Songcatchers

74 PETERSVILLE RD
NEW ROCHELLE, NY 10801
914.654.1178
WWW.SONGCATCHERS.ORG
INFO@SONGCATCHERS.ORG
VENMO: @SONGCATCHERS-INC

venmo

What Does Your Donation Buy?

$60 buys one month of Lessons for a student
$100 buys a used electric piano
$200 buys a composers of the future program for one child
$55 buys materials Fee for an Early Childhood Student
$2200 buys rent for one month

SONGCATCHERS INC. WAS FOUNDED IN 1994 BY SR. BETH DOWD, OSU, WITH A CLEAR AND UNWAVERING MISSION: TO ENSURE THAT EVERY CHILD—REGARDLESS OF FINANCIAL MEANS—HAS ACCESS TO HIGH-QUALITY MUSIC EDUCATION IN A WELCOMING, MULTICULTURAL COMMUNITY.

WHAT BEGAN AS A SINGLE CHOIR HAS GROWN INTO A VIBRANT, YEAR-ROUND MUSICAL HOME SERVING FAMILIES THROUGHOUT NEW ROCHELLE AND NEIGHBORING COMMUNITIES. FROM THE BEGINNING, SONGCATCHERS HAS BELIEVED THAT MUSIC IS MORE THAN AN ART FORM - IT IS A PATHWAY TO CONFIDENCE, DISCIPLINE, BELONGING, AND LIFELONG OPPORTUNITY.

WITH YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT AND GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS, WE SUSTAIN AND HONOR OUR FOUNDER'S LEGACY, OF REACHING FOR PEACE THROUGH MUSIC.



SISTER BETH DOWD, OSU
FOUNDER



Songcatchers



A BRUNCH GALA

SUNDAY
OCTOBER 18, 2026
12:00PM - 3:00PM

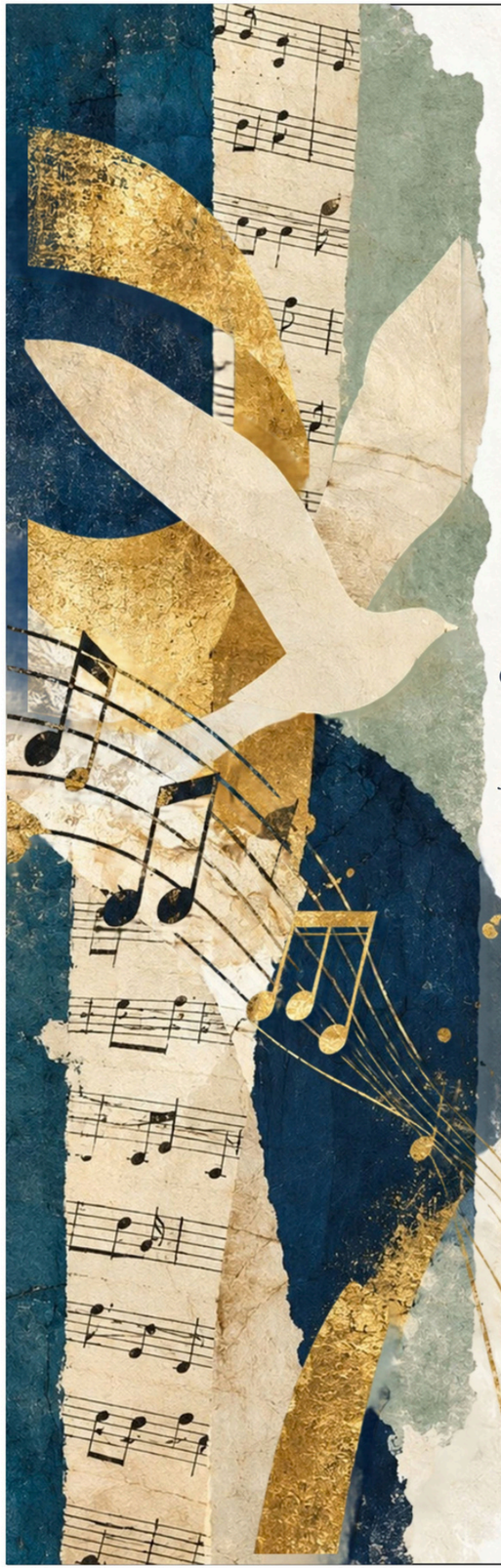
THE DAVENPORT MANSION
NEW ROCHELLE, NY

Congratulations to the Songcatchers 2026 Honorees

FRANCISCO J. NUNEZ
FRANK DIMARCO
JANICE NIMETZ
CLEMENCIA CASTANEDA
ARIANA BARRIOS

In your own special way, each of you embodies the spirit of Songcatchers, shares the values of our founder, Sr. Beth Dowd, OSU, and advances the mission of reaching for peace through music.

In Grateful Appreciation
The Carty Family



URSULINES
OF THE ROMAN UNION USA REGION
Transforming Presence of God's Love

CONGRATULATE

SONGCATCHERS

OCTOBER 18, 2026

ON YOUR 2026 BRUNCH GALA

Thank you for using the power of music to foster community, mutual respect, build self-esteem and leadership skills.

We Also Extend Our Congratulations to this Year's Honorees

Francisco J. Nunez
NY Emmy Award Winner
The Peace Through Music Leadership Award

Frank Di Marco, Esq.
The Legacy of Board Service Award

Janice Nimetz, Ph.D.
The Music Mentor Award

Clemencia Castaneda, M.M.
The Bridges In Harmony Award

Ariana Barrios
The Young Artists and Sr. Beth Spirit Award

Congratulations

To our Favorite Uncle

Frank DiMarco

In recognition of receiving the

Legacy of Board Service Award

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"We're always open to see you close!"

Program

OPENING BLESSING	SR. PAT SCHIFINI, OSU
GREETINGS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	KARENANN CARTY, ED.D
MUSICAL INTERLUDE	OUR SONGCATCHERS
GREETINGS FROM THE CITY OF NEW ROCHELLE	HON. YADIRA RAMOS HERBERT
UPDATE ON SONGCATCHERS PROGRAMS	JENNIFER LANSER
PEACE THROUGH MUSIC LEADERSHIP AWARD PRESENTATION	CORALIE GALLET
LEGACY OF BOARD SERVICE AWARD PRESENTATION	SR. PAT SCHIFINI, OSU
MUSICAL INTERLUDE	OUR SONGCATCHERS
BRIDGES IN HARMONY AWARD PRESENTATION	ANDREA & ZOE ARTEAGA
MUSICAL INTERLUDE	OUR SONGCATCHERS
YOUNG ARTIST AND SR. BETH SPIRIT AWARD PRESENTATION	ROSEMARIE CASTELLANO
MUSIC MENTOR AWARD	ROSEMARIE CASTELLANO
CLOSING REMARKS	KAREN SELMAN & DR. RENEE BARON DONATICH
DESSERT & PHOTOS	

Thank you to our Sponsors

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THE CARTY FAMILY

SR. BETH MEMORIAL SPONSORSHIP

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ANGELA BELSOLE

HONORING

FRANCISCO J. NUNEZ
NY EMMY® Award Winner

PEACE THROUGH MUSIC
LEADERSHIP AWARD

FRANK DI MARCO, ESQ.
LEGACY OF BOARD
SERVICE AWARD

JANICE NIMETZ, PH.D.
MUSIC MENTOR AWARD

CLEMENCIA CASTANEDA, M.M.
BRIDGES IN HARMONY AWARD

ARIANA BARRIOS
YOUNG ARTIST AND
SR. BETH SPIRIT AWARD

THANK YOU TO OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thank you for all you do!

KARENANN CARTY ED. D. - PRESIDENT
ROSEMARIE CASTELLANO - VICE PRESIDENT
LORA GRANTCHAROVA - TREASURER
SR. PAT SCHIFINI, OSU - SECRETARY
RENEE BARON DONATICH PH. D.
CORALIE GALLET
KAREN SELMAN



MONROE UNIVERSITY
IS PROUD TO SUPPORT
THE WONDERFUL WORK OF

SONGCATCHERS

CONGRATULATIONS TO
THIS YEAR'S HONOREES!

MONROE UNIVERSITY

www.monroeu.edu



LEADERS
like you compose
BRIGHTER FUTURES
for our young people.

Congratulations to our friend Frank Di Marco, Esq.

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Francisco J. Núñez

PEACE THROUGH MUSIC LEADERSHIP AWARD

Francisco J. Núñez, a MacArthur Fellow and Musical America's 2018 Educator of the Year, is an acclaimed composer, conductor, director, and visionary in music education. He is the Founder and Artistic Director of the Young People's Chorus of New York City (YPC), where he has elevated the child's voice as a powerful instrument and commissioned hundreds of works from leading and emerging composers.

As a composer, Núñez creates music and arrangements across classical, contemporary, and popular styles. His work extends beyond the concert stage to film, where he has received two Emmy® Awards. His many honors include the ASCAP Victor Herbert Award, Bang on a Can's Visionary Award, and NYU Steinhardt's Distinguished Alumnus Achievement Award, as well as honorary Doctor of Music degrees from Ithaca College and Gettysburg College.

Through his work with YPC, Núñez has demonstrated how music can bring together young people from diverse backgrounds, nurture confidence and creativity, and give children a powerful voice. His lifelong commitment to developing young artists and expanding opportunities through music closely reflects the mission and aspirations of Songcatchers.

Songcatchers honors Núñez for his extraordinary contributions to music education and for embodying our shared commitment to excellence, innovation, diversity, and the transformative power of young musicians.



Frank P. Di Marco

LEGACY OF BOARD SERVICE AWARD

Having served as a Board Director from Songcatcher's founding through early 2026, Frank is being honored for his decades of dedicated service to Songcatchers. His commitment reflects a deep devotion to community, service, and making a difference in the lives of children and families.

A lifelong New Rochelle resident and respected attorney, Frank retired in 2025 after an extraordinary 54-year legal career. He has dedicated his life to public and community service, serving with organizations including the New Rochelle Bar Association, New Rochelle YMCA, New Rochelle Human Rights Commission, and the Residence Park Neighborhood Association. He also served for 34 years as a Commissioner of the Board of Assessment Review.



Frank's service has earned numerous honors, including the Westchester County Clerk's Distinguished Service Award and the New Rochelle YMCA Joseph Charla Award.

Beyond his professional accomplishments, Frank is devoted to his faith and family. He is a Trustee and Lector at Blessed Sacrament Church and, with his wife, Carmelina, is the proud parent of three children and four grandchildren.

Songcatchers proudly recognizes Frank for his extraordinary years of board service, steadfast commitment, and enduring contributions to our organization and the New Rochelle community.

CONGRATULATIONS TO FRANK AND CLEMENCIA ON THIS WELL-DESERVED RECOGNITION

- THE LIZZOS

Congratulations, Songcatchers!

THANK YOU
FOR ALL THE HARD
WORK YOU DO.

- Jim and Elizabeth Weingast

Best wishes to

We proudly support your Mission to
keep quality music education affordable for every child.

THE URSULINE SCHOOL

Educate | Inspire | Empower

1354 North Avenue, New Rochelle | www.ursulinenewrochelle.org

NEW ROCHELLE BAR ASSOCIATION

CONGRATULATES OUR LIFETIME MEMBER
FRANK DIMARCO, ESQ.

WARMEST REGARDS,

YOUR FRIENDS AT
THE NEW ROCHELLE BAR ASSOCIATION

Janice Nimetz, Ph. D.

MUSIC MENTOR AWARD

Janice Nimetz, PhD, is a distinguished pianist, educator, and scholar.

Janice earned her degrees in Piano Performance and Performance and Literature from the Eastman School of Music before completing her PhD in the History of Education at Columbia University. Throughout her career, she has shared her musical expertise as a performer and educator, teaching piano and theory at several respected institutions and bringing music to communities through concerts and performances.

For more than 10 years, Janice has been an invaluable member of the Songcatchers family. She has taught countless children to play piano and mentored high school volunteers, equipping them with the skills to teach the next generation. Her patience, generosity, and dedication strengthened our music education program and helped advance our mission.



We are grateful to honor Janice for her lifelong commitment to music, education, and community. Janice has made a lasting impact on so many students and teachers.

Clemencia Castaneda

BRIDGES IN HARMONY AWARD

Clemencia Castaneda is an accomplished music educator, cultural administrator, and media producer who has dedicated her career to enriching the lives of children and families through music and the arts.

With extensive experience in music education, cultural programming, community services, and nonprofit organizations, Clemencia has combined her professional expertise with a deep commitment to education and community enrichment. Her work reflects her belief that music inspires creativity, builds confidence, preserves cultural heritage, and creates meaningful opportunities for personal growth.
Throughout her career, Clemencia has developed and supported educational, musical, and cultural programs that empower children and young adults to discover their talents, develop their abilities, and reach their full potential.



As a longtime and valued member of the Songcatchers team, Clemencia has played an instrumental role in advancing the organization's mission of making high-quality music education accessible to all children, regardless of their financial circumstances.
Her dedication, compassion, and commitment to our students embody the very spirit of Songcatchers.

Songcatchers proudly honors Clemencia Castaneda in recognition of her longstanding dedication, exceptional service, and unwavering passion for using music to inspire, educate, and transform lives. Her contributions have made a lasting difference in our community, and we are deeply grateful for all she has given to Songcatchers and the children we serve.
Congratulations, Clemencia, on this well-deserved honor!

Congratulations!

CLEMENCIA and FRANK

&

TO ALL THE HONOREES

Thank You

FOR YOUR DEVOTION
TO THE MISSION OF

Songcatchers

&

FOR THE GIFTS OF TIME,
TALENT AND KINDNESS
YOU HAVE GIVEN TO SO MANY
CHILDREN OVER THE YEARS.

Warmest wishes,

EILEEN AND MICHAEL NIEDZWIECKI

Congratulations

TO OUR
2026 HONOREES!

KEEP REACHING
FOR PEACE
THROUGH MUSIC

THE BELSOLE FAMILY

Ariana Barrios

YOUNG ARTIST AND SR. BETH SPIRIT AWARD

At just 20 years old, Ariana Barrios embodies the transformative power of music to inspire, heal, and connect. A student at the Aaron Copland School of Music at Queens College, Ariana is pursuing a bachelor's degree in music education with a passion for sharing music with the next generation.



Ariana has been part of Songcatchers since she was four years old. What began as a place to learn music became a community where she discovered her own voice as a musician, leader, and educator. She began volunteering with Songcatchers the summer before her senior year of high school and has continued to dedicate herself to its mission ever since.

Since her freshman year of college, Ariana has served as Songcatchers' Orchestra Director while also teaching Early Childhood Violin. She leads young musicians in rehearsals and performances and helps students build confidence, teamwork, and a sense of community. She also supervises high school counselors during Songcatchers' summer programs.

Ariana's dedication to service and education has earned recognition, including the 2023 Volunteer New York! Teaching and Literacy Award and a 914INC. Wunderkind Award.

Ariana's gentle, nurturing spirit with children beautifully reflects the legacy of Sr. Beth Dowd, OSU. Her compassion, patience, and love of teaching so embody Sr. Beth's spirit that we think she would be over the moon to see Ariana carrying her legacy forward.

For Ariana, teaching is more than a career—it is a calling: "I can't see myself doing anything else except teaching."

Congratulations

TO ALL OF THE 2026 HONOREES

FROM YOUR FRIENDS AT

THE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION

&

THE FRIENDS OF NEW ROCHELLE PARKS FUND

New Rochelle Parks & Rec

New Rochelle Aging

New Rochelle Marinas



Congratulations to our Very Dear Friend Frank DiMarco.

Thank you for all that you do for your community and for Songcatchers. You and Carmelina are such Giving & Loyal Friends who are loved by many. God Bless You.

Wishing you Health & Happiness Always!

With Love,

Dianne & John O'Sullivan



We Love you Frank!

Congratulations on Your Legacy of Board Service Award!!!

We are grateful for all you have done for Songcatchers, New Rochelle and Beyond.

The Gallin Family

SPIRIT OF
SONGCATCHERS BRUNCH
2026



Congratulations and gratitude to the honorees

FRANCISCO J. NUNEZ
CLEMENCIA CASTENADA
FRANK DIMARCO
JANICE NIMETZ
ARIANA BARRIOS

Ron and Pat Ketcham

MUSIC CAN CHANGE THE WORLD
BECAUSE IT CAN CHANGE PEOPLE. ~BONO

Thank you to Songcatchers,
for enriching the New Rochelle
community with music.

A special congratulations
to today's honorees,
especially Frank Di Marco, Esq.

Stephanie and Joe Tomei





LIV BY THE LENS

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
OLIVIA GONCALVES
(FORMER KINDERMUSIK & EARLY CHILDHOOD STUDENT)

WWW.LIVBYTHELENS.COM
@LIVBYTHELENS

Congratulations to Clemencia!

Congratulations
to
Clemencia

recipient of the
THE BRIDGES IN HARMONY AWARD

THANK YOU FOR SHARING YOUR LOVE OF MUSIC AND FOR HELPING TO BUILD MUSICAL FOUNDATIONS WITH SO MANY CHILDREN & THEIR FAMILIES, FOR SO MANY YEARS!

YOU ARE A BRILLIANT BEACON OF LIGHT, FILLED WITH MUSICAL HARMONY!

LOVE,
THE GONCALVES FAMILY
ROSEMARIE, OLIVIA, ANTHONY & TONY



Congratulations to my Husband, Frank, being honored for his many decades of dedicated service to

Songcatchers

His loving wife, Carmelina, and children: Frank, Paul and Elena

Congratulations Ariana!



Thank you for making our Youth Orchestra more than a place to make music. You've brought us together as friends and family, creating memories on and off the stage—from rehearsals to beach trips and dinners. Thank you for believing in us and showing us that music is about so much more than notes!

With love & gratitude,
Your Songcatchers Orchestra

Ariana,

Thank you for making our summer so special! Your kindness, encouragement, and love of music filled our days with fun, learning, and wonderful memories. Thank you for sharing your talents and making Songcatchers feel like family!

With love & appreciation,
Your Songcatchers Summer Campers





Songcatchers thanks the New Rochelle Campership Fund!

Your generous support made a summer of music, learning, and unforgettable memories possible through Songcatchers' Summer Music Program and the return of Camp Songcatchers. Children discovered their talents, built confidence, formed friendships, and experienced the joy of making music together.

Because of you, more children had access to affordable music education, regardless of their family's financial circumstances.
Thank you for helping Songcatchers reach for peace through music!



NEW ROCHELLE CAMPERSHIP FUND

"Giving children the priceless gift of a summer camp experience."

Songcatchers Programs

AFTER-SCHOOL MUSIC PROGRAM
PROVIDES INDIVIDUAL AND SMALL-GROUP LESSONS IN 13 INSTRUMENTS AND VOICE FOR CHILDREN AGES 7–13, TAUGHT BY HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE MUSICIANS MENTORED BY PROFESSIONALS. STUDENTS PERFORM IN MIDWINTER AND SPRING RECITALS.

THE MENTORSHIP TRAINING PROGRAM
OFFERS VOLUNTEERS AGES 14+ VALUABLE TEACHING EXPERIENCE AND LIFELONG SKILLS. COMPOSERS OF THE FUTURE ENCOURAGES YOUNG MUSICIANS TO EXPLORE COMPOSITION.

EARLY CHILDHOOD MUSIC PROGRAM
NURTURES CREATIVITY, SELF-EXPRESSION, CONFIDENCE, AND IMAGINATION THROUGH SINGING, MUSIC AND MOVEMENT, PIANO, AND VIOLIN FOR CHILDREN AGES 1½–6.

YOUTH CHOIR
WELCOMES SINGERS AGES 7–17 TO PERFORM AT COMMUNITY, CIVIC, PRIVATE, AND INTERFAITH EVENTS, AS WELL AS COLLABORATIONS WITH LOCAL ARTS ORGANIZATIONS.

CAMP SONGCATCHERS
A ONE-WEEK RESIDENTIAL SUMMER CAMP FOR AGES 7–17, CELEBRATING MUSIC, SINGING, PERFORMANCE, TEAMWORK, AND FRIENDSHIP IN AN INCLUSIVE, SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT.

SUMMER MUSIC PROGRAM
OFFERS CHILDREN OPPORTUNITIES TO EXPLORE MUSIC, DEVELOP SKILLS, BUILD CONFIDENCE, AND EXPERIENCE THE JOY OF MAKING MUSIC TOGETHER.

SUMMER INSTRUMENTAL PROGRAM
PROVIDES ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG MUSICIANS TO DEVELOP THEIR INSTRUMENTAL SKILLS THROUGH SUMMER INSTRUCTION.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

DEC 6, 2026 - CONCERT FOR PEACE
MARCH 7, 2027 - CONCERT AT NEW ROCHELLE PUBLIC LIBRARY
APRIL 18, 2027 - DONOR/VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION CONCERT
JUNE 5, 2027 - SONGCATCHERS GETS TALENT 2



Do you know a music educator?

We need:
another Piano Mentor
Woodwind Mentor
Brass Mentor
Percussion Mentor

These are paid positions!

*Take a chance today!**



$25 a ticket for a unique, one of a kind Charles Fazzino hand painted violin
Thank you Mr. Fazzino!

$100 only 100 ticket sold for cash prizes

***DRAWING HELD AT CONCERT FOR PEACE 12/6/26**





CAMP







PERFORMANCES





CONCERTS





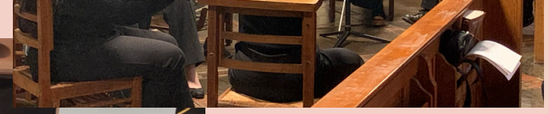






Songcatchers Inc.
Reaching for Peace through Music

Songcatchers







SUMMER









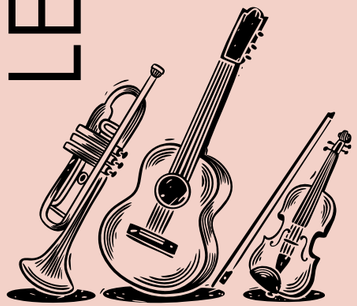
RECITALS







LESSONS







COMMUNITY HOLIDAY CHEER