

University of Michigan Club of Downriver


 The logo features the word "AMAZING NEWS" in large, bold, blue capital letters. The letter "A" is stylized with a yellow outline and contains a blue "M" with a yellow outline. The word "DOWNRIVER" is written in yellow capital letters on a blue rectangular background, positioned between the "A" and "M".

<https://alumni.umich.edu/communities-clubs/downriver/>

President's Corner

Steve Van Every

The UM Club of Downriver 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.

Joining The University of Michigan Club of Downriver is a rewarding investment in your personal and professional future. The Club offers a sense of belonging, networking opportunities, and the chance to make a positive impact on the U of M community. So, if you haven't already, consider reconnecting with the University of Michigan and discovering the benefits of The University of Michigan Club of Downriver membership.

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. Go Blue!

Steve Van Every
President, UM Club of Downriver

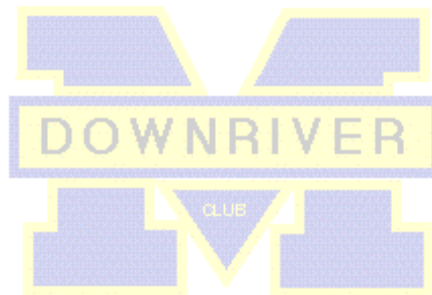
The Downriver Club Awards Scholarships

Katie Hartwell

At a "tailgate" style picnic, indoors at Arnaldo's Banquet Center in Riverview on August 22nd, the Club met to award scholarships and kick off a new season of U of M sports. The scholarships of \$1,000 each were awarded to hard-working current students who maintain at least a 3.0 grade point average at one of the campuses of U of M. They must have completed at least 2 semesters at U of M and have graduated from a Downriver High school.

The following were the awardees:

- **Madia Adan** is studying sociology at Ann Arbor in LS and A. She was a 2022 graduate of Grosse Ile HS. She works 10 hours per week year round as a research assistant in Ann Arbor.
- **Delaney Brown** is in the Ross School of Business in Ann Arbor. She is a 2021 graduate of Carlson HS. Delaney has worked as a tennis instructor for City of Trenton Parks and Rec 20 hours per week in summers to defray cost of her degree.
- **Marissa Jasinski** is studying Elementary Education at Dearborn School of Education. She graduated from Riverview HS in 2021. She is working 12-16 hours/week at Kohl's year round and living at home to help finance her education.
- **Lilliana Johnson** is studying pre-business at UM Dearborn School of Business. She was a 2021 graduate of Woodhaven HS. She works for UMD as an orientation leader, athletic and rec. assistant, and other duties as needed. She's keeping her college loans very low by living at home and commuting to classes. It is her second year to win our President's scholarship.
- **Samantha Rickard** is a Media and Communications major in LS and A at the Ann Arbor campus. She was a 2019 graduate of Taylor HS. Here's another student saving money by living at home and commuting. She has worked for city of Taylor for several years in the Media Center and event specialist.



After the tailgate dinner and the scholarship awards, the audience was treated to a talk about the history of Wolverine football by Steve Sapardanis. Art Vuolo then presented two fabulous videos highlighting the great Wolverine victories last year over Ohio State and Purdue. The evening concluded with a rousing version of the Victors.

For more information about the club go <https://alumni.umich.edu/communities-clubs/downriver/general-information/>.

The University of Michigan Club of Downriver met on May 8th at Arnaldo's Banquet Center in Riverview. The purpose of the meeting was threefold: To elect board members, to explain the admissions process for University of Michigan to promising juniors from Downriver high schools, and award three Leaders and Best scholarships to high school seniors who will attend U of M in the fall.



The board members who were re-elected are Steve Van Every and Ray Yee. Newly elected to the board is Rhonda Ellston.

The juniors were asked to bring their chairs in front of the podium after the buffet dinner. A representative of the office of admissions on the Ann Arbor campus Daniela Guzman explained in detail the admissions process and encouraged students to apply early in their senior year.

The UM-Dearborn director of admissions Urana Pridemore related the advantages of a degree from her university. The invited students were an attentive audience.

The assembled group heard from Mr. Henry Baier who is the U of M Associate Vice President for Facilities and Operations. He is responsible for the 37 million square feet of facilities at the University. He let the students and others in attendance know something about the behind the scenes at the Ann Arbor campus. The university continues to grow and adapt to a changing world with over a billion dollars in construction projects in the works.

The recipient of the club's 2011 Lloyd Carr Leader and Best scholarship Kalli Bates spoke about her life since she graduated from U of M in 2015. Her enthusiasm for the university experience was palpable. She explained that though it is a huge campus, you find your niche there and make it your own. She truly inspired the juniors there to apply, and the high school seniors in the audience to look forward to the fall.

Finally, scholarship chairperson Katie Hartwell announced the recipients of the three \$1,500 merit based scholarships.

The awards were determined by a point system that includes rank in class, SAT score, strength of academic curriculum, scope of their extra-curricular activities including work experience if any, leadership in organizations, community service, participation in sports, science activities and the arts.

Once all those points were tallied, the board of the Downriver Club read and scored each essay. Finally, Ms. Hartwell and her assistant Ms. Rebecca Markus interviewed the top six finalists on Zoom.

This year there were 17 amazing applicants. They were from a true cross section of Downriver high schools. Of these applicants nine were valedictions of their school. The six finalists all scored in the upper 90th percentile on the SAT test.

There were three students who just missed winning the scholarships and they are: Sydney Botten from Grosse Ile High School, Siya Patel from Carlson High School and Carl Pate from Trenton High School.

The recipient of the George and Sue Ghindia Leaders and Best scholarship is **Eliana Pettigrew**. Eliana is first in her class at Wyandotte Roosevelt High School. She will be attending Penny Stamps School of Art and the College of Literature Science and the Arts (LSA) doing a double major.

Eliana has had an amazing high school career. To mention just a few of her activities: multiple community service projects, marching band with her flute, playing in the Detroit Youth Symphony, and an actor in her high school plays.

Eliana's very serious essay dealt with the importance in her life of social activism based on the work of Ruth Bader Ginsberg. She believes that more people will want to join a cause if they see someone standing for their beliefs in a respectful way. She hopes to help "create a more just, kind and inclusive world."

The Lloyd Carr Leaders and Best award went to **Serafim Dionyssopalos**. Serafim is No.1 in his class at Grosse Ile High School. He will attend LSA in Ann Arbor this fall planning to go eventually into medicine.

In addition to his outstanding academic work, he clearly demonstrated his leadership ability by being president of his class freshman and sophomore year and then president of student council his senior year. He was the build-leader on the Robotics team, team captain of varsity track and president of his church youth group.

Serafim's essay dealt with, in a mature way, the importance of the Golden Rule.

The Kenneth Hartwell Leaders and Best Award went to **Lidia Cappelletti** of Allen Park High School. She was also top of her class. Lidia will soon be up in Ann Arbor in the Ross School of Business. If she participated in an organization, she became a leader. She was captain and attorney for the mock trial events of Michigan Center for Civic education, president of student council, president of National Honor Society, captain of varsity soccer and a taekwondo instructor.

In her essay we learned that Taekwondo has been a huge part of her life and contributed to the fine young lady she is today. She is a third degree black belt.

In summary, President Steve Van Every pointed out the University of Michigan Club of Downriver has many events each year including supporting U of M sports and musical theater.

There are family events such as trips to our local zoos, trips to Tigers baseball, tailgates at the Michigan football games, and service projects among other activities.

To learn more about the club and get notification about their events please go to our website at 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 School of Music, Theatre and Dance 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 15th, the Club will attend the 2 PM matinee of *Guys and Dolls*, one of the quintessential musical romantic comedies. The show will be followed by a delicious dinner at The Original Cottage Inn, which is nearby. In April, 2024 the Club will be attending Stephen Sondheim's musical *A Little Night Music* at the Power Center.

Without question, the UM School of Music, Theatre and Dance students are among the most talented college level performers in the country. 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 7 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 \$180 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.

(checks made to U of Michigan, sent to club treasurer Bill Richardson at 14258 Greentrees, Riverview, 48193., He will forward to deposit in our Scholarship account). Students are free BUT MUST REGISTER.

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. Any questions? Text Bill Richardson at 734.673.4361.

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 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 (\$180, 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
Secretary	Judy Smith	judgoblue@juno.com
Treasurer/PR	Bill Richardson	richbill@umich.edu
Special Events	Donald Van Every	dvanevery4@yahoo.com
Family Events	Sarah Dorchak	sgaither@umich.edu
Newsletter Editor	Steve Van Every	vanevery3@yahoo.com
Scholarships	Katie Hartwell	khartwell@wowway.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
Member-At-Large	Eric & Bridgette Botten	Bridgette.botten@gmail.com
Member-At-Large	Rhonda Ellston	rellston@umich.edu

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 Trenton Veterans Memorial Library. Meetings start at 6:45 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



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

