



PINE MOUNTAIN MUSIC FESTIVAL

UPPER PENINSULA, MI

PMMF 2023 HOLIDAY NEWSLETTER



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Pine Mountain Music Festival

PMMF 2024

June 15 - 24

Mark your calendars! We are hard at work planning next summer's festival and will have a complete schedule for you in the Spring newsletter. In the meantime, **visit pmmf.org** for the most up-to-date information.



THE BERGONZI PIANO TRIO

The wonderful Bergonzi Piano Trio returns to PMMF 2024 bringing their brilliant music-making with them for their formal evening concerts. For the younger members of our audience (or those who are young at heart), there will also be free interactive children's concerts. Members of the Bergonzi Piano Trio are Scott Flavin (violin), Ross Harbaugh (cello), and Lindsay Garritson (piano)



UPSTARTS!

Since 2012, the UPstarts! program has provided young emerging singers and instrumentalists from the Upper Peninsula the opportunity to perform in a professional music festival. Chosen by audition, the young artists tour the U.P., meeting audiences of all sizes in different performance settings. These concerts (accompanied by Susie Byykkonen, UPstarts! Director) provide the artists with important experiences on the concert stage and give audiences a chance to enjoy the impressive level of talent that comes from our local communities.

2024 UPstarts! applications are due by December 18th, 2023. Check pmmf.org for more information and please help spread the word to talented classical musician yoopers!



THE HISTORY OF OPERA IN THE U.P.

Mezzo-soprano Lara Neves and soprano Maitri White will join the Superior String Alliance Chamber Players for a concert lecture experience. They will explore Upper Peninsula history through the lens of opera, performing arias from operas that have graced the stages of the U.P. throughout the years.



ON THE TOWN CONCERTS

Back by popular demand, these free 30 - 45 minute chamber music concerts will take place during Bridgefest in Houghton/Hancock and during Marquette Art Week. The PMMF On the Town concerts will feature performances by PMMF musicians in unique places like the canal shorefront, a coffee shop, a park, an antique store, or in a photography gallery (photo courtesy of Marquette Art Week).



Sign up for email updates at pmmf.org

YOUR CONTRIBUTION WILL HELP PMMF CONTINUE ITS VITAL PART IN THE ARTISTIC LIFE OF OUR COMMUNITY!

The Pine Mountain Music Festival is committed to connecting folks through classical music and educational programs across Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

As a community partner, PMMF relies on generous support from community members, businesses, and government organizations. If you have contributed in the past, THANK YOU!

We encourage you to continue your support through financial contributions, attending festival events, volunteering, and spreading the word about this unique and special festival!

Please consider making a contribution to PMMF and help keep the festival thriving for years to come!

DONATE

DONOR LEVELS

Platinum: \$10,000 +

Gold: \$5,000 - \$9,999

Silver: \$1,000 - \$4,999

Bronze: \$500 - \$999

Patron: \$100 - \$499

Friend: Under \$100

Donate with credit or
debit card online at
www.pmmf.org/donate

or mail a check to PMMF
with the the enclosed
donation card and
envelope.

PMMF BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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PAY-AS-YOU'RE-ABLE TICKETING

The Pine Mountain Music Festival believes that the foundation of an equitable and inclusive arts culture requires making this collaboration accessible to all. We are committed to ensuring that everyone who wants to see our concerts is able to, which is why we have enacted a "Pay As You're Able" model for all ticketed events. We encourage our audience members to purchase tickets at a level comfortable for them.

Ticket revenue alone doesn't begin to cover what it costs to pay our artists, produce the festival, and prepare and staff each production, but we believe that access to the arts is a foundational human right. We encourage patrons to select a tier in line with their means. All are welcome to select the more expensive tiers, and ALL are welcome and encouraged to attend Pine Mountain Music Festival productions!

THANK YOU!

FROM THE PMMF PRESIDENT, HOLIDAY NEWSLETTER 2023

What an amazing season we had this past June! I, along with the rest of the Pine Mountain Music Festival Board, thank the PMMF Co-Executive Directors, Dani and Libby, for putting together such a wonderful program. As always, the Bergonzi Trio gave us extraordinary performances and Lindsay Garritson's solo piano performances were so powerful. And it was great hearing our old friends Paul and Christine Seitz performing together; much of the music composed by Paul.

One of the highlights for me this season was seeing so much extraordinary talent from the UP on display. There were the performances by the Superior String Alliance Chamber Players of the premiere of *The Sound of Water* by our very own Libby Meyer at the Isle Royale program along with Elena Ruehr's *Keweenaw String Quartet*. Elena, now a faculty member at MIT, grew up in Houghton. There was also the thrilling and humorous performance of Elena's opera *The Thrilling Adventures of Lovelace and Babbage*. And, of course, we had the UPstarts! performances with Michael Halvorson, Oskar Gaenssle, Maitri White, and Adam Hall.

As we continue to recover from the disruptions caused by the pandemic, we are looking for ways to build our audience size. Our Pay As You're Able ticketing initiative has made it possible for some to attend our concerts who would not be able to attend at the regular ticket price. We are pleased to be able to make our concerts available to this wider audience. And we think there are more opportunities to expand our audience. If you have ideas for how we might attract more music lovers to our events, please let us know.

We continue to look for volunteers and board members to keep PMMF a viable organization. If you would like to be part of the action, we'd love to hear from you. You can express your interest in volunteering on our website at pmmf.org. Click on the 'Support' tab and then select from Donate, Volunteer, or Join the PMMF Board.

Finally, a huge thank you to each of you who have made donations to PMMF this year and to those of you who paid extra for your tickets. Without donors we couldn't possibly put on a festival. Our PMMF audience continues to impress me with its generosity.



Warmly,
Linda Ott, PMMF Board President



THRILLING ADVENTURES!

FROM THE PMMF CO-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS, HOLIDAY NEWSLETTER 2023

2023 was a season of thrilling adventures! We are so grateful to have been part of such an extraordinary season and are already looking forward to the exciting events in store for summer 2024!

In this fourth decade of hosting performances that bring us closer together in our community of the Upper Peninsula, we are striving to reach the next generation of classical music audiences. Our programs welcomed audiences of all ages and our new PAYA (Pay As You're Able) ticketing for all ticketed events encouraged participation from anyone in the community interested in attending our events regardless of their ability to afford a ticket. We are encouraged by the numbers of audience members that took advantage of this new ticketing system as well as the generosity of those that paid extra to support this program.

A series of events like the Pine Mountain Music Festival takes a lot of work to plan and implement and couldn't possibly happen without all the wonderful people who believe in our mission and the power of classical music.

A huge thank you to the following people who made this year's festival possible:

Our wonderful hosts who donated housing to our artists; all the staff at each of PMMF's concert and event venues; the Copper Country Suzuki Association for assistance with the instrument petting zoo; Luke Weinhold and Charles White for tuning our pianos; Nathan Lyle at My Web Maestro for his brilliant work on our new website; Lara Neves, for all her behind-the-scenes work as PMMF Director of Operations; the PMMF Board of Directors; all our brilliant artists; and finally to YOU, our donors, patrons, volunteers and supporters. None of this would have been possible without your support! Thank you for believing in PMMF's mission to nurture the artistic vitality and creative spirit of our community through the power of classical music!

With gratitude,

PMMF Co-Executive Directors Libby Meyer and Dani Simandl

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PMMF musicians showing support at each other's performances: Lindsay Garritson, Scott Flavin, Ross Harbaugh, Paul Seitz, and Christine Seitz.



Ranger Liz Valencia and the Superior String Alliance Chamber Players before premiering works written by Isle Royale Artists in Residence.



UPstart! Michael Halvorson performing during Marquette Art Week in Hurley Park. Photo courtesy of Marquette Art Week.



The Bergonzi Piano Trio checking their phone to see if you have followed PMMF on Facebook and Instagram or signed up for PMMF email updates!



Guerrilla Opera performing Elena Ruehr's music at Rozsa Center for the Performing Arts.



The Bergonzi Piano Trio performing their children's concert at Portage Lake United Church in Houghton.



Adam Hall performing a solo cello fundraiser concert for PMMF in September at the Quincy Mine Hoist House.



The Superior String Alliance Chamber Players performing string quartets at Hancock's Orpheum Theater to celebrate Isle Royale's 80th anniversary.



Dr. Lindsay Garritson teaches a piano masterclass to Upper Peninsula piano students between her solo piano concerts.