

## Friends of the Fine Arts Quartet partner with Arts Wisconsin

The Quartet's 2018 Summer Festival was made possible by Saint John's On The Lake which helped the Friends by serving as both a program partner with the Friends and as a fiscal manager. Donations processed through Saint John's were tax-deductible by virtue of their status as a nonprofit organization. This financial arrangement was to be limited to one year.

The Friends carefully considered the option of becoming a nonprofit itself, then decided to form more durable partnerships with program sponsors and to contract for financial services. The Friends have arranged with Arts Wisconsin to serve as their fiscal receiver.

The relationship ensures a secure environment for your donations. The Friend's Steering Committee will undertake the campaign for support. The Friends will work with the Fine Arts Quartet and Peck School at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee to program Zelazo concerts. Additional events will be planned with community co-sponsors as the Friends had with Saint John's On The Lake and the Jewish Museum of Milwaukee for the 2018 Summer Festival.

Instead of the Friends handling funds, Arts Wisconsin will process donations, acknowledge contributions, and dispense funds according to a collaborative plan for concerts and related expenses. The participation of Arts Wisconsin permits donations to continue to be tax deductible. Arts Wisconsin will monitor expenditures to ensure that they meet IRS guidelines for community service and provide requisite accounting for the funds.

Arts Wisconsin has been in business 26 years as an arts policy advocate and resource to arts programs in Wisconsin. The organization works with small arts programs across the state. It is governed by board members with substantial experience managing arts programs.

Arts Wisconsin organizes a statewide *Arts Day* event each spring that attracts several hundred participants. The organization collaborates with programs around the state supporting local arts initiatives and collaborations.

Currently, 27 organizations receive fiscal receiver services from Arts Wisconsin.



### Fine Arts Quartet 2018 Season

*A summary by violinist Ralph Evans*

The year 2018 has been an exciting one for the Fine Arts Quartet. Invitations have come to perform in some of the world's most prestigious festivals. Major engagements this year in the States have included concerts in New York, Washington D.C., Florida and Connecticut as well as tours all over Europe, including concerts in Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, France and Norway. We also received invitations to perform multiple concerts in Mexico and Canada, more specifically in the San Miguel de Allende Music Festival's 40th anniversary celebration, and in the Montreal Symphony Orchestra's renowned summer festival *Virée Classique*.

In the fall of 2018, we performed a quartet of concerts at the International Mendelssohn Festival in Hamburg including a sold-out appearance in Europe's famous new architectural wonder, the Elbphilharmonie concert hall.

Naxos has engaged us to record a compact disc of Beethoven quartets in Berlin next month for their release of a massive box set next year of the complete works of Beethoven to celebrate the 250th anniversary of his birth. In addition, Naxos has engaged us to continue our series of Mozart recordings, the most recent of which was featured as a Naxos Album of the Month (September 2018).

Amidst all these performing activities, the Fine Arts Quartet members have been most grateful, as always, for the opportunity to continue performing a series of concerts in Milwaukee during 2018 for the world's best audience!

Our schedule for 2019-2020 includes engagements in Paris, London, Tel Aviv, Naples, Hamburg, Dijon, Naantali, and many other European cities as well in the US, Canada, and Mexico. And we will be continuing to record for the Naxos label - more divine Mozart and a large project of thrilling chamber music by Dvorak.

### Friends Steering Committee

Michael Barndt	Sandy Mallin
Sidney Grossberg	Kent Mayfield
Efim Boico	Ed jj Olson
Penny Egan	Dan Patrinos
Ralph Evans	Allen Rieselbach
Lenore Lee	Jim Vint

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