



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TRANSFORMATIVE MUSICAL EXPERIENCES, EDUCATION AND OUTREACH SUPPORTED BY LINCOLN FINANCIAL FOUNDATION AND COGSWELL BENEVOLENT TRUST GRANTS

Grants support New Hampshire Music Festival programs designed for community members of all ages

PLYMOUTH, NH, MAY 6, 2016 – The New Hampshire Music Festival (NHMF) has received a \$20,000 grant from the Lincoln Financial Foundation in support of the Festival’s Music in the Mountains and Education and Outreach programs.

NHMF’s free **Music in the Mountains** Series is held across the state in unexpected and exciting locations. Each week (July 5-August 4, 2016) features live music events on mountaintops, trails and lakes, allowing community members to experience familiar music in new ways, beyond the walls of the concert hall and in their everyday lives.

The Festival’s **Education & Outreach Programs** include workshops and masterclasses, in-school music programs, a **Family Concert** with David Amram (July 23), and **Make Music Plymouth** (July 23), a free day of music held in downtown Plymouth, with instrument making and an instrument petting zoo, food for the family from local stores, and over 75 different performers. “Lincoln Financial has been a terrific partner in their ongoing support of our outreach initiatives—critical to our ability to widen our audience and expand access to classical music experiences across the State,” said Deb Kosits, executive director.

Lincoln Financial Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Lincoln Financial Group, believes in empowering people to live greater lives, which advances culture and empowers greater positive change. Its grant is part of Lincoln Financial’s annual \$10 million investment in its local communities’ youth education, economic and workforce development, human well-being and arts programs.

Free "Cogswell Seats" for Young Adults and Children

In 2014, the New Hampshire Music Festival created the **Cogswell Emerging Artist Series**, an initiative designed to allow children and young adults under age 25 with an interest in music to be able to attend concerts performed by a professional orchestra for free. The series was supported by a grant from Cogswell Benevolent Trust.

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NEW HAMPSHIRE MUSIC FESTIVAL RECEIVES GRANTS FROM LINCOLN FINANCIAL FOUNDATION AND
COGSWELL BENEVOLENT TRUST

“Thanks to another generous \$5,000 grant from the Cogswell trustees, we will be offering 200 free tickets to children and young adults again in 2016. The goal of the series is to capture the hearts of our younger audience, expose them to a classical concert and provide access to professional musicians, the performance and rehearsal process, and the instruments as a ‘build’ on their in-school experiences.” said Kosits.

To obtain free tickets to any of the Festival’s Tuesday or Thursday concerts, children/youth age 25 and under may request them at the Silver Center Box Office at Plymouth State University or call 603-535-ARTS (2787).

For more information on the New Hampshire Music Festival and its 2016 season, visit www.nhmf.org.

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**About The New Hampshire Music Festival**

The New Hampshire Music Festival is a summer festival that honors the tradition of classical music while exploring new artistic paths. Our organization offers patrons an engaging, immersive festival experience by presenting world-class performances of symphonic, choral and chamber music. Strong collaborations with community partners are a hallmark of this important cultural institution, enabling transformative music experiences and educational programs to students of all ages.

For nearly 20 years, the Festival has been in residence at Plymouth State University at the Silver Center for the Arts. The festival was founded in 1952 as a small chamber orchestra performing on Melody Island in Lake Winnepesaukee and has grown to be a highly-valued community asset. Every summer during July and August, musicians from around the country come to Plymouth to perform well-known classics and contemporary works.

[www.nhmf.org](http://www.nhmf.org)  
[www.facebook.com/NHMusicFestival](https://www.facebook.com/NHMusicFestival)

**About Lincoln Financial Foundation**

The Lincoln Financial Foundation, established in 1962, is a nonprofit organization formed and supported by Lincoln Financial Group. Under the Foundation guidelines, grants are made in the areas of arts, education, human services and economic/workforce development.

**About Cogswell Benevolent Trust**

Cogswell Benevolent Trust offers grants to 501(c)(3) organizations with valid tax-exempt regardless of purpose, non-profit or not-for-profit that have charitable or educational purpose, public agencies with educational, religious, fraternal organizations that serve the public without restrictions, and other charitable institutions with a primary objective to offer aid, assistance, education, or the betterment of public resources.

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