

## University of Michigan Club of Downriver



# AMAZING NEWS

<https://community.alumni.umich.edu/downriver/home>

## President's Corner

*Steve Van Every*

After a long absence of in-person activities, the UM Club of Downriver is planning a series of events to engage our membership. Of course all of these events depend on the severity of COVID-19 in the state so read this newsletter with that in mind.

For each scheduled event the Club will communicate safety guidelines and any changes to the event that may be necessary. With that in mind I hope you have the opportunity to enjoy some camaraderie with fellow Club members. Remember, you don't have to be a member to participate in Club activities. All are welcome.

Our next event is the presentation of the Club's President's scholarships. This will take place via ZOOM on August 30<sup>th</sup> @7 pm. Look for an invitation in your email.

Please read the *AMAZING NEWS* and you will get an idea of the types of events we have each year. Check out our 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 Nearly \$10,000 in Scholarships

*Katie Hartwell*

In the fall of 2020, the Downriver Club awarded five, \$1,000 President's scholarships. These need-based awards are provided for students who graduated from a downriver high school in the past, who have been enrolled at U of M for at least two semesters, and maintained at least a 3.0 GPA. It is

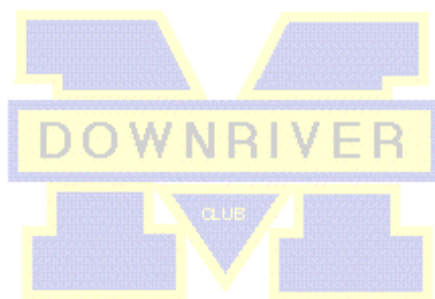
our hope that these awards will help the chosen students in a small way to attain their goal of an undergraduate degree from U of M. In the new world order, it was an extremely difficult task to choose five recipients from the many applications. The COVID crisis had made it financially nearly impossible for many students and their families to stay in school. We ordinarily use the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) data to help make the decision but those evaluations were based on outdated information from the previous year before the effect of the virus on their world. So instead we looked carefully at their essays describing their need, and the jobs these students have undertaken to pay their way through and to keep their loans at a reasonable level. These students were recognized at our virtual scholarship award meeting on August 21, 2020. In alphabetical order the recipients were:

**Mykel Doliski** who graduated from Trenton High School in 2018 and is in School of Engineering in Ann Arbor where she has a 3.5 GPA. I mention their grades only because it shows their fabulous ability to maintain high academic standards while working one or two jobs in summer and during the school year.

**Caleb Estell**, is also in engineering in Ann Arbor where he also carries a 3.5 GPA. He is a 2018 graduate of Inter City Baptist.

**Kaab Husain** is in LSA (Literature, Science, and the Arts) studying BCN (Biopsychology, Cognition, and Neuroscience) where he maintains a 3.97 GPA. He is a 2019 graduate of Woodhaven High. From his family experiences with medical problems, he hopes to have a career in healthcare reform.

**Allison LaMonica** is in LSA doing a double major in Biology and BCN. She is a 2019 graduate of



Theodore Roosevelt High School in Wyandotte. She is maintaining a 3.7 GPA.

**Lindsay Miles**, is a 2018 graduate of Grosse Ile High School. She is in the Nursing School at U of M and carrying a 3.9 GPA. Lindsay, who was at the time of the award entering her junior year and making a name for herself at U of M, came to our virtual spring dinner 2021 and spoke about her experiences at Michigan. She gave the high school students interested in U of M tips for success. Get involved!

In May 2021, the club awarded three Leaders and Best merit-based scholarships at yet another virtual meeting. The applicants were graduating high school seniors in the downriver area, planning to attend one of the campuses of U of M in the fall of 2021, and had completed an application detailing their academic success, community involvement, work experience, and extra-curricular activities. In addition they wrote an engaging essay. Each recipient will receive \$1,500 and all three of them spoke thoughtfully and gratefully at our virtual meeting.

The Lloyd Carr Leaders and Best scholarship went to **Divum Mittal**. Divum graduated first in his class from Grosse Ile High School and will enter Ross School of Business this fall. His essay dealt with his new understanding of teamwork derived from his participation and leadership in Robotics competition. Divum is a National Merit Finalist and won the Advanced Placement Scholar of Distinction.

The John and Sue Ghindia Leaders and Best scholarship went to **Ava Peryam** who graduated top of her class at Southgate Anderson High School. Ava is well prepared academically and socially to enter LSA in Ann Arbor this fall. She was a triple sport dynamo being captain of her tennis, volleyball, and basketball teams.

The Ken Hartwell Leaders and Best scholarship went to **Mara Rossi** from Grosse Ile High School. Mara was very involved in student government, National Honor Society, the captain of the girls' golf team, and member of the school dance team. She will enter LSA in Ann Arbor.

In closing, the board of directors of the Downriver Club took an active role in the deciding our scholarship recipients. I thank them all for their assistance. I also thank all the many students who applied but that we were not able to fund. We wish all these students our best for a truly wonderful experience at the University of Michigan. Go Blue!

## UM Club to Attend Musical Theater Shows

*Don Van Every*



Your UM Club will attend two outstanding musicals in Ann Arbor during the upcoming 2021-2022 fiscal year. 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.

The Club has reserved 2 P.M. Sunday matinee tickets for the musical *The Wild Party* on Sunday, October 17<sup>th</sup>. Set in the roaring 1920s, *The Wild Party* was an Off-Broadway gem that garnered an array of industry accolades, including Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle and Obie awards. This darkly brilliant show features one of the most exciting, pulse-racing scores ever written, courtesy of SMTD alumnus Andrew Lipka (*The Addams Family*, *Big Fish*).

In April 2022, the Club will be attending the musical *Hair* at the Power Center. Exploring ideas of identity, community, global responsibility, and peace, set to an infectious energetic rock beat, *Hair* challenges audiences even as it wows them with songs like "Aquarius," "Good Morning, Starshine," "Easy to be Hard," "I Got Life," and "Let The Sun Shine In." More than 50 years after it originally shook up Broadway, the original "American tribal love rock musical" remains as relevant as ever.

The Fall show will be followed by a delicious dinner at The Original Cottage Inn, which is nearby. Stay tuned for more information regarding *Hair*.

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.

The cost for *The Wild Party* and dinner is \$60 per person. Look for an email from the Club regarding online registration for this event. Tickets are limited.

## Football Tailgates

*Bill Richardson*

Yes, there will be Michigan football this fall.

And the Downriver Club will be hosting tailgates before and after every home game.

However, we have changed the location primarily because Pioneer Parking increased their rates substantially but also because we believe the new location offers more conveniences.

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).

Next, access in and out will be much easier for those who have season reservations.

Finally, there will be access to an indoor restroom.

According to the owner, there are many parking locations at properties along Pauline Blvd.

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 \$15 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 sharing all the excitement that we have been missing and experiencing the thrill of winning after each game.

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



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

On Monday, August 30<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM, the club will award five \$1,000 President's scholarships.

The presentation will take place via ZOOM. Look for an invitation and registration link in your email.

We hope to see you there!

## 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 ( <b>Make checks payable to “The University of Michigan.”</b> )	\$
I will be attending all football tailgate parties (\$150, includes one guest. <b>Make checks out to “The University of Michigan”.</b> (See article).	\$
<b>Total</b>	\$

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

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# GO BLUE!

## Board of Governors

President	Steve Van Every	vanevery3@yahoo.com
Vice President	Dave Deszi	djd17@wowway.com
Secretary	Judy Smith	judegoblue@juno.com
Treasurer/PR	Bill Richardson	richbill@umich.edu
Special Events	Donald Van Every	dvanevery4@yahoo.com
Family Events	Eric & Bridgette Botten	Bridgette.botten@gmail.com
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Student Recruitment	Elke Topjian	elketop54@hotmail.com
Web Master	Raymond Yee	rayyee17@gmail.com
Tailgates	John Ball	johnaball@yahoo.com
Member-At-Large	Paul Schultz	schultztrac@aol.com
Member-At-Large	Dennis Bizon	dengoblue@juno.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](http://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 Riverview 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](mailto:vanevery3@yahoo.com)



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The University of Michigan  
Club of Downriver  
14258 Greentrees Drive,  
Riverview, MI 48193

