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Friday, March 23, 2007

## DSO river cruise is a musical feast

### Celeste Headlee / Special to The Detroit News

Imagine dining on fire-roasted fennel crudites, roasted tenderloin of beef and Persian cucumbers tossed with Mediterranean vinaigrette, while gliding down the Detroit River on a 117-foot yacht as musicians from the Detroit Symphony Orchestra serenade you from the deck.

And you can claim the cost on your taxes as a charitable donation -- or half the cost, anyway.

The evening cruise event is one of 20 intimate dinners planned over the next seven months to raise money for the DSO. This is the 20th season of the "Musical Feasts" series, presented by the DSO Volunteer Council.

These events "offer an opportunity to enjoy the company of DSO musicians up close and personal in a small, intimate, beautiful setting," says Ellie Tholen, spokesperson for the Council.

The first feast, scheduled for Sunday, is called "Up North Dining in Beverly Hills." Ten guests will dine on fare from the five-star Rowe Inn of Ellworth at a private home in Beverly Hills.

Rick Bowers is hosting an event in his Detroit home June 24. He plans to serve 30 guests an authentic New Orleans repast, complete with shrimp remoulade, Creole pralines, crabmeat imperial and chicory coffee.

"It's an elegant evening," Bowers says. "Some people purchase tickets and invite all their friends."

Proceeds from the "Musical Feasts" benefit the Education and Outreach programs of the DSO, and Tholen says it's one of the orchestra's most significant fundraisers. Tickets sell out quickly, though, so she recommends that you make your reservations early.

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*Celeste Headlee is a Metro Detroit freelance writer and cultural reporter for WDET-FM (101.9).*

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Mark Mancinelli

Enjoy an intimate dinner cruise with the DSO on the Detroit River during Musical Feasts. [See full image](#)

**Musical Feasts**

Intimate fundraisers with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra

**When:** March 25-Oct. 21

**Where:** Various locations

**Tickets:** \$80-\$250

**Call:** (313) 576-5154

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