

Snojam 2023: Music Festival & Fundraiser

Sponsor Deadline: to get logo on printed flyers: 1/7/2023. Sponsors after 1/7/2023 will still have logo on socials, in-store digital displays, and mentioned at the event during set breaks.

What: Fundraising, awareness, and opportunities for music programming in all three area schools: Ashland, Bayfield, and Washburn.

When & Where: Saturday, Jan 21, 2023.
1pm-11pm at Stagecoach Bar & Grill, 315 Main St E, Ashland WI. Alternate Day if Weather: Sunday, January 22, 2023.

Contacts:

- JD Bass Entertainment, Event Coordinator & Sound Director: Office: (715) 682-9539 Cell: (715) 209-5635 Email: jd@jdbassentertainment.com

Bizy "Becky" Wygonik, Stagecoach GM and Event Coordinator: 715-209-3248 (talk & text), stokedsmokehouse@gmail.com.

Ways you can help:

- Sponsor the performers: \$50, \$100, \$200, \$500 \$_____
- Donate an item/package/service/etc. for the silent auction.
- Come to the show and tip the performers, bid on a silent auction item, donate to the fundraiser at the event.
- Tell everyone you know about Snojam and hang flyers in your office, at your favorite hangouts, and share the event on your socials.

2023 Goals:

- \$2000 to cover sponsoring performer's fees.
- \$6000 from donations and silent auction proceeds to distribute equally among the 3 school music programs.

Why: As many of our local musicians, performers, and entrepreneurs will tell you, their school music programs changed their lives. Whether it was finding a skill that brought them immense joy, or being a part of a group of peers that "got them", or maybe it was the thrill of performing for an audience...there are many unique stories that all stem from the opportunities that school music programs provided.

Currently, area schools are struggling to fund a variety of enriching programs and classes that previously made up the bedrock for so many past music students. Those music classes and programs filled our kids with joy, excitement, and inclusion. Without funding, we may lose this extremely important opportunity to give our kids a way to change their lives in a positive and enriching way. This is our proactive solution, create a space for community to come together to save that which is too precious to lose.

100% of cash donations and all proceeds from the silent auction will go to the music programs equally. All sponsorships and tips will go to pay the performers a fair rate because we believe that even though this is a fundraiser, these performers must earn a respectable fee for their time, energy, and participation.

Our 2023 Schedule:

[Laughing Fox](#), Ojibwe flute and storyteller.

Michael Laughing Fox Charette is a gifted Native American storyteller, poet, and member of the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa (located in Northern Wisconsin). As a self-taught Native flute player he enhances his stories with hauntingly beautiful flute and drum performance. Growing up surrounded by the beauty of Lake Superior and the woods led him to dedicate his gifts as an artist to gently teaching about Native history, culture, and spirituality. His work as both a visual and performance artist is varied and tied together by the traditional wisdom of the Anishnaabe people, which is respectfully incorporated into his work. Michael captivates audiences with his authentic, relaxed style.

[Yazmin Bowers](#), keyboard and vocalist.

Songwriting has always been the common thread for her and earned her recognition as the 2010 Lake Superior Big Top Chautauqua Songwriter of the Year. Whether pounding out Cuban tumbaos or singing a soft, heart-wrenching ballad, Yazmin's music comes straight from the soul.

[Sean and Ian Okamoto](#)

Sean and Ian Okamoto are a father-son duo hailing from Northern Wisconsin. Sean has been playing music for over 50 years, touring with bands and as a singer-songwriter. His son, Ian, has been a pianist since he could reach the keys and began performing professionally at age 14. Together, the pair have been entertaining for over 10 years, reaching crowds from Wisconsin's Northwoods to the docks of the Miami International Boat Show. Sean and Ian play a variety of music that all-ages can enjoy and sing along to, from 1940s bops to modern-day hits and everything between.

[Brett and the Little Big Show](#)

Brett and the Little Big Show was a discovery for myself over the isolation from the pandemic. One of my degrees is in Jazz drum set performance, and I have been a closet guitar player my whole life. So since I couldn't go anywhere and I cannot live without music, I figured out a way to perform using all four of my limbs and my voice! Guitar with me hands, and Drums with my feet, singing along makes a big sound! Last summer was the first time I really gigged under 'Brett and the Little Big Show' and it was extremely successful, as well as a lot of fun. I've been playing that show pretty much all over the state of WI, next year I'm planning to head to MN and MI with it as well.

[A Little Stitious](#)

A Little Stitious was a group formed to bring back the idea of rock bands for our area youth. Really, if you ask students in class how many of them have ever been to a live headliner show before, you'd be shocked how many students simply don't get the chance to see live music. Yes, money is a factor, and there are some seriously incredible bands around the Bay. Most of the shows that would really excite our area music kids are in a bar, which is fine, it just means our students wouldn't get the chance to see or hear it. SO, we decided to put together a rock group, and see how we would fare against all other state of WI, high school rocks bands at the Summerfest music festival in Milwaukee. They were solid, and had original music, but we really brought the house down. That was the highlight of our summer last year. Since then we've been working on more music, and playing a couple of shows around the area. It's extremely fun, and our friends are really starting to get excited for us! It's pretty cool, and wouldn't be possible without our school music programs in the first place. So thanks for having us!