



Long Grove Community Building Grant 2023

Authorized Agent – Ron Arden, Executive and Artistic Director

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History

Established 2004 –

The Lake County Symphony Orchestra was founded as Full Score Chamber Orchestra by its charter members in 2004 for the purposes of continuing to partner together musically and share the gift of creative live music wherever it could. The organization started by building strong relationships with the Zion Park District, Zion Benton High School, Zion District 6, and Cancer Treatment Centers of America to provide enriching musical events for Zion and surrounding communities. Growing deep into Lake County since those early days, new and different developing partnerships have developed to benefit children and adults both culturally and educationally, and enhance the arts offerings in Northern Illinois and Southern Wisconsin.

Since its first summer, LCSO has launched several major annual events - Kids Konzerts, Welcome Christmas, Timeless Classics and Celebration of Classical Jazz. Families are encouraged to bring their children and picnics for a fun relaxing evening of great music under the evening sky at the outdoor concerts July 4th and early September. Kids Konzerts yearly play for over 1,000 children. The Christmas concert features the best of secular and sacred favorites – often with singers and choir partnerships with local churches. Concerts usually include an informative narration by Artistic Director, Ron Arden. The rare addition of jazz, rock, diverse ethnic, and pops genres to an already gifted classical ensemble is the creative and passionate offering of the LCSO. The orchestra's Timeless Classics event in winter heralds the best of great symphonic literature.

Lake County Symphony Orchestra is indeed one of the most invigorating musical ensembles on Chicago's north shore and presently the only professional orchestra in Lake County. In addition to its regular season, LCSO has served as accompaniment for headline artists at the Genesee Theater in Waukegan for such artists as Marie Osmond, The Temptations, Clay Aiken, Symphonic Led Zeppelin, and The Roy Orbison Virtual Tour – to name just a few. The orchestra in total and/or part is available for professional musical services. Members playing come from Milwaukee to Chicago and part of the LCSO mission is to include advanced students and community musicians on its' stage.

Project Description and Outcome

Proposal for this grant pertains to a performance on the 4th of July 2023 in Long Grove. We received the generous grant in 2021 and 2022 and played to a full audience both years with great success and enthusiasm.

All details and arrangements would be coordinated between Lake County Symphony Orchestra Administration and Buffalo Creek Brewing to provide a concert to Long Grove visitors free of ticket charges. Event expenses include the cost of musicians, conductor, executive administration (including pr material, tickets, and marketing) and music rental fees, which accumulate to no more than \$10,000. BCB is generously offering the outdoor beer garden as a venue free of charge.

The following is a quote from our Executive and Artistic Director, Ron Arden, pertaining to our annual July event, which best describes our dedication to the greater community we belong to: "Each year the LCSO has performed a family-friendly concert with the most well-known and iconic American pops and patriotic pieces. We believe in America, and we believe in celebrating her musically. Our concert includes the best of John Phillip Souza, The Armed Forces Medley, the National Anthem, God Bless America, American Salute, and music from Aaron Copland, Leonard Bernstein to John Williams and Tchaikovsky. It is an invigorating and celebratory event that everyone enjoys. Our reputation and presence in Long Grove have been strong and warmly engaged. We are thrilled to be a part of the vibrant community spirit there.

Clearly these past 2 years residents of Long Grove have been enriched, encouraged, and nourished culturally/musically by the LCSO. Response has been overwhelming.

Finally, this annual event is one of the cornerstone hallmarks of the LCSO and our dedication to sharing music with the community. It is with this mission in mind that the Long Grove grant would make possible our 4th of July concert to the public free of charge. Funding for this event could also involve donor sponsorships and community building grants. Seeing just how impactful this is on community members, it is our passion and honor to present this concert and a strong reason to apply for the Long Grove community grant. To offer the concert free of charge from the village would be a tremendous gift.

Rehearsals with either be off site or at BCB and all details regarding seating, sound, set up, etc. for a 90-minute concert will be coordinated with BCB and the Village.

Project Budget

- A. Administration, Executive and Artistic Management Wage Expense (\$2,500.00)
 - B. Sound & Event Execution Contractors (\$500.00)
 - C. Music Rental & Library Management Fees (\$500.00)
 - D. Promotions & Publicity (\$500.00)
 - E. Contracted Musician Wage Expense (approximately \$6,000.00 for 55 musicians)
- Total Budget (\$10,000.00)

Due Diligence

Board of Directors:

Noah Alexander Mendez – president/Joshua Poucher – treasurer/Brett Ostertag – secretary

Donna Poucher/Dan Perone/Donna Collazo/Peter Danos/Toni Roe – members at large

Five highest paid members annually are - Artistic and Executive Director Ron Arden – Principal percussionist Josh Williamson – Principal flute Lauren Moldenhauer - Marketing artist Elizabeth Ehlert – Concertmaster Cynthia Arden

Respectfully submitted,

Ron Arden – Executive and Artistic Director

