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For Immediate Publication

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Beaver Island Cultural Arts Association

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## **Charlevoix County Community Foundation “Jazz’s Up” Baroque on Beaver Music Festival**

The Baroque on Beaver Music Festival has received two grants from Charlevoix County Community Foundation. The first grant, for \$3500, is in support of the 14th Festival, July 24 to August 2, 2015, led by Robert Nordling, *Music Director and Principal Conductor*. Nordling, together with Kevin Simon, Choral Director and Matt Thomas, Interim Festival Manager have worked with the board of the Beaver Island Cultural Arts Association (BICAA), the organization which oversees Baroque, and designed a Festival that includes a number of firsts:

- The first scheduled family concert, designed to introduce all ages to the orchestra and the magic of musical instruments.
- Adding a second ticketed performance to the first weekend to subsidize Festival costs and increase earned income to ensure that all classical concerts remain open admission with only freewill offering being requested
- The first annual “Founders’ Concert” honoring the visionary leaders whose volunteer and musical talents, financial support and dedicated service helped launch and nurture the Baroque on Beaver Festival and BICAA.
- The first series of pre-concert lectures by Maestro Nordling to enrich audience knowledge about the repertoire, orchestration and composers featured, thereby enhancing the overall concert experience.

A second grant of \$2500 is to support a comprehensive strategic planning process for BICAA that will be facilitated by an independent professional. The goals of this project are to craft a long term vision and 5-year operating plan for the organization and its cornerstone project, Baroque on Beaver ~ *and All That JAZZ!!*

“Charlevoix County Community Foundation’s generous support helps to ensure the Baroque on Beaver Music Festival’s commitment to innovative and adventurous programming and our vision to reach wider audiences,” said BICAA chair Anne Glendon. “It affirms our collective vision of expanding our music repertoire with Jazz, a true American idiom that blends surprisingly well with the baroque classics. Their support of the strategic plan will enable the Board to be inclusive in the planning process and create a vision and management structure to sustain BICAA’s signature events for years to come.”

The Charlevoix County Community Foundation 2015 grants total \$6,000. The Foundation recognizes and supports the multiple roles classical and jazz musicians play in the artistic landscape of Charlevoix County in attracting new visitors to the region. Live music performances are essential and unique elements that heighten Island and County efforts to extend the tourism season into mid-August, enhancing the areas effort to make Charlevoix County a destination of choice in both the high and should seasons.

The Charlevoix County Community Foundation has awarded Baroque on Beaver \$12,500 over a two year period. The overarching goal of the Foundation is to reach and aggregate the communities of fine and performing art enthusiasts, irrespective of genre preferences, and allow the public to discover new artistic works, such as jazz and classical music.

### **ABOUT THE CHARLEVOIX COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**

The Charlevoix County Community Foundation is a local charitable organization dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for all citizens of Charlevoix County by building permanent endowments, addressing needs through grant making, and providing leadership resources to serve the community. More information about the Charlevoix County Community Foundation may be found at [www.c3f.org](http://www.c3f.org) or by calling [231-536-2440](tel:231-536-2440)

### **ABOUT THE BAROQUE ON BEAVER MUSIC FESTIVAL**

The Beaver Island Cultural Arts Association was formalized as a 501-c-3 corporation in 2006, six years after the first Baroque on Beaver concert was performed in the little log cabin chapel of the Beaver Island Episcopal Church. The annual Baroque on Beaver (B-on-B) Festival runs over a 10-day span, this year from July 24 through the first weekend of August 2. In 2009, Baroque on Beaver became a “Pure Michigan” enterprise, contracting with professional musicians from across the state.

For information about Baroque on Beaver, please see: <http://www.baroqueonbeaver.org/> or by calling 888-511-5189.