

## Courthouse Community Performing Stage Fundraiser Announced

The annual Summer Courthouse Square Concert Series has become so popular that a total of nearly 5,000 people enjoy the weekly performances on the downtown lawn stage of the courthouse over the course of the summer. This is the longest annual summer performance series in mid-Michigan, running from June through August. Other courthouse events with 11,000 attendees also enjoyed the stage last summer.

According to Julie Kimmer, "The current Charlotte outdoor performance stage is 70 years old and is no longer functional or safe for use. It was constructed using heavy wood which is now seriously deteriorating," she said.

A planning group consisting of Courthouse Square's Museum Manager Julie Kimmer, Charlotte Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Courtney Mead, and Charlotte Rotary's Past President Donald Sovey have come together to propose the purchase of a new portable lightweight stage for next summer's concerts which will start in early June. The new stage will be owned and cared for by Courthouse Square.

The proposed new stage will need community financial support if it is to become a reality by June. The total cost of the basic stage is \$22,000 and will be made up of 25 lightweight sections. Each section will have a cost of \$880 and is planned for durability and longevity. Any funds raised above the \$22,000 goal will be applied to a future stage cover for sun and rain protection of musicians and equipment.

The planning group is exploring grant options but knows that community donations will be needed to reach the fundraising goal. If an organization or sole donor chooses to sponsor 75% or more of the entire stage purchase, they will be considered for stage naming rights. Donors are also encouraged to sponsor individual \$880 stage sections and will be recognized at the conclusion of the fundraising period and with weekly announcement recognition at the 2023 summer series. Also, any donation denomination, no matter the size, will be graciously received as a part of community-wide support.

Courthouse Square Association is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization and donations may be deductible in some cases for tax purposes, when you check with your return preparer.

Donation checks can be made payable to: **Courthouse Square Association , CSA PO Box 411, Charlotte, MI 48813 Attn: Stage Donation.**

If you wish to donate using Paypal, please visit the Courthouse Square Museum at [csamuseum.net/donate](https://csamuseum.net/donate) and use the "donate" button.

We will be happy to answer your questions Mondays thru Fridays 9 am to 4 pm by calling (517) 543-6999 or emailing [csamuseum@yahoo.com](mailto:csamuseum@yahoo.com).

We look forward to seeing you at the 2023 Courthouse Square Summer Concert Square Series for which entertainment appealing to all ages is now being scheduled based on audience feedback and response.

12.6.2022



Current Stage



New Proposed

