 58th year of the DSOL. Without your commitment and your participation, we would not be able to support the DSO as we have throughout the years. Along with a traditional fundraiser, “Play for the Symphony Bridge”, our board has introduced a few new fundraisers this season to include a membership and guests social at the Voices Gallery, two separate theatrical presentations of historical women held at the Dubuque Golf and Country Club that included lunch and performances by Debra Ann Miller portraying Louisa May Alcott and Beatrix Potter. We also sold charcuterie boards just in time for the super bowl. Be on the lookout for our remaining fundraisers this season to include our “Nothing Bundt Cakes Sales Day” to be held on April 17, the Thursday before Easter. Lastly, our Geranium Plus Sales event going on right now scheduled for pick up the Monday before Mother’s Day, May 5th. Look us up by visiting our volunteer page on the DSO website at <https://dubuquesymphony.org/dubuque-symphony-orchestra-league>. We are very appreciative and thankful for your membership of the Dubuque Symphony Orchestra League.

Vickie LaGrotta  
President, DSOL



## BUNDT CAKE FUNDRAISER by Richelle Gentile

Our popular bundt cake fundraiser is back on Thursday, April 17th, which is the Thursday before Easter. Nothing Bundt Cakes will donate 20% of the sales on that day back to the DSOL. Nothing Bundt Cakes is located at 190 JFK and open 8:30am-6:00pm. Stop in and stock up!



## GERANIUM PLUS SALE by Joan Harvieux

Our annual Geranium Plus Plant Sale is now underway and we project it to be another successful event! We recently visited both Cushman’s and Amish/Miner Town Nurseries to tour their greenhouses, and the plants already look spectacular. As in previous years, \$20 gift certificates are available from both nurseries, with no expiration date. Both nurseries offer seasonal fall plants and Cushman’s also grows lovely poinsettias for purchase during the holidays. These plants and gift certificates make wonderful presents, especially with Mothers’ Day around the corner. Order forms were distributed to you via email on March 5th. If you have not received yours, please contact the DSO office at 563-557-1677, and notify them of any changes in your contact information so you may receive one.

Please remember to pick up your flowers on Monday, May 5th at Westminster Presbyterian Church on the corner of University Avenue and Loras Boulevard between noon and 6:00 p.m. All proceeds from this sale go to support the Dubuque Symphony Youth Ensembles and the educational endeavors of the DSO. Thank you for your continuing support.



## SPECIAL THANK YOU

The Dubuque Symphony Orchestra League is very grateful for the generous donation from the Barbara & Wally Brown estate.

**FALL EVENT**

by Marilynne Field

On November 23, 2024 the League introduced a new event. We welcomed actress Debra Ann Miller, in her role as Louisa May Alcott, to perform for book lovers and fans of “Little Women” and all things written by her. Her performance was moving and definitely brought this amazing author to life before our eyes. We enjoyed a buffet luncheon, followed by the performance, and I believe she was well received and many stopped after the event to ask us to do this again with one of her other literary ladies.

**SPRING EVENT**

by Marilynne Field

On Saturday, March 1st, I welcomed back Debra Ann Miller in her portrayal of Beatrix Potter. How appropriate that on the beginning of Women’s History Month we could hear of the trials and tribulations of a Botanist, Illustrator, Writer and major donor to the British National Trust Land Conservation. I was not aware of all her accomplishments until this presentation and Debra brought her to life for those of us present. I have a newfound admiration for Beatrix Potter. 50 Guests enjoyed my favorite club menu choice and we had time to visit before and after the performance. Proceeds from this event will be given to future projects of the League.

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**DSOL ANNUAL MEETING/SOCIAL**  
**WEDNESDAY JUNE 4, 2024**  
**4:30-7PM DUBUQUE GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB**

**EDUCATION REPORT** by Cindy Mueller

Congratulations to the DSYE (Dubuque Symphony Youth Ensembles) for their fine performances at the Mozart Requiem and Winter Concerts held in February. Please mark your calendar for their Spring Concert on May 11 at Steeple Square.

The Concerto Competition this year will be held at Clarke University on April 5. Several students will be auditioning.

This year’s Summer Camp (also held at Clarke University) has a current enrollment of 75. The maximum enrollment for this year will be 85 students. For the first time there will be 2 orchestras at the Summer Camp, one for middle school and one for high school students.

Suonare, a youth chamber ensemble, will be appearing at several events during the summer. Watch for your chance to hear them play at the Farmers’ Market!

Thanks so much to all the members of the DSOL for your work and financial support that contributes to the success of all the education programs provided by the Dubuque Symphony Orchestra! Your efforts enrich the musical lives of not only the students in the DSYE, but also all the many students that benefit from the outreach programs of the DSO, the Artist-In-Residence program for area schools and the ARTS TREK concerts provided for area 5th and 3rd grade students each year at Five Flags Theatre. If you want to usher for the ARTS TREK concerts this fall, please send your name, email, and phone number to Cindy Mueller at [bobncindymueller@gmail.com](mailto:bobncindymueller@gmail.com) The concert for the 5th grade will be on Thursday, Oct. 16, and the concert for the 3rd grade will be on Tuesday, Nov. 18. You may volunteer for one or both concerts. If you volunteer, you will be contacted in September with all the details.

**The DSOL and its membership of dedicated volunteers provide support for the financial and educational endeavors of the Dubuque Symphony Orchestra.**

Amy Weber – Fundraising Chair

Angie Jordan – Treasurer

Bernie Gilbertson – Bridge Fundraiser

Carrie Bleile – Assistant Treasurer

&amp; Correspondence Secretary

Cynthia Mueller – Education

Debbie Burton – Board Member

Debbie Coakley – Historian/Archivist

Ellen Gukeisen – Board Member

Fusako Sato – Board Member

Gail Appel – Vice President/ Annual Meeting

Jacquie Roth – Nominations Committee

Joan Harvieux – Past President / Geranium Sale

Joanne Gebauer – Recording Secretary / Newsletter

Joyce Johnson – Membership Co-Chair

Kathe Richardson – Membership Co-Chair

Kristen Kemp-Hodges – Administration /

Sound Bites

Lisa Fackelman – Volunteer Hours

Richelle Gentile – Nominations Committee Chair

Ruth Hartig – Sound Bites

Sandra Bertsch – Artist Gifts

Sudha Koneru – Concert Greeters

Vickie LaGrotta – President

**For more information about the DSOL and our activities, please visit**  
[dubuquesymphony.org/dubuque-symphony-orchestra-league](http://dubuquesymphony.org/dubuque-symphony-orchestra-league)