



Western DuPage Special Recreation Association (WDSRA)  
[www.wdsra.com](http://www.wdsra.com)

**CONTACT:** Sherry Manschot  
WDSRA Marketing/PR Manager  
630-681-0962 ext. 550  
[sherrym@wdsra.com](mailto:sherrym@wdsra.com)

## **AS HEARD ON WONC FM89.1**

December 28, 2023

*We are the Western DuPage Special Recreation Association providing social and recreational programs for children, teens and adults right here in DuPage County.*

### **ANNUAL APPEAL UPDATES**

Thank you to everyone who has made a donation so far! Your donations helped meet the match of \$12,500! But the Annual Appeal is still going on. We need your help to ensure special recreation is possible for every child, teen and adult who needs it.

#### **YOU can change a life with just a click! What will your donation do?**

- Provide a sensory bag for a teen with sensory needs.
- Help foster a budding artist by providing art supplies.
- Allow a child who needs one-on-one support go to camp.
- Secure a spot in programs for an individual who needs a scholarship.
- And more!

*You can help make all this possible simply by making a donation at [www.wdsra.com](http://www.wdsra.com), click on the donate button.*

### **HIRING**

If you would like to be a part of the WDSRA team, let's talk! WDSRA is holding on-the-spot interviews for:

- spring & summer program staff – *Yes! Summer hiring!*
- inclusion support staff
- day program staff
- before/after school staff
- and more!

#### **Hiring Event**

**Thursday, 1/4 @ 3:30-5:30pm**

**Fountain View Recreation Center, Carol Stream**

*More information can be found on our social media.*

### **HOLIDAY THANKS!**

The holidays have cast their magical spell, inspiring gratitude and revelry. At the Western DuPage Special Recreation Association (WDSRA), we're immersed in the spirit of the season!

We want to spread some good cheer in the form of ‘thanks’.

First, thanks to the Naperville Park District for hosting their annual Santa’s Workshop. Families were able to kick off the holiday season at Santa's Workshop special needs nights – 55 families, 233 family members in all. They were able to spend a stress-free visit with the big guy in the red suit, take pictures and even receive a few goodies. We were thrilled to be a part of making those memories for families.

Second, thank you to Positively Naperville for allowing us to share all the good things that are happening with WDSRA every month. This month we shared with readers all the holiday events our participants and families were taking part in – including our very popular Holiday Dinner Dance, taking in the enchanting Holiday Magic lights at Brookfield Zoo, our Ugly Sweater Party or tonight’s’ New Year’s Eve Extravaganza... just to name a few.

Next, thank you to the many part-time staff and volunteers that choose to be part of the greater WDSRA family. They certainly bring the holiday spirit to every program they work and every participant they meet.

Of course, to the great staff here at WONC. We are thrilled to be with you every Thursday morning to share news and events that are important to our families. We know our families appreciate it and so do we!

Lastly, to your listeners. Hopefully for sharing the news about WDSRA to their friends and neighbors. You could be changing a life by letting people know about WDSRA.

From our family to yours... Happy holidays and let’s make 2024 the best yet!

## **Wrap**

With that, all I can do is wrap it up. If you have any questions about anything we talked about here today, please give us a call. We are happy to answer them all! Contact us at 630-681-0962 or check out our website at [www.wdsra.com](http://www.wdsra.com). And please, stay connected with us by following us on Facebook or signing up for our enews.

####

## **WDSRA**

Western DuPage Special Recreation Association (WDSRA) provides engaging, community-based recreational programs and inclusion services for children, teens, and adults with special needs. WDSRA offers Special Olympics, adapted sports, dance and art programs, camps, trips, special events, and more. WDSRA’s mission, the development of individuals through recreation, makes it possible for individuals to grow personally, connect with their community and discover their potential.

WDSRA is an award-winning organization and a cooperative extension of nine park districts serving the communities of Bloomingdale, Carol Stream, Glen Ellyn, Naperville, Roselle, Warrenville, West Chicago, Wheaton, and Winfield.

***MISSION*** *We enrich lives, connect communities and create fun through inclusive recreational opportunities.*

***VISION*** *A world of opportunities, belonging and individuals reaching their full potential.*

***Learn more at [www.wdsra.com](http://www.wdsra.com).***