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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival connects with local community

DETROIT (June 3, 2021) – The Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival demonstrates its commitment to the local community during its upcoming summer festival. Along with presenting high-caliber concerts, the Festival will continue its collaborations with local organizations through community events.

“We recognize that community engagement is vital to the long-term viability of our artform, and equally important, it gives us the opportunity to demonstrate the educational, economic and health benefits of the performing arts,” said Festival Board member Christine Goerke. “The Festival has a solid foundation of seeking out initiatives that have mutual benefit to the Festival and to the communities in which we are a part. With a greater presence in southeast Michigan, I look forward to strengthening the bonds between local communities and the performing arts.”

On Friday, June 11, the Viano String Quartet heads to Wayne State University’s Medical School for a symposium on nonverbal communication. Bridging a connection between the necessity of nonverbal communication in both a performance and medical setting, this workshop allows medical students to observe and learn the necessary skill.

On June 17, the Festival continues its collaborative concert with St. Matthew’s & St. Joseph’s Episcopal Church, a historical Episcopal church in Detroit. A quintet of brass musicians from Detroit Chamber Winds & Strings, the Festival’s sister organization, will perform an outdoor concert on the grounds of the church. This program is free and open to the public, supported by the Michigan Council for Arts & Cultural Affairs, administered by Culture Source.

Then, the Festival heads over to Piquette Square, a 150-unit apartment project built by Southwest Solutions in Detroit to house and care for homeless veterans. The closed concert will be on June 17 and will feature the DCWS brass group.

The final Festival community event takes the Ivalas Quartet to Kirk in the Hills on June 21 for a workshop with Accent Pontiac students. Accent Pontiac focuses on strengthening Pontiac’s youth and community through equitable access to intensive and consistent music-making. The Ivalas Quartet promotes this mission by working with these students to realize their own compositions and interpret each other’s work.

The Ivalas Quartet and Viano String Quartet are Shouse ensembles at this year’s Festival. The Catherine Filene Shouse Institute remains dedicated to providing opportunities to young ensembles to perform and connect with veteran musicians.

Except for the concert at St. Matthew’s & St. Joseph’s, all Festival community engagement events are closed to the public.

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About the Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival

The Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival was born in 1994 of a remarkable relationship between religious and cultural institutions. A secular event, the Festival is sponsored by three religious institutions (representing Catholic, Jewish and Protestant faiths) and Detroit Chamber Winds & Strings, a prominent musical ensemble that is an administrative partner for the Festival. Traditionally, for two weeks each June, the Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival presents more than 20 concerts in southeastern Michigan. Many of these performances occur in the venues of the Festival’s sponsors - St. Hugo of the Hills Catholic Church, Temple Beth El and Kirk in the Hills. More information at greatlakeschambermusic.org