We appreciate your interest and support in B’nai Abraham Museum and Cultural Center. We would like to switch as many people as possible to receive this newsletter by e-mail. To be added to our e-mail list please email: costrov@gmail.com or dsiegel005@gmail.com We will send our newsletter and occasional announcement by email. ~Thank You!

2019 SUMMER MUSIC PERFORMANCES AT B’NAI ABRAHAM MUSEUM AND CULTURAL CENTER

We are looking forward to another wonderful musical series this summer. So, mark your calendars and join in the fun. All concerts are free.

Sunday, May 19th, 3:00 PM
A Touch of Class
Greg Barnes, Director

A group of male and female voices from across the Iron Range. They sing choral jazz music, as well as other popular music from the last few decades. They have been performing for almost two years. We are pleased to welcome them to B’nai Abraham.

Saturday, June 8th, 7:00 PM
Steven Solkela

Steven Solkela is a 22 year old musician from the Range community of Palo, Minnesota! He is a recent graduate with a major in music from Rowan University in Glassboro, New Jersey. He was a regular in The Rowan Opera Company, and several choirs and bands. He has traveled all over the Midwest, Finland, and New Jersey with his band called "Overpopulated" which dabbles in genres spanning Opera, Polka, Heavy Metal, and Folk. He will be performing solo and will often accompany himself on an accordion.
Saturday, June 13th, 7:00 PM  
Northern Lights Festival Musicians  
Under the Direction of Veda Zuponcic

The Northern Lights Music Festival is a three-week classical music performance program and music school, which is held each summer on the Minnesota Iron Range.

Founded fourteen years ago by concert pianist and Aurora native Veda Zuponcic, Northern Lights brings together award winning students and internationally known performers and teachers in a unique program that includes daily lessons, chamber music coaching, master classes and numerous performance opportunities.

Northern Lights is fortunate to have access to an array of historic performance venues such as B'nai Abraham for its concerts and operas. By performing in these unique venues, Northern Lights is not only able to bring the highest level of classical music to Iron Range communities but to celebrate and showcase the architectural gems found in Northeastern Minnesota.

Saturday, July 27 2:00 PM  
Singing Slovenes Under the Direction of Frank Bucar

The mission of this Minnesota group is to preserve Slovenian music and cultural heritage. Slovenia is an alpine country nestled between Italy, Austria, Hungary, and Croatia. Though the name of the troupe is indicative of the Slovenian heritage, the group “Singing Slovenes” represents countries far and wide: Slovenia, Croatia, Italy, Germany, Denmark, Poland, Finland, Sweden, France and Norway.

Sharing the joy of their musical heritage helps promote good fellowship and love of their neighbors. These performances are educational as well as entertaining. There are also geographical and language lessons that transpire while entertaining at centers, nursing homes, as well as, area churches with their musical ministries. “The Singing Slovenes” promote fellowship through music and cultural education, sharing across generations.
Saturday, September 28th, 3:00 PM
Harbormasters with Steve Lapatka

The Duluth-Superior Harbormasters Barbershop Chorus will present “Home on the Range”, an afternoon of barbershop harmony on Saturday, September 28th, 2019 at 3:00 P.M. The chorus and quartets will be singing four part harmony in the barbershop style. The chapter has been performing for a wide variety of events in the north-eastern Minnesota area since 1953. There will be no admission charge, and a portion of the donations will be given to a worthy cause in the Virginia area.

Upcoming Exhibition - Opens Mid May

The exhibit this summer is a photo exhibit focusing on the Jewish businesses that once existed in Virginia and surrounding communities. The exhibit also includes a selection of places of worship in Virginia and nearby communities. Here is a preview of some of the photos and posters in the exhibit.
The B'nai Abraham Synagogue in Virginia, Minnesota is a story of loss and reuse. Built in 1909-10, it was the last remaining active synagogue on the Iron Range until its congregation dwindled to a handful of members who could no longer maintain the handsome brick structure. It closed its doors in the mid-1990s. It was acquired in 2004 by a not-for-profit organization, The Friends of B'nai Abraham, who raised funds, and continue to do so, for the building's restoration and reuse. It now serves as a cultural center for all the citizens of Virginia, Minnesota and surrounding areas, and to preserve the history of its Jewish community, of which it was so much a part. Together with our partner, The Virginia Area Historical Society (VAHS), we look forward to seeing this lovely building used for many cultural and educational programs for the community.
Contributors to the Friends of B’nai Abraham
~ A Special Thank You To All Our Supporters ~

Individual Contributions: January 2019 - April 2019
- Alan Apter
- Anonymous
- Dana Fox
- Michael Frisch
- Mimi Gleekel
- Gertrude Goldberg
- Howard and Barbara Gordon
- Nancy Granovsky
- Janene Glyn de Bedia
- Michael O’Connell and Sue Hayes
- Thomas Hurwitz
- Larry Karkela
- Jon and Linda Ketokoski
- Joey and Jerry Laurie
- Connie Lies
- Beatrice Magee
- Chana Mesberg
- The Mesberg Yashar Fund
- Mount Zion Rabbi’s Discretionary Fund
- Roz Rettman and Lesley Baseman
- Connie Ross
- Eric & JoAnn Pasternack
- Linda and Leonard Schloff
- Harlan Simon
- Carolyn Sundquist

Special Contributions: January 2019 - April 2019
- Stuart and Jean King Applebaum: In memory of Leighton Siegel.
- Janice Chiat: In Memory of Rick Chiat.
- Marilyn Chiat: In memory of Arthur Kliffier.
- Ben and Karen Deutsch: In honor of Larry and Elayne Chiat.
- Judith Dodd: In honor of her dear friend Marilyn Chiat.
- David Edelstein: In memory of Brandon & Melvin Edelstein, in memory of David Rubenstein.
- Bonnie and Gary Goldish: Thanking Margie and Charlie Ostrov for all that they have done.
- Bert and Susan Gross: In honor of Ann Phillips.
- Nancy Harvey: In memory of Richard Harvey.
- Harriet Israel: In honor of my friends, Dianne Siegel, Margie and Charlie Ostrov.
- Peter and Colette Johnson: In memory of Elsie Rubenstein Glass.
- Nancy Karasov: In honor of the December birthdays of Zoe and Talia Milavetz.
- Bob and Judy Marans: In memory of Leighton Siegel.
- Linda Passon-McNally: In memory of Kenneth and Bebe Simon, Gwynn Simon and Aaron Belkin.
- Dr. Charles and Marietta Pitzele: In memory of Leighton Siegel.
- Gary and Mary Milavetz: In memory of David and Frances Milavetz, Morris Isidor Kaufman, and Judy Milavetz Freidson.
- Jean & Joseph Rozinka: In memory of Carl and Marsha Kaufman
- Marilyn and Stefanie Segal: In honor of the great work by Margie and Charlie Ostrov and Dianne Siegel.
- Dianne Siegel: In honor of Margie and Charlie Ostrov’s grandsons Bar Mitzvah.
- Judy and Morris Sherman: In honor of Margie and Charlie Ostrov.

AIR CONDITIONING FOR B’NAI ABRAHAM

The Friends of B’nai Abraham are investigating installing air-conditioning. The summers have become hotter, perhaps from global warming, and the fans we have are not able to make the building comfortable. We love our stained glass windows but, they cannot be opened for ventilation. The good news is that in the process of restoring the building, we made certain that the HV/AC unit that was installed could accommodate an air-conditioning unit in the future.

We would appreciate any contributions toward the instillation of an AC unit that would make the building comfortable for both the performers and those in the audience.
Our Goal Is To Have Endowment Fund

It is very important to grow an endowment for the future of B’nai Abraham Museum and Cultural Center. Many who come for tours, exhibits and programs enjoy it. The Friends of B’nai Abraham has under taken this project to ensure that the building remains a community resource and ensuring that the contribution of the Jews of the Iron Range will not be forgotten.

To quote our Board member, PhD. Marilyn Chait: “B’nai Abraham represents our nations great religious, cultural and ethnic diversity. When historic buildings such as B’nai Abraham are lost, our nations magnificent mosaic loses some of its brilliant color.”

This building in particular, the only extant synagogue left on the Range, and the only synagogue building in Minnesota to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places, provides people with a window to understanding the history of the Range and the Jewish people who contributed so much to its unique character.

WISH LIST - YOUR HELP IS GREATLY NEEDED

Tuck-pointing to close leaks and secure bricks, which will protect the beautifully restored building from harsh winters. The balcony floor needs to be sanded and refinished. Crown molding is needed in the sanctuary.

We welcome much needed contributions to the Endowment fund.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>We are still short of our goal.</th>
<th>All donations are fully tax deductible.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friends of B’nai Abraham</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c/o Charles Ostrov, treasurer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2084 Sherwood Lane</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minnetonka, MN 55305</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>□ Endowment □ Restoration</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name: __________________________</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address: ________________________</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City, State, Zip: _______________</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amount: _______________</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To contribute stock -or- appreciated securities, contact: Jackie or Daryl at Morgan Stanley 800-791-8360 oe email costrov@gmail.com

□ Memory of: □ Honor of: □ Other: __________________________________________

Send acknowledgement card to:
Name: ____________________________________________
Address: __________________________________________
City, State, Zip: __________________________________

Board of Directors of the Friends of B’nai Abraham

Marjorie Ostrov, President
Ann Shanedling Phillips
Charles Ostrov, MD,Treasurer
Dianne Siegel, Secretary
Alan Milavetz, Legal Counsel
Michael Blehert, Engineering Consultant
Ellen Ziskin, Webmaster

Marilyn Chiat, PhD, Architectural Historian
Larry Chiat, Legal Counsel
Judy Karon
Elayne Deutsch Chiat
Audra Keller
James Rubenstein
Jo Doig