



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Special events planned by community businesses in celebration of Bay Chamber Concerts' 50th anniversary season

Mark your calendar!

Bay Chamber Concerts turns 50 this summer as **Midcoast Maine's premiere presenter of the performing arts!** Several special events, including Pop the Cork 2010, Natalie's World Red Carpet, and Sneak Peek! have been planned to celebrate the special occasion and to benefit Bay Chamber Concerts and its community music school. In addition, Farmers Fare, The Farnsworth Art Museum and CMCA and Bay Chamber Concerts are planning ongoing summer collaborations as part of the anniversary season. "We are fortunate to have many generous partners to share in our celebration this summer," said Managing Director, Monica Kelly.

On June 17, join Cellardoor Winery for its 3rd annual Pop the Cork Celebration! This multi-venue event benefits Bay Chamber Concerts while celebrating food, wine, music, and art. Enjoy live music by Grammy-nominated Oleta Adams along with performances by Secret Service and local sensations Grupo Esperanza and Line of Force. Savor food and wine pairings featuring Spanish tapas & a raw oyster bar created by Lani Temple of Megunticook Market in Camden and be dazzled by Performance art by Madgirl World Meredith Alex. There are sure to be plenty of extra surprises including the unveiling of Cellardoor Winery's latest Artist Series Release. Parking will be available at Rockport Elementary School with trolley service to the events. Advance ticket purchase required. Tickets are \$75 and all proceeds benefit Bay Chamber Concerts. To purchase tickets please call (207) 763-4478 or visit www.brownpapertickets.com. A full schedule will be posted prior to the event.

On June 20, Natalie's Restaurant in Camden is celebrating Bay Chambers Concerts' 50th anniversary with Natalie's World Red Carpet Event. Between 5 and 8 p.m., come and enjoy complimentary wines, hors d'oeuvres, live music and tons of fun. Various companies will be showcasing wines and champagnes, including Cellardoor Winery, Central Distributors, Pine State Wines, Wicked Wines, and Easterly Wines. Christine O'Lary, voted one of the top 50 funniest lesbian comedians, will be performing a stand-up comedy routine to promote the launch of ticket sales for her iChristine one-woman show opening November 13th. Cocktail attire; open invitation to attend. Please RSVP to dine@camdenharbourinn.com.

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On July 31 Bay Chamber Concerts is presenting Sneak Peek!, a special benefit concert for its community music school as well as the official unveiling of Bay Chamber's new facilities in Rockport village. The concert will be one-of-a-kind, with Bay Chamber's Young Stars Prize winning quartet, Calliope, performing Mozart's flute quartet with Artistic Director Thomas Wolf in his final public performance. The Calliope Quartet– Josie and Sophie Davis, violins; Nathan Hillman, viola; and Nora Willauer, cello – will be joined by Bay Chamber's resident string quartet, the St. Lawrence – Geoff Nuttall and Scott St. John, violins; Leslie Robertson, viola; and Christopher Costanza, cello – for the incomparable Mendelssohn Octet. Proceeds from Sneak Peek! will benefit Bay Chamber's scholarship program; tickets are \$125 and can be ordered by calling (207) 236-2823 or online at www.baychamberconcerts.org.

This summer Farmer's Fare is hosting a weekly special event for Bay Chamber patrons at their Café and Market at 3 Cross Street at Route 90 in Rockport. Bay Chamber concertgoers will be treated to parking, a light meal, and a free round-trip shuttle service to the pre-concert talk at 7 or concert at 8pm. Local foods by local producers will be featured, including light fare, cheese, wine, and charcuterie. The event will be ongoing on Thursday nights, 5pm to 8pm, July 1 through August 26.

Bay Chamber Concerts is excited to announce that it will be presenting pre-concert talks Wednesday *and* Thursday nights starting at 7:00pm. New this year: Wednesday nights will feature pre-concert Music and Art talks with Tom Wolf, Artistic Director, Michael Komanecky, Chief Curator and guests in the galleries of the Farnsworth Art Museum. Pre-concert talks on Thursday nights will feature the musicians and Tom Wolf in the downstairs meeting room at the Rockport Opera House.

Founded in 1961 by brothers Andrew Wolf and Thomas Wolf, Bay Chamber is dedicated to sustaining classical music as an art form – for that is its legacy. In concerts and in the classroom Bay Chamber feels a responsibility to pass along this rich musical heritage to people of all ages and abilities while at the same time acknowledging the importance, and encouraging the exploration of all musical languages.

A 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization, for 50 years, Bay Chamber has awarded annual prizes to young Maine Musicians. Bay Chamber Community Music School offers private instruction, orchestral opportunities, and other music education to local musicians and community members of all ages and abilities.

Bay Chamber Concerts presents music year-round through two performance series: the Summer Music Festival during the months of July and August, features classical, jazz and film events in the historic Rockport Opera House and Strand Theatre in Rockland; and the Performing Arts Series from October through May, showcases a variety of classical, jazz, and world music, as well as dance events in venues throughout Midcoast Maine.

Tickets to most of the events in the Summer Music Festival are \$30/\$40 for adults, \$8 for youth ages 18 and under. Discounts are available up to 30% off tickets for subscribers and groups of 8 or more. Several events are free and open to the public. For more information, or to purchase tickets, contact Bay Chamber Concerts at (207) 236-2823, toll free at (888) 707-2770 or online at www.baychamberconcerts.org.