

Today's Date: Saturday, June 21, 2014

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Birch Creek 2014 Concert Season Opening Night Tremendous Success**

*Egg Harbor, WI – June 21, 2014* – Birch Creek's 2014 Concert Season opened to a full house on Thursday, June 19. An enthusiastic crowd enjoyed the rhythms and sounds of Percussion and Steel Band performers, which followed a ribbon-cutting ceremony in celebration of the Play It Again Stand's grand opening.

Birch Creek Executive Director Alan Kopischke, Board of Trustees President Jane Berg, Associates President Lyn Huber, and Associates Membership Chair Joan Guasta christened the new Play It Again Stand concessions and gift shop. Mr. Kopischke stated, "The Associates is an amazing group of volunteers who support Birch Creek, our students, our patrons in so many ways. We rely on them for so much! Through various activities and events, they raised every penny necessary to build our new Play It Again Stand." The shop's new, centralized location is convenient to visit prior to concerts and during intermission for beverages, snacks and Birch Creek memorabilia.

The evening began for approximately 230 Birch Creek supporters with a dinner catered by Egg Harbor's Mojo Rosa's restaurant and generously sponsored by Board of Trustees member Cynthia Stiehl. The tropical-inspired menu, including roasted chicken and coconut rice with plantains and bacon, featured dishes that relate to countries where many percussion and steel band instruments originated. Students and faculty members mingled with the guests as everyone enjoyed dessert of fruit pies and ice cream.

Prior to the main concert, Percussion and Steel Band students played African drums and performed choreographed traditional dance for the delighted audience in the courtyard.

Just before 8pm, reception guests and others took their seats in the Dutton Concert Barn for the "Drumming Mosaic" concert. Several dozen concertgoers took advantage of the new reserved seat section, constituting the first few rows of the center section. Percussion and Steel Band faculty – along with advanced students – performed on orchestral drums, steel pans and world percussion instruments like djembes, congas, shakers and cowbells, and such keyboard instruments as marimbas, xylophones,

vibraphones, chimes and glockenspiels. The “PanCam” gave patrons a unique view of Liam Teague’s lightning-quick hands in the steel pan.

Percussion and Steel Band concerts continue through June 28, followed by Symphony, Big Band Jazz and – new for 2014 – Vocal Jazz. Concert tickets are available for purchase online at [www.birchcreek.org](http://www.birchcreek.org) or by phone at 920-868-3763. Prices are set at \$29 for adults, \$10 for students, and \$6 for children (11 and under. New this year is a reserved section, which is comprised of the first few rows in the center section of the 500-seat Dutton Concert Barn. All reserved section seats are \$34.

Birch Creek Music Performance Center is a summer music school in Door County, WI, for advanced young musicians. With a performance emphasis, students are taught by nationally known performers and educators during the day, and perform alongside them in concerts at night. Five sessions focus on percussion and steel band, symphony, big band jazz and vocal jazz. Applications are welcome.

#### 2014 Season Concert Schedule

Percussion & Steel Band – now through June 28

Symphony – July 3 – 12

Big Band Jazz – July 16 – August 9

Vocal Jazz – August 12 – 16

#### Photo Links:

Catering by Mojo Rosa’s

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/z7hagbat3lecoet/Catering.jpg>

Play It Again Stand Ribbon-Cutting

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/mpx8ujl3patxmz3/RibbonCutting.jpg>

Joan Guasta (right) makes first purchase at new gift shop

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/17iycc2k6c8smyh/JoanGuasta.jpg>

Students perform pre-concert music in courtyard

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/md0iw0nk76uwug5/AfricanDrums.jpg>

Faculty and students perform in the Dutton Concert Barn

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/ggru7c249pwyvms/BarnOpeningNumber.jpg>

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