

THE LOON CALL

2023 FALL



GENIA AND JIM MEINHOLD ON THE CUTTING EDGE OF PHILANTHROPY

Caroga Arts has been talking for some time about donors using their IRA distributions to pay pledges or make donations from their IRA accounts. This fall **Genia and Jim Meinhold** did just that. They contacted their IRA custodian and told of their desire to donate part of their Mandatory Distribution Amount (MDA) to Caroga Arts. Their reason for doing this was threefold: 1.) their desire to make a significant contribution to our operating funds to help us add to our staffing base for 2024 2.) to make a tax-free distribution from their IRA which lowers their income tax rate 3.) to lower their annual taxable income that directly and inadvertently affects their monthly Medicare payment amounts. The beauty of making a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) is that it benefits not only the recipient organization, but the donor as well. If you are approaching age 70 ½ please consider making a donation this way.



"Jim and I are so happy to be able to help Caroga Arts in this meaningful way. We feel so fortunate to be able to take advantage of the tax benefits of our retirement funds and help bring music to Caroga Lake," said Genia Meinhold.

Caroga Arts Collective appreciates the Meinhold's leading the way in the area of QCDs.

HOW TO MAKE TAX-FREE GIFTS FROM YOUR IRA

Learn more about QCD and RMD (Required Minimum Distribution), as well as the benefits here

The SECURE (Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement) Act allows you to transfer up to \$100,000 per year using funds from your individual retirement account (IRA) resulting in several positive tax effects. As your financial situation is unique, please consult with your financial advisor or tax professional for guidance.



YOU MAY CONTRIBUTE FUNDS FROM YOUR IRA IF:

- You are age 70½ or older at the time of the gift.
- You transfer the funds directly from your IRA. This opportunity applies only to IRAs and not to other types of retirement plans.
- You transfer the funds outright to the Caroga Arts Collective.
- You make your gift by December 31 for the gift to qualify this year.

*Please consult with your financial advisor or tax professional for guidance.

STEP BY STEP PROCESS FOR MAKING A QCD:

1. Communicate with your IRA's custodian (where your IRA is held) that you are interested in making a QCD(s). Many websites (such as Vanguard or Fidelity) have an online option to make a QCD.
2. Make the request for a QCD in writing (this is unnecessary if you make the request directly on the website where your IRA is held.)
3. Specify the dollar amount that you wish to contribute to the charity.
4. The check **MUST** be made payable directly to the charity.
5. Forward the check to the charity and request a receipt for your records.
6. Maintain the receipt and records in your tax file.
7. Report the QCD amount on your 1040 federal tax return. The 1099 you get from your IRA account and the receipt from the charity are sufficient documents for your accountant.

Mail your IRA check to:

Caroga Arts Collective
PO Box 1048, Caroga Lake, NY 12032

For questions on this type of donation, please contact Tom Flynn at tflynn@carogaarts.org or 518.573.2406

2024 BRINGS NEW LEADERSHIP AND NEW HORIZONS



We're thrilled to announce some exciting changes with our support team!

- **Tom Flynn** has stepped into the role of Interim General Manager, bringing his wealth of experience and passion for the arts to our organization. Tom was the original founder of Jaeger & Flynn Associates, Inc., an employee benefits broker and administrative services firm which also provided human resources consulting services, in 1988. His company served business, government, and union clients all over the Upstate New York area. A few years prior to selling the company to Marshall & Sterling in Poughkeepsie, NY and retiring in 2021, Tom and his wife Beth purchased their summer home on Peck Lake. They began attending the Caroga Lake Music Festival, gradually becoming meal donors and concert sponsors. We are so proud Tom has agreed to bring his expertise and experience to us as he steps into his new role as Caroga Arts' Interim General Manager and Treasurer.
- We're also delighted to "welcome back" our Founder and Artistic Director, **Kyle Price** to the Executive Director role that he had previously held for many years. With this dynamic duo leading the way, we're confident that Caroga Arts will continue to reach new heights and make strides towards the pursuits of reimagining the Caroga experience through the power of the arts.
- Finally, Resident Artist and educator, **Stephanie Price-Wong**, has also been providing administrative assistance to Caroga Arts since its inception. We are excited to announce that Stephanie will continue with the organization, transitioning into being the newly appointed Director of Education and Community Engagement.

With Kyle, Tom's, and Stephanie's leadership, in addition to our other great staff (our Operations Manager **Elizabeth Macintosh**; On-Site Manager **Kathy Manning**; Facilities Coordinator **Kris Smith**; Production Manager **Ronald Lau**; Financial Administrator **Lorrie Mott**; Artistic/Executive Advisors **Deborah Barrett Price** and **Hinano Price**) alongside our **great team of volunteers**, we're confident that Caroga Arts will continue to reach new heights and make strides towards the pursuit of reimagining the Caroga experience through the power of the arts!

CAROGA ARTS ADDS ORIGINAL FRANK SHERMAN HOUSE TO SHERMAN'S CAMPUS

This is hot off the presses! This summer the Caroga Arts was offered the rare opportunity to buy what had originally been the Frank Sherman house, which sits on the northeast corner of the property near the carousel. The house was offered to Caroga Arts to help round out the campus at Sherman's Park. Caroga Arts was able to secure the needed mortgage financing and purchase this in early October. While its long-term use is still to be determined, there are many short-term practical applications for it from providing a small amount of heated office and workshop space during the cold winter months, to providing guest artist quarters, rental income, etc. We are thrilled to be able to reunite the house, garage and workshop with the rest of the Sherman's campus.

SHERMAN AND MYHILL CAPITAL CAMPAIGNS



We are pleased to announce that after months of great work in developing architect and engineering plans, attending numerous Town of Caroga required planning and zoning meetings, and answering information requests from various county and state agencies, Caroga Arts has received all approvals required for both of our Capital Campaign related projects (the Sherman's performance amphitheater and the Myhill campus). Achieving approval for construction projects in a protected area, such as the Adirondack Park, is an enormous undertaking and reaching this point speaks to the great talents of our volunteer team, as well as our engineering and architectural partners!

Between the extremely generous donations and future pledges of our patrons, along with the grants we have received thus far, we are just past the halfway point of the nearly \$8M in total that is required to complete phase one of the Caroga Arts campus. In addition to continuing to seek new individual Capital Campaign donors, we are also hard at work in pursuing significant government and private foundation grants which will help us turn these completed plans and permits into great facilities in the not too distant future.

THANK YOU SO MUCH TO THE MANY OF YOU WHO HAVE MADE GENEROUS DONATIONS AND PLEDGES TO HELP US REACH THIS IMPORTANT MIDWAY POINT!

UPCOMING WINTER & HOLIDAY EVENTS



The Annual Caroga Arts Holiday Tree Lighting at Sherman's Park is scheduled for **Saturday, Nov. 25 from 2:00-5:30pm.**

We'd love to see you there for cookies, hot cocoa, pictures with Mr. and Ms. Claus and holiday singalongs with Caroga Arts musicians. Put on your ugly Christmas sweater and join in the fun!



2024 GALA PLANNING HAS KICKED OFF

Mark your 2024 calendars now for July 20, 2024!

That's the evening the stars will come out for the 2024 Annual Caroga Arts Gala chaired this year by the mother/daughter team of Judy and Mia Simon. This year's event will feature, among other surprises, DANCING! Last year's gala had a sold out attendance, so mark your calendars now and get your tablemates together. Table underwriting will begin in January, but individual tickets will not be available until late spring. If you would like to be part of the planning process, please contact Judy Simon at judy@carogaarts.org or 713.298.4374.



There is still much in store to close out 2023, including the return of the popular **Caroga Lake Music Festival (CLMF) WinterFest** taking place from **December 12-17**. Join us for a week filled with magical performances celebrating the joy of the holiday season. The concerts will feature classical holiday favorites from Tchaikovsky's *Nutcracker* with favorites *Peter & the Wolf* in addition to works of the great composers such as Bach, Mendelssohn, Handel, Shaw, Rachmaninov and more. Please check our website at Carogaarts.org for a more complete listing of artists and repertoire for each concert.



CAROGA ARTS LAUNCHES “SPACE” PROGRAM TO PROVIDE INSTRUMENT EDUCATION AND MENTORSHIP TO LOCAL SCHOOLS

Caroga Arts Collective is dedicated to presenting accessible programming to people of all ages and backgrounds. It emphasizes the importance of diversity and underscores the role music plays in helping people connect as a society. Education has been a part of Caroga Arts' core mission and programming since 2014 when it first launched a teaching residency in collaboration with the Fulton Montgomery Community College Summer Academy program.



Stephanie Price-Wong, Director of Education and Community Engagement, together with other contributing Caroga Arts Collective artists, has developed the various education programs kicking off this Fall, and has already enrolled more than 45 local children in our new education program.

To further this part of our mission, Caroga Arts recently received a \$5,000 grant from the Glenn and Carol Pearsall Adirondack Foundation. The foundation is dedicated to improving the quality of life for year-round residents of the Adirondack Park. This grant has helped establish the semester-long education program, called **SPACE (String Project & Arts Collaborative Education)** together with our surrounding schools and counties. SPACE will focus on providing string lessons, collaborative ensemble coachings, education workshops, and mentorship to students throughout the Fulton, Montgomery, and surrounding counties.



“We look forward to partnering with our local schools so we can provide strings education to students throughout our community. Students will develop skills such as self-discipline, problem-solving, empathy, and perseverance while learning an instrument which are invaluable in their future musical and non-musical pursuits,” says Price-Wong.

2024: AN EXCITING YEAR AHEAD!

As we conclude the summer and look to the year ahead, the Caroga Arts Collective is poised for an exhilarating 2023-2024 season! Did you know that in 2023 Caroga Arts Collective:

- Gave 39 concerts during the Caroga Lake Music Festival
- Hosted 150+ artists in our community, including multiple GRAMMY award winners
- Reached over 1000 youth through our regular concert series, kids concerts and education program during the summer
- Hosted Senator Kristen Gillibrand for a tour of Sherman's Park
- Held its first Comedy & Music Block Party hosted by Alex Moffat, Comedy standout and former favorite cast member of Saturday Night Live (SNL).
- Presented upcoming superstars and Spotify record-breakers Laufey, The War & Treaty among others during the Caroga Lake Music Festival. These shows featured unique collaborations with the CLMF resident artists attracting audiences and record label companies nationwide (such as Sony and Victor RCA) to Sherman's and Caroga Lake.

From captivating performances to innovative educational programs, we're committed to having a year-round presence and impact on our community. **Catch next summer's five-week Caroga Lake Music Festival set for July 15-August 18, 2024!**



Visit carogaarts.org or follow us on Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, and YouTube for more exciting updates and to learn more about upcoming events. Caroga Arts Collective is a 501(c)(3) non for profit organization and welcomes tax deductible donations to support its mission of Reimagining the Caroga Experience through the power of the arts.

Sign up for our e-newsletters at CarogaArts.org

Make a Gift to Caroga Arts today!

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