



You're Invited!

Join us on **Saturday, November 17**, at The Westin at Yorktown Center in Lombard for a whimsical evening of drinks, dinner, and dancing, inspired by the wonderful world of Willy Wonka all to benefit Foundation programs and operations.

New this year! Proceeds from the evening's paddle raise will benefit our **Next Generation Initiative** endowment and Community Innovation Grantees **Little Friends**, **NAMI DuPage**, and **Teen Parent Connection** recognizing their successful implementation of creative and innovative solutions to community needs.



INVENTING ROOM TECHNOLOGY RAFFLE!



BRUSH UP ON YOUR WONKA TRIVIA FOR THE GOLDEN TICKET GIVEAWAY!



MUSICAL HITS FROM THE TOP 40S TO THE CLASSICS PERFORMED BY "FINAL SAY!"



VISIT DUPAGEFOUNDATION.ORG TO BID ON AUCTION ITEMS BEGINNING NOVEMBER 9.



COLORFUL FORMAL ATTIRE ENCOURAGED!

To inquire about sponsorship and auction donation opportunities, contact **Kait Balsewicz**, development officer, at 630.598.5292 or kait@dupagefoundation.org. Look for invitations to be mailed this fall or RSVP online at dupagefoundation.org.

Arts DuPage Month Makes its October Debut

For the last 25 years, October has been celebrated as **National Arts & Humanities Month**. Founded by Americans for the Arts in 1993, this coast-to-coast recognition of the importance of culture in America brings artists, businesses, and art lovers together and enlivens communities with stimulating activities that might otherwise go unnoticed.

This year, **Arts DuPage** is bringing this national focus to DuPage County to showcase the rich artistic landscape that surrounds and inspires us. Hosts of the October experiences will add a special twist to their programs to enhance the artistic encounter—guest speakers, discounted admission, backstage tours, or delicious treats. Attendees are invited to embrace their creative sense of adventure!

Join us from Elk Grove Village to Naperville as we discover the vibrant arts scene flourishing across DuPage County.

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Get the Most from the New Tax Law's Benefits

When the federal government passed the **Tax Cuts and Jobs Act** in 2017, it lowered taxes for almost every taxpayer. The new law reduces tax rates while almost doubling the standard deduction. The new standard deduction is \$12,000 for single filers and \$24,000 for couples filing jointly. Taxpayers have the choice to itemize deductions or claim the standard deduction.

With these tax changes, some individuals who have itemized in years past may be inclined to take the standard deduction in future years. Regardless of which option you choose, you may want to consider some new strategies that can provide you with significant tax and non-tax benefits. Take a look.



1. Make an Outright Gift of Appreciated Assets

- Giving appreciated assets that you have held for a year or longer can provide you with savings on both income and capital gains taxes while allowing you to support causes that matter most to you.
- Charitable gifts of stock and mutual funds are most common, but all types of securities work in addition to gifts of real estate, life insurance, and closely-held business interests.
- You can make a gift in support of an existing Foundation fund or start your own fund.



2. Create or Add to a Donor-Advised Fund (DAF)

- This strategy can generate tax savings while helping you streamline charitable giving. Create a DAF here at the Foundation with a gift of cash, securities, or other appreciated assets.
- If your estimated income tax deductions are not large enough to warrant itemizing, consider increasing your charitable gifts to reach the threshold. By “bumping up” your charitable contributions and directing them into a DAF, you can itemize and receive a tax deduction for your giving this year and recommend grants to your favorite charities at your convenience over a period of years, while taking the standard deduction in future years where it does not make sense to give as much or itemize.
- A DAF can also help you minimize or avoid capital gains on long-term appreciated assets such as securities and real property. When you contribute long-term appreciated assets you have held for a year or more, you will receive a deduction equal to the assets’ fair market value. Charitable contributions of appreciated assets to DAFs may be deducted up to 30% of your adjusted gross income (AGI). Excess may be carried forward up to five years.



3. 70½ or Older? Give from Pre-Tax Assets by Making an IRA Rollover Gift

- IRA owners who are 70½ or older can contribute up to \$100,000 from their IRAs (\$200,000 per couple) to qualified charities like the DuPage Foundation each year. These contributions will count toward your annual required minimum distribution (RMD). The gifts will not entitle you to a charitable income tax deduction, but you will not have to pay taxes on the withdrawals.
- Ask your IRA custodian to transfer the contributions directly from your IRA to the charity, without receiving the distribution yourself.
- These gifts may not be contributed to DAFs or most private foundations, but they can support our **Community Needs** program, **Bright & Early DuPage**, **Arts DuPage**, and other Foundation initiatives and funds.

Want to learn more about accomplishing your charitable goals? Contact Michael Sitrick, JD, vice president for advancement, at mike@dupagefoundation.org or 630.598.5285.

The content above is for informational purposes only. The Foundation recommends you consult with your tax accountant or attorney and other professional advisors prior to making a significant charitable gift.

Arts & Culture Fun All October Long

(continued from page 1)

Arts DuPage Month would not be possible without support from the local artists, businesses, venues, arts organizations, and community agencies who are hosting and promoting events throughout October. "We believe no matter what your interests are, you'll enjoy something offered during Arts DuPage Month," said **Debbie Venezia**, Director of Arts DuPage. "Plays, concerts, exhibits, literary events—they're all right here in our backyard!"

Arts DuPage is a year-round initiative of the DuPage Foundation dedicated to promoting engagement and investment in the arts. We feature a comprehensive website listing of area arts and cultural events at artsdupage.org to encourage people to get out and see

a show, visit an exhibit, take friends to an art festival, and build on our community's reputation as *the* place to live, work, and play. We're proud to initiate Arts DuPage Month to connect more residents with a love of the arts during the nationally-recognized month of October.

Questions? Contact Debbie Venezia at debbie@dupagefoundation.org or follow us at [facebook.com/artsdupage](https://www.facebook.com/artsdupage)—we'd love to explore the creative possibilities with you!

Arts
DuPage
Month



Event Highlight

1

The Madness of Edgar Allan Poe: A Love Story

Wednesday, October 3 -
Sunday, November 4, times vary
Mayslake Peabody Estate,
Oak Brook

An interactive look into Poe's world,
with a backdrop of the historic mansion.

2

French Red, German White, and a Blank Canvas

Thursday, October 18, 7:00 p.m.
First Division Museum,
Cantigny Park, Wheaton

A wine-enhanced tour of battlefield
arts and leisure of World War I.

3

Troll Hunt

Every day, 7:00 a.m. - sunset
Morton Arboretum, Lisle

Discover six colossal trolls created by
Danish Artist Thomas Dambo.

4

Snake Oil's Tribute to Rock's Biggest Stars of the 80s

Saturday, October 27, 7:30 p.m.
McAninch Arts Center,
College of DuPage, Glen Ellyn

Come early for a Halloween costume
contest with cash prizes.

See the complete list of October
arts events at artsdupage.org.

Bright & Early DuPage: How Collaborations are Changing Our Area's Early Childhood Landscape

Bright & Early DuPage recently awarded \$335,000 to support the work of six local early childhood collaboratives and the **DuPage County Early Childhood Collaboration (DECC)**. One goal of these grants is to help build systems that increase the number of children who are ready to succeed when they enter kindergarten. But what does this really mean? DECC Program Director **FaKelia Guyton** explains.

Q. What is early childhood?

A. It's a period of human development from prenatal through eight years old. Approximately 85% of brain development occurs during this time, so it's critical that children receive high-quality childcare focused on social/emotional, language/communication, motor/physical, cognitive, and learning approaches during that time.

Q. How is "kindergarten readiness" defined?

A. We use the READY Child equation. Ready Families + Ready Health + READY Early Care and Education + Ready Schools + Ready Communities = Children who are prepared to succeed in kindergarten and the future. There are a lot of variables, which is why representation from different areas is so important.

Representatives from the Glenbard Early Childhood Collaborative, Willowbrook Corner Coalition, Addison Early Childhood Collaborative, DuPage Early Childhood Collaboration, Birth to Five Community Coalition, and Wheaton-Warrenville Early Childhood Collaborative accepted Bright & Early DuPage grants totaling \$335,000. They are some of the individuals working to affect early childhood change across the county.

Q. What are early childhood collaborations?

A. They bring together individuals, community stakeholders, families, and organizations to address and solve shared challenges in the early childhood care and education space that cannot be resolved alone. We actively work to ensure we're not duplicating services. Collaborations work at the local level to help families navigate unknown services, provide vital coordination between a complicated web of providers, and serve as a feedback loop between communities and state agencies.

Q. How do collaborations expand the reach of an individual entity?

A. Historically, private and public funders focused on programmatic solutions with an isolated impact. However, today's children and families with high needs are experiencing multiple barriers with complex and intertwined root causes. Complex problems require more than a programmatic approach; they require community systems-building strategies for collective impact. This is especially critical to at-risk families who are already under-resourced.

Q. How are collaborations increasing the number of children who are ready for kindergarten?

A. Many collaborations are working on systemic strategies, such as building enrollment pipelines and creating continuous services from prenatal through school-age years. When childcare providers, schools, libraries, local businesses, healthcare clinics, and organizations come together, we can meet at-risk families where they are and expand their network of trusted professionals. This results in more relationships between agencies, more developmental screenings, more low-income children enrolled in the limited publically-funded preschool seats, more library cards issued, etc.

Q. I'm an early childhood care provider interested in coordinating my efforts with others. What can I do?

A. I'm happy to connect you with your community's local collaboration. Contact me at fakelia.guyton@ywcachicago.org or 630.580.3125.



Bridge Communities Opens New Fund to Honor Co-Founders



Bridge Communities co-founders Bob Wahlgren (left) and Mark Milligan.

In honor of its co-founders, **Mark Milligan** and the late **Bob Wahlgren**, **Bridge Communities, Inc.** recently opened its fourth agency fund at the Foundation. We're pleased to manage the endowed **Bridge Communities Founders' Fund**, ensuring its educational assistance program for teens will be available in perpetuity. Services offered through the program include individualized career assessments, ACT and SAT tutoring, FAFSA assistance, educational workshops, and college scholarships.

Foundation President and CEO **Dave McGowan** was thrilled to recognize Milligan's retirement with a **\$5,000** grant supported by the Foundation's **DuPage Forever Fund**, **Dawn Carol Foundation Fund**, **DuPage Medical Group Charitable Fund**, **LeFort-Martin Family Donor-Advised Fund**, **Snodgrass Family Fund**, and **Webb-Hutter Fund**.

Of the DuPage Foundation and Bridge Communities' 25-year partnership, McGowan said "We are so pleased to support Bridge's impactful programs over the years since our first grant to the organization in 1994 for its children's services program. Bridge is a fantastic partner and community resource, and we are honored to have stewarded its endowment funds for the past 15 years."

Milligan mirrored McGowan's thoughts and added, "It was a very easy decision to direct the proceeds of the Founders' Fund toward aiding high school students as they graduate." He explained, "Bridge was founded because Bob Wahlgren and I both had experienced seeing homeless children in the community, and we wanted to do something productive for them."

Loaves & Fishes Debuts Food Truck from Foundation's Support

Most capital projects take time to build funds, which makes their unveiling even more meaningful. The **Loaves & Fishes Community Services'** new refrigerated food rescue truck was no exception. The recently-debuted truck is dock height, enabling better transportation of approximately 70,000 pounds of food per week from stores in Naperville. More than 800 families per week will benefit from the increased amount of food and fresh produce that can be transported.

The Foundation supported this purchase with a **\$20,000 Community Needs** grant awarded in June of 2017. Loaves & Fishes leveraged the Foundation's grant by providing a match opportunity to draw additional support. One of those supporters was the **DuPage Medical Group Charitable Fund**, a component fund of the DuPage Foundation, which granted an additional **\$20,000**. Between these two Foundation-managed funds, 40% of the truck's purchase price was funded!



DuPage Foundation and DuPage Medical Group Charitable Fund representatives were happy to attend the refrigerated truck's debut celebration on June 19.

Foundation Welcomes Karen Vicary as New Office Manager

The Foundation is pleased to welcome **Karen Vicary** as our new office manager. Vicary started in June and assists with accounting, human resources, office management, and information technology, in addition to training the Foundation's interns and administrative volunteers. She is the first smiling face you see when visiting our office.



"The Foundation's office manager is a vital member of our team, keeping the day-to-day operations running smoothly," said **David Weisz**, vice president for finance. "Because of Karen's previous experience, time management, and organizational skills, I could not be more confident in her ability to excel in this role. We're thrilled to have her on board!"

Vicary previously worked as an administrative assistant in the Chaplain's Office at **Elmhurst College**, where she helped plan religious lectures and college events, managed budgets, and worked with many student organizations. She participated in a First Year Seminar class as a Staff Partner and was a mentor in the Steps to Success program. Vicary also served on the college's Staff Council.

"I'm excited to join the DuPage Foundation team, and I'm looking forward to learning more about how the Foundation collaborates with other organizations in DuPage County," Vicary said. "In just the first few months, I already feel at home here. That says a lot about the Foundation, my fellow staff members, and the many supporters we work with."

While employed at the college, Vicary took classes to complete her degree, graduating *summa cum laude* in 2016 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration. Vicary lives in Elmhurst and enjoys reading.

Please join us in welcoming Karen!

Grantee Spotlight: HCS Family Services

During our last **Community Needs** spring grant cycle, **\$2,430** was given to **HCS Family Services** to purchase shopping carts and shelving for the **Anne M. Jeans School Food Pantry** in Willowbrook. With this grant, the pantry doubled its shelf space and now features twice as much food for guests! Those benefiting from HCS Family Services say, "It is just like a real grocery store!" and "I feel so respected here."

Executive Director **Stan Cook** thanked the Foundation and our generous donors for their contributions: "Thank you for your support of our school-based pantry and for everything you do to make DuPage County a better place."



New Funds Established

- Bridge Communities, Inc. Founders' Fund
- Michael E. and Nancy E. Drevalas Foundation
- Joseph P. and Margery E. Lamonica Family Fund

To establish your fund, contact us at 630.665.5556. For a complete listing of current funds, visit dupagefoundation.org.

Next Generation Initiative Members Get to Work at DuPage Habitat for Humanity Build Day

Next Generation Initiative (NGI) members donned gloves and hammers as part of DuPage Habitat for Humanity's August 18 volunteer Build Day in Wheaton. A group of 15 NGI volunteers worked alongside a team of Habitat volunteers to build walls that will soon make up a home's framework.

Dave Neary, DuPage Habitat's executive director, was impressed with work done by the volunteers. "The NGI team was awesome," he said. "Their time and talent enabled us to stay on track, a goal of ours that keeps construction costs lower than typical, making the process affordable for hardworking families in need." Neary was thrilled when NGI's June social event featured DuPage Habitat, which led to immediate connections. "We enjoyed the opportunity to talk to your supporters about ways they can work with us, too," Neary said.

Volunteers felt similarly. NGI member Megan Lynch couldn't have been happier to spend her Saturday morning at the build site. "NGI volunteer opportunities like this one are a great way to learn firsthand about the impact that nonprofits have in our community," she said. "It was fun to work together in support of Habitat's vision of building a world where everyone has a decent place to live."

NGI engages and empowers our county's next generation of philanthropic leaders and volunteers by providing them with opportunities to connect, learn, and give back. Quarterly social events are offered to members and guests, followed by volunteer opportunities supporting featured charities.

To learn more about the Next Generation Initiative or become a member or sponsor, visit dupagefoundation.org or contact Kait Balsewicz, development officer, at kait@dupagefoundation.org or 630.598.5292.

NGI members and volunteers rolled up their sleeves for DuPage Habitat for Humanity's Build Day on August 18 at the Habitat offices in Wheaton.



DuPage Foundation

3000 Woodcreek Dr., Suite 310
Downers Grove, IL 60515-5408
630.665.5556
dupagefoundation.org

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Foundation Staff

David M. McGowan, CFRE
President and CEO
dave@dupagefoundation.org

Kaitlyn M. Balsewicz
Development Officer
kait@dupagefoundation.org

Laura R. Ernst
Program Associate
laura@dupagefoundation.org

Melissa C. Fischer
Marketing Manager
melissa@dupagefoundation.org

Michael R. Sitrick, JD
Vice President for Advancement
mike@dupagefoundation.org

Barbara S. Szczepaniak
Vice President for Programs
barb@dupagefoundation.org

Deborah L. Venezia
Director of Arts DuPage
debbie@dupagefoundation.org

Karen L. Vicary
Office Manager
karen@dupagefoundation.org

David A. Weisz
Vice President for Finance
david@dupagefoundation.org

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