

May 12, 2014

Beaver Island Cultural Arts Association
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A Star Spangled Festival

Entering its 13th season, Baroque on Beaver, a Festival of Classical Music stands as one of the “Up North” region's unique events - a classical music festival on historic Beaver Island, featuring a professional Festival Orchestra and Chamber Chorale, guest soloists, and a large Festival Chorus. In the summer of 2014, Music Director Robert Nordling returns to conduct the Beaver Island Festival Orchestra and showcase several highly accomplished artists from July 25 to August 3. This year the Festival Chorus will be under the leadership of Interim Director Peter Sims, who is making his debut. Special guest vocal soloists include perennial favorites Martha Guth, Ricardo Lugo, and Meryl Mantione.

Another Festival first for 2014 will be a special program marking the 200th anniversary celebration of our nation’s national anthem featuring a large orchestra, all-American music performed under the stars. This bicentennial extravaganza will be held on the open space adjacent to the Whiskey Point lighthouse, which is located at the entrance of Paradise Bay. A large tent will be erected to cover the orchestra, chorus and part of the audience with plenty of space for lawn chairs and blankets. 'Music for a Star Spangled Evening' will feature little known versions of our National Anthem and works by other American composers, including works by Aaron Copeland, Irving Berlin, Rogers & Hammerstein, Joplin and Sousa. There will also be pre-concert remarks by Special guest, Dr. Mark Clague, UM musicology Professor and member of The Star Spangled Music Foundation. Although admission is open to the community, freewill offerings will be encouraged and gratefully received.

The Baroque on Beaver Festival Orchestra comprises dedicated professional musicians from throughout Michigan. Under maestro Nordling's direction they have developed into a first rate chamber orchestra famous for lush string sounds, sonorous winds, and vibrant brass. This extraordinary ensemble of musicians returns annually to renew their spirits and create music inspired by the natural beauty of America’s Emerald Isle. Festival patrons also enjoy performances of the Beaver Island String Quartet, Emerald isle Winds and the Beaver Island Brass Quintet which play at scheduled concerts and impromptu “pop-up” performances that take place around the historic harbor district during Festival week. In 2014 the Beaver Island Brass Quintet will again embark on a cruise aboard the St. James Marine Company tug *American Girl* to serenade boaters and beach walkers along the shore of Paradise Bay as well as incoming passengers aboard the afternoon BIBCO ferry.

For more information about Baroque on Beaver, please see: <http://www.baroqueonbeaver.org/> or by calling [231.448.2149](tel:231.448.2149).

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