

University of Michigan Club of Downriver



AMAZING NEWS

<https://community.alumni.umich.edu/downriver/home>
President's Corner*Steve Van Every*

The UM Club of Downriver serves a diverse group of passionate alumni who believe the Michigan difference not only brings us closer together but also enriches our community

The Club is part of a network of regional clubs within the U.S. that are affiliated with the Alumni Association. Alumni who are paid members of the Alumni Association are automatically a member of the UM Club of Downriver, with no additional dues to pay.

Please read the *AMAZING NEWS* and you will get an idea of the types of events we have each year. You don't have to be a Club member to enjoy our events. Everyone is welcome. Check out the Club's website to keep up-to-date on our activities. I hope to see you at one of our club events this year. Go Blue!

Steve Van Every
President, UM Club of Downriver

The Downriver Club Awards Scholarships*Katie Hartwell*

On August 30, 2021 the University of Michigan Club of Downriver presented their President's scholarships. Katie Hartwell, the Scholarship chairperson for the club presented the awards. The President's scholarship goes to excellent Downriver high school graduates now attending U of M and maintaining high academic standards at the same time bearing most of the burden of the cost of their education. They all have demonstrated a huge determination to earn their undergraduate degree in spite of financial constraints.

Unlike last year when the world seemed to be in suspended animation, this year the club received a

huge number of applications. The application process was rigorous. The students had to fill out a long application form detailing the loans they had taken out, the grants and scholarships they had received, and their jobs during the school semesters and in the summer. They provided their transcripts to date, and wrote an essay describing their financial situation especially how FAFSA might have underestimated their need.

Ms. Hartwell asked the entire board of the club to read the financial need essays of each student and decide which five they would choose to receive the scholarship. Those essays were very influential in helping us choose the recipients but of course not the only criterion. Each of these students deserves a ton of credit for their determination and hard work.

The recipients in alphabetical order are:

Rosa Garcia is a senior in Literature, Science and Arts (LSA) in Ann Arbor studying Environment and carries a 3.5 GPA. Rosa is a first generation college student in her family. She graduated from Lincoln Park High School in 2018.

Adam Groat is a senior at the Dearborn campus and is studying Criminal Justice. With his nearly perfect GPA it is amazing that he has been able to work incredible hours so that after 3 years he has no student debt. The pandemic actually helped him to work full time while going to school. He was 2017 graduate of Wyandotte Roosevelt High School.

Jenna Majeske is studying Early Childhood Education at Dearborn campus where she is a senior with a 3.9 GPA. Hers was the first application to arrive in our mailbox almost two months before it was due. She has worked many jobs related to her field in early childhood development. Jenna



graduated from Southgate Anderson High School in 2018.

Rosario Moreno-Nava is studying Computer Science in Ann Arbor and is a senior carrying a 3.1 GPA. She is a 2018 graduate from Lincoln Park High School. She has not only worked in the dining halls at school, but tutors students in her field.

Gabe Pascua is studying Biopsychology, Cognition, and Neuroscience in Ann Arbor where he is a senior with a 3.96 GPA. He loves and respects his parents for leaving the Philippines and bringing their 2 sons to the United States so they could get a fine education. He is a 2019 graduate of Gabriel Richard High School and plans to go to medical school.

Shelbie Taylor is a sophomore in Ann Arbor studying Biology, Health, and Society where she carries a 3.96 GPA. At the university she works doing research in the Environment Science Department. She is a 2020 graduate of Woodhaven High School. Shelbie plans to go to medical school after she completes her undergraduate work.

The Club met on Monday, May 9th, for its annual scholarship dinner at Arnaldo's Banquet Center in Riverview. The Club awarded three graduating high school students with Leaders and Best Scholarships. Also, the club had invited top juniors from all the Downriver high schools to learn more about the University and how to apply.

The U of M Ann Arbor Associate Director of Admissions Kelly Cox (Roosevelt High School Graduate) explained to the high school students the opportunity they have to attend a world class university right in their own state. He gave details on how and when to apply and answered questions from the students.

Eva Gogola represented the Dearborn campus admissions department and related the advantages of U of M Dearborn.

After dinner, scholarship chairperson Katie Hartwell presented three Leaders and Best \$1,500 scholarships. She thanked the board of the club for their help in reading the applicants' essays. In

addition, she thanked club members at large for assisting in the decision process. They are: Rebecca Markus, Cornolia Wright, Amy Rossi, Rebecca Jablonski, Emily Solomchuck.

The criteria for deciding our scholarship recipients include: scholarship in high school, their standardized test scores, their college prep course work including all the AP classes and any dual enrollment, their extra-curricular activities, their leadership positions and work experience, their writing ability as evidenced in their essay. The top 5 applicants at that point of the decision process were interviewed on Face Time.

The John and Sue Ghindia Leaders and Best award went to **Anna Bruce**. Anna will soon graduate of Trenton HS where she is the salutatorian. She has taken 9 Advanced placement classes in addition to taking 4 dual enrollment college classes. Her school activities include being captain of the school's color guard, acting in school plays, and member of interact service organization. In addition, she found time for a part-time job at Panera Bread and modeling jobs.

The recipient of the Kenneth Hartwell Leaders and Best award goes to **Brooklyn Luscomb** of Roosevelt High School. Brooklyn is 8th in her class of over 250 members at Roosevelt High. Her transcript is all A's and A+'s. She has taken 12 semesters of AP classes or college level classes. She is editor in chief of her yearbook, VP of fundraising for DECA, VP of Student council, team captain of the varsity swim team, and plays varsity tennis.

The Lloyd Carr Leaders and Best Scholarship was awarded to **Mandy Chen** from Woodhaven High School where she is the valedictorian of the class of '22. Here is another well-rounded student who has definitely not taken the easy route through high school. She has taken 17 semesters of college level classes. She is treasurer of 3 organizations National Honor Society, Student council all 4 years, and Students Against Destructive Decisions. She does hospital volunteering at Beaumont hospital, and is a section leader for low brass in the marching band among other activities. She is a very good writer as evidenced by winning the DAR's essay contest on

citizenship and the insightful essay she wrote for this application.

The evening concluded with a talk from last year's John and Sue Ghindia scholarship recipient Ava Peryam. She related to the high school juniors present that though the university is large, once you get involved in an organization or two and find your area of study, the university no longer seems as large. Oh and by the way she said the football games at the Big House were loads of fun!

To learn more about the University of Michigan Club of Downriver or our scholarships go to our website at <https://alumni.umich.edu/communities-clubs/downriver/>

UM Club to Attend Musical Theater Shows

Don Van Every



The UM Club will attend two outstanding musicals in Ann Arbor in the upcoming months. The talented students from the UM Musical Theatre Department are all looking forward to becoming professional Broadway performers in the future, and the shows that they put on have quality that already has that Broadway feeling.

On Sunday, October 16th, the Club will attend the 2 PM matinee of *Sophisticated Ladies*, which explores the legendary music of Duke Ellington. The musical will be at the Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre. The show will be followed by a delicious dinner at The Original Cottage Inn, which is nearby. In April, 2023 the Club will be attending the musical *Rent* at the Power Center.

Without question, the UM Musical Theater students are among the most talented college level performers in the USA. Each show, no doubt, will send attendees home with great appreciation for their singing, acting, and dancing skills.

Look for an email from the Club for online registration for each Musical Theatre show.

Football Tailgates

Bill Richardson

The Downriver Club will be hosting tailgates before and after every home game. This year there are 8 home games so we will have a busy season.

The location is behind the home at 501 Pauline Blvd. which is about a 1/4 mile walk to the northwest corner of the Big House (see the images). There is easy access in and out of this location. Also, there is access to an indoor restroom.

There are many parking locations along Pauline Blvd. so, if you can't park at the house, you can walk to our location.

Thanks to John and Faye Ball for hosting the tailgates and who will be bringing the 10 x 20 foot canopy (keeps us dry during wet weather) and most of the food. As usual there will be plenty of water and pop included.

The tailgate is free to all club members and guests but we do ask that you consider making a generous donation to the club's scholarship fund. Season participants are asked to make a \$150 donation for two persons. Others who attend a few or even one game are asked to donate at least \$20 per person for each game.

We will be sending an email to all members by Monday before every game asking you to register so we know how many will be attending so that there is enough food for everyone.

Looking forward to seeing you there and sharing all the excitement that the BIG 10 champion Wolverines will bring to us all season long.

Remember if you don't have tickets you can get them at [stubhub.com](https://www.stubhub.com). Any questions? Text Bill Richardson at 734.673.4361.



Join us for the Club's President's Scholarship Presentation

On Sunday, August 28th at 5 PM, the club will award five \$1,000 President's Scholarships.

The presentation will take place at the Zodiac Racquet Club and Banquet Center located at 14795 Dix-Toledo Road in Southgate. The cost is only \$10 per person which includes pizza, salad and pop. Look for an invitation and registration link in your email.

We hope to see you there!



Club Social Hour Before Each Board Meeting

Join the UM Club of Downriver for a social hour/meet and greet before each board meeting. Our board meetings are held the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7 PM at the Southgate Library: The social hour will be at 6 PM. There is no cost to attend.

The next social hour/meet and greet is Thursday, September 8th at 6 PM. Join us for pizza, pop and good conversation. Meet fellow alumni and make some connections.

Our board meeting follows at 7 PM. You don't have to attend the board meeting. Look for registration information in your email.

Volunteer Sign-Up & Donation/Event Form

Volunteer name:	Email:
Mailing Address:	Telephone:
Year Graduated and school/college:	Are you an AAUM member?

If you have an interest in a **leadership role** with the UM Club of Downriver, which of the following roles would you be interested in? (please circle all that apply)

Board Member Committee Chairperson General Volunteer Committee Member
 Club Officer Day-of-event Volunteer Other, please specify: _____

I am willing to work on these types of **programs/events**: (please circle all that apply)

Community Service Young Alumni Student Recruitment OSU Bust Cultural Events
 Business Networking Scholarship Community Service Family Events Special Events
 Fundraising Scholarship Administration Membership Other: _____

Donation/Event Form

Name _____ **Phone** _____
Address _____
City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____ **Email:** _____

I am enclosing a donation for the University of Michigan Club of Downriver scholarship fund (Make checks payable to “The University of Michigan.”)	\$
I will be attending all football tailgate parties (\$150, includes one guest. Make checks out to “The University of Michigan”. (See article).	\$
Total	\$

Send form to: Bill Richardson, 14258 Greentrees Drive, Riverview, MI 48193

GO BLUE!

Board of Governors

President	Steve Van Every	vanevery3@yahoo.com
Vice President	Dave Deszi	djd17@wowway.com
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Treasurer/PR	Bill Richardson	richbill@umich.edu
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Member-At-Large	Paul Schultz	schultztrac@aol.com
Member-At-Large	Dennis Bizon	dengoblue@juno.com
Member-At-Large	Eric & Bridgette Botten	Bridgette.botten@gmail.com

Membership Information

Alumni Association members living in the Downriver, Belleville, New Boston, and north Monroe County are automatically members of the U of M Club of Downriver.

Join the Alumni Association or renew your membership on-line at www.alumni.umich.edu. Annual membership for singles is \$69 and \$79 for a joint membership. There are other membership categories including family and associate. Associate memberships are for non-U of M graduates who support the University and want to participate actively in University activities and take advantage of membership benefits.

Join Us at our Monthly Board Meetings

All members of the UM Club of Downriver are welcome to join us at our monthly Board meetings. Meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month at the Southgate Library. Meetings start at 7:00 p.m. Members are also welcome to join the Board of Directors.

For more information, email Board President Steve Van Every at vanevery3@yahoo.com

