Yarmouth Music Center To Celebrate Grand Opening Of $6.5 Million Expansion

(Yarmouth, ME) On Friday, June 23rd at 10am the community is invited to a Grand Opening Celebration at 317 Main Community Music Center that heralds the start of an exciting new chapter for the beloved organization. The celebration will include a ribbon cutting, live music performed by students and teaching artists, remarks, and tours of the new building followed by refreshments.

317 Main, which is housed in a historic home on Main Street, first opened its doors in 2004 and quickly became a popular second home for musicians of all ages and abilities. After 15 years of sustained growth, the nonprofit organization launched its first Capital Campaign to double the center’s size to accommodate the rapidly growing demand for music education and enrichment opportunities. As of the time of this press release, $4.7 million has been secured toward the total project cost of $6.5 million.

Architect Paul Lewandowski of Paul Designs Project, was hired to design the 10,000 sq. ft. three-story expansion attached to the original building. Highlights of the new space include The Founders Hall, (a multi-purpose space that can seat 200), 10 additional studios including a recording studio, a dedicated space for early childhood music education, and a cafe/pub with a fireplace for intimate performances, jams, and community gatherings.

The addition was built with sustainability in mind. Everything from the construction materials, to furniture, to the plants in the garden were selected to create a healthier space to create, learn, work, and play. Noteworthy features include cross-laminated timber (CLT) construction, a photovoltaic array on the roof, energy and water efficient appliances, and furniture made from recycled and recyclable materials.

The expanded center is designed to be a true community hub, where people can gather for music education, performance, open mics, recording sessions, dances, films, lectures, conferences, and a winter indoor farmers market.
“Music is such a powerful connector,” said John Williams, 317 Main’s Executive Director. “Our goal has always been to create and share it with as many people as possible. The new more welcoming and inclusive space, combined with our free and accessible Partnership Programs with schools and libraries, truly puts 317 Main on the map as the destination for community music making in Maine.”

We are in the final stretch of our fundraising efforts. As a result of the many impacts that the pandemic had on supply chain, labor shortages, and price escalation, the cost to build the expansion at 317 Main increased by 40%. The remaining funds need to be raised to secure the future of this new community resource.

We look forward to welcoming the community on June 23rd!

About 317 Main Community Music Center

317 Main encourages creative expression, personal growth and community connection through music. The nonprofit music center serves more than 850 students of all ages from 40 towns each week, who participate in private and group lessons, ensembles, jams, workshops and our popular summer camps. The center also runs Partnership Programs with schools and other nonprofits at no direct cost to students and their families. Please visit our website at 317main.org to learn more about our offerings.

Event Information

317 Main Community Music Center is located at 317 Main street in Yarmouth. Guests are asked to park behind the building in the Mason parking lot or on the street. Volunteers will be on hand to assist.

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