



April, 2017

Dear Friend of GLAMA,

The GLAMA Board of Directors wishes to thank those who attended Coopers Glen Music Festival 2017. This mid-winter event has become a musical mainstay for Kalamazoo and the surrounding communities.

After 5 years at the Kalamazoo Nature Center, 2017 was our 10<sup>th</sup> festival downtown at the Radisson. We strive every year to bring a mix of new and traditional talent from a variety of American musical genres. We have presented bluegrass, blues, folk, swing, French Canadian, celtic, and singer-songwriters, from our surrounding area to Italy and France.

Over the years the Cooper's Glen line-up has included Dr. Ralph Stanley, Bill Staines, Chris Hillman and Herb Pedersen, Larry Cordle, May Erlewine and Seth Bernard, Liz Carroll, Miss Tess and the Talkbalks, Billie Joe Shaver, Genticorum, Rhonda Vincent, Beppe Gambetta, Rev. Robert Jones, Peter Madcat Ruth, Lynn Morris, Jim Hurst, Anne Hills, Black Jake and the Carnies, Laurie Lewis and Tom Rozum and the Kalamazoo Mandolin Orchestra, just to name a few! Cooper's Glen has evolved into a wonderful gathering for musicians, luthiers, vendors, and music lovers of all ages. We offer our audiences opportunities to enjoy performances and also interact with performers through intimate workshops.

Cooper's Glen happens because of a dedicated group of board members, committee members, and volunteers who care deeply about the GLAMA's dedication to preserve, promote, and perform acoustic music. Today, music can be digitally accessed and listened to with the touch of a finger. But there is no substitute for live music, performed or played with, or for, a live audience. Each performance is different. Each audience is different. Those of you who attend Cooper's Glen are witness to and supporters of that! In addition to Cooper's Glen, GLAMA presents opportunities for participation with our regularly scheduled jams and community sings.

Every year, we receive generous support from our volunteers who offer their time and talents for the festival. We have also been fortunate to receive financial and in-kind support from businesses and our

major sponsors, including the Irving S. Gilmore Foundation, Bryan Galloup, WMUK, Bell's Brewery, Lapenna Group, Inc., and a few small donors.

The cost of putting on Cooper's Glen has gradually increased. Marketing expenses, venue rental, artist fees (including hotel rooms and hospitality) and sound reinforcement are not being off-set with ticket sales. We are facing the decision to downsize the festival and to raise more funds.

**If you would like to see Cooper's Glen Music Festival continue, there are some ways you can help.**

We are launching a fund drive with this email that will end on July 1, 2017. That deadline is set so that we can determine if we have sufficient funds for Cooper's Glen Music Festival, 2018.

1. We are looking for major corporate sponsorships. You may know of a business or corporation that would support this event. Please contact us with contact information by sending an email to [info@greatlakesacoustic.org](mailto:info@greatlakesacoustic.org).
2. We are looking for support of any amount from you as a Friend of GLAMA. Directions can be found for making a donation at <http://greatlakesacoustic.org/support-glama/>

**Reminder: Great Lakes Acoustic Music Association is a 501c3 nonprofit organization and all corporate and personal donations are tax-deductible.**

3. GLAMA needs more helping hands. Some areas of need include help with promotion, marketing through social media, web site maintenance, bookkeeping, festival planning, volunteer coordination, stage production and programming. If interested and willing, you can join a committee and become part of making things happen! Send us an email to [info@greatlakesacoustic.org](mailto:info@greatlakesacoustic.org)

**On Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, our 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual GLAMA Open Mic Concert will be held at the First Congregational Church in downtown Kalamazoo beginning at 6:00 p.m. Similar to last year, this will happen in tandem with our annual membership meeting and report about GLAMA. Anyone wishing to perform a 15-20 minute set is encouraged to sign up and everyone is invited to attend. We will have a sound set up and we highly encourage all those interested to give our GLAMA Open Mic a try! Invite your friends and family to come on down and watch!**

Thank you!

Board of Directors

Great Lakes Acoustic Music Association