



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

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## AS HEARD ON WONC FM89.1

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### **WELCOME: FALL PROGRAM STAFF**

WDSRA fall programs have begun. We want to welcome back those great seasonal staff who have been with us for years AND extend a BIG welcome to those who are new to WDSRA. We are thrilled with the high quality staff that are going to be creating some really wonderful experiences for all our children, teens and adults in programs.

By the way, we still have a few spots open. Working with WDSRA is fun and flexible! Apply at <https://www.wdsra.com/employment-volunteers/>.

***We know it is the people who make the difference! Thank YOU!***

### **WELCOME: NINA MENIS**

**We are excited to welcome Nina Menis to the WDSRA Foundation Board!**

Currently CEO & Executive Director of the Naperville based KidsMatter, Nina has an extensive background in nonprofit advancement. She has held a variety of positions with the College of DuPage, Science & Arts Academy, National School Foundation, and Naperville School District 203.

Nina's connection to special recreation began early on when she minored in special education and volunteered with Special Olympics, SEASPAR & WDSRA. After recently reconnecting with another WDSRA Trustee, Nina is bringing her connection full circle by serving as a WDSRA Trustee herself.

As a Trustee, Nina looks forward to bringing her experience in education, community connections and passion for serving to support WDSRA participants and families.

***Welcome Nina!***

### **VACCINE OPPORTUNITY**

Metropolitan Family Services and the Wheaton Warrenville Early Childhood Collaborative are hosting a vaccine event offering both the Pfizer and the J&J vaccines.

**Thursday, September 23rd**  
**4-6 pm**  
**605 E. Roosevelt Rd., Wheaton**

***Everyone who receives a shot will be entered in a raffle to win an iPad!***

### **NAPERVILLE ON BEST PLACES TO LIVE LIST**

Congratulations Naperville! Naperville ranks number 45 on the Money.com "50 Best Places to Live in the U.S. in 2021" list. The publication noted Edward Hospital, entertainment and events, school districts' athletics, and the slower increase of home prices compared to other cities as reasons for the accolade.

### **NAMI OCTOBERFEST**

NAMI DuPage's Oktoberfest will be three nights and two days filled with family fun, live entertainment, a carnival, great food, car shows, a pancake breakfast, raffles, and much, more more!

#### **Oktoberfest**

**Fri-Sun, October 1-3**

**DuPage County Fairgrounds**

General admission is \$5, children under 3 are free!

***Complete details and tickets can be found at <https://namidupage.org/>.***

### **WDSRA NAMED: The Best of The Best!**

**We don't mean to brag, but...** Glancer Magazine recently named WDSRA the Best of the Best in Special Needs Resources (DuPage)! We know this honor comes on behalf of every instructor, program staff and camp counselor in our programs as well as full time staff. We know it's the passion, generosity and fun they bring that make a difference every day. So while we humbly say THANK YOU to everyone who voted for WDSRA, we say CONGRATULATIONS to everyone who is responsible for the accolade.

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### **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.

***WDSRA Mission: The development of individuals through recreation.***

***WDSRA Vision: Opening a world of untapped potential and a lifetime of possibilities.***