

BIRCH NOTES



Issue 67

Birch Creek Music Performance Center
Summer Music Academy in Egg Harbor | Door County | Wisconsin

Spring 2019



TEMPO PARTNERS Recurring Gifts

"My wife, Roberta, and I donate to Birch Creek as Tempo Partners because we feel that Birch Creek is giving a fine opportunity to high school music students and we are so impressed with the results." - John Walgren, Door County and Phoenix



Birch Creek's mission is to provide intensive, performance-based instruction to promising young musicians by immersing them in a professional, mentoring environment.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Executive Director – Mona Christensen
Facilities – Jim DuFrane
Finance/Donor Outreach – Carol Boudreau
Grants/Development – Kate Rericha
Marketing – Emily Maher
Registrar/Office Manager– Michelle Naese

PROGRAM DIRECTORS

Percussion & Steel Band – Dan Moore
Symphony – Ricardo Castañeda
Jazz I and II – Jeff Campbell

WINTER OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday | 9am to 4pm
 Friday | 9am to 2pm

(920) 868-3763

www.birchcreek.org



Birch Creek is supported in part by the Wisconsin Arts Board with funds from the State of Wisconsin and the National Endowment for the Arts.

tempo

noun

tem-po | \ 'tem-(,)pō\

1 : the rate of speed of a musical piece or passage

2 : rate of motion or activity: pace

Music is many things, but very rarely is it ever completely static; it is constantly changing, with forward motion, creating interest and emotion for the listener. Composers create this type of interest by the manipulation of musical “time” in a piece, or the speed or pace at which music flows. Since

we traditionally use Italian for musical terms, we call musical time “tempo”, the Italian word for time. It might be slow, fast, or in between, but tempo is one of the most important ingredients for making music.

We use the concept of tempo in our lives more than we realize. Have you ever taken a CPR course and needed to pace compression? I used a march tempo, “On Wisconsin”, for the exact 120 beats per minute (bpm) necessary to be on pace. Currently, instructors use the Bee Gees song “Staying Alive”, also at 120 bpm, to get their point across in a memorable way.

At Birch Creek, we have another relevant application for the word tempo. Just like tempo is useful for CPR compressions in a life and death situation, your ability to support us as a Tempo Partner at a pace that sustains us is mission critical to what we do. Your ongoing support is literally sustaining the life-changing mission of Birch Creek.

Our **Tempo Partners** already know this! These committed donors have chosen a giving pace that **splits their annual gift into regular smaller payments**. This works for them and helps Birch Creek maintain a steady revenue stream. As stewards of this excellent organization, we realize that when the number of our Tempo Partners grows, so also does our ability to plan and commit to broad, exciting programs for students.

Becoming a Tempo Partner is easy! All you need to do is complete a commitment form that tells us the amount, the number of transactions and from where we withdraw the funds. Many Tempo Partners give monthly, and some have set up quarterly payments. You can contribute directly from your checking account, which is the easiest way to be a Tempo Partner, or by using your credit or debit card.

Would you consider being a Tempo Partner? Thank you in advance for your consistent, ongoing support of this wonderful, life-changing beloved place called Birch Creek.

MONA CHRISTENSEN, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
 THE STEVE AND JACKIE KANE CHAIR



WAYS TO GIVE



Annual Gift

immediate support for top priorities

Endowment Funds

permanent investments and a continuing source of support

Capital Gifts

infrastructure and technology improvements

Planned Giving

lasting legacies for donors & sustaining support for Birch Creek's future

Memorials & Tributes

Sponsor a Concert

FAREWELL and THANK YOU



Carl Shakal, Birch Creek's Facilities Manager from 2016-2018, decided to retire at the end of last year. Carl managed many improvements to Birch Creek's infrastructure and operations during his tenure. Because of Carl's dedication and impressive array of skills, the vital projects he worked on will continue to serve Birch Creek well

into the future. We miss Carl, wish him the best, and appreciate everything he gave to Birch Creek.

Volunteer

Learn more online at birchcreek.org/support or call (920) 868-3763.

INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS

Infrastructure and technology changes continue to spark changes at Birch Creek. More than three years ago, we began—with the help of valued donors—to bring vital but aging campus systems up to date. New improvements for 2019 include the installation of a back-up (second) well, a complete overhaul of our website, and transition of Birch Creek business and data systems from an on-site server to the cloud. Finally, we are adding a media computer to the back of the barn for use during live concerts.



These efforts, though, require the support of multiple donors and businesses. We are grateful for their partnership in Birch Creek's vision for the future.

- Anonymous Foundation*
- Birch Creek "Building for Tomorrow" Fund*
- Dwight & Linda Davis Foundation*
- Greater Milwaukee Community Foundation, Anonymous Family Fund*
- Microsoft Corporation*

WELCOME

On January 1, 2019, **Jim DuFrane** became Birch Creek's new Facilities Manager. Jim began working part-time at Birch Creek in March 2018 while still running his Sturgeon Bay gallery, G&J Glassworks, with his wife, Gale. They closed the shop in 2018 and Jim brought his unique talents and skills to Birch Creek in a full time role. Jim's background includes as a machinist, cabinet maker and carpenter. We ask you to join us in welcoming Jim to Birch Creek.





3821 County E
PO Box 230
Egg Harbor WI 54209
www.birchcreek.org

Summer is Coming

Concert tickets on sale now at birchcreek.org/tickets.

Percussion & Steel Band

- June 20 - Opening Night
- June 21
- June 22 - 3PM Matinee
- June 26 - 29

Percussive celebrations from around the world, including a memorial tribute to Clifford Alexis, Steel Pan Master.

Symphony

- July 3 - Concerto Competition Winners
- July 4 - 4PM Matinee
- July 5 - 6
- July 11 - 13

Double Piano debut at Birch Creek for Vive la France on July 11 & 12.

Big Band Jazz

- July 17 - 20
- July 24 - 27
- July 31 - August 3
- August 7 - 10

Rhythm and Swing, The Great American Songbook, Ellington, Basie, and Miller.