CAVANI STRING QUARTET A HIT AT CLAGGETT

“When you have a group that makes children enthusiastic about music in general, and string quartets in particular, they must be doing something right. The Cavanis are that kind of group. I have seen them in action and was very impressed. Hooray for the Cavani Quartet!”

- Itzhak Perlman

The Medina County Women’s Endowment Fund (MCWEF) was very pleased to provide a grant to assist the newly formed nonprofit Ohio Regional Music Arts and Cultural Outreach (ORMACO) in bringing the world renowned Cavani String Quartet to Claggett Middle School recently.

On Sept. 16, two select groups of students at Claggett Middle School in Medina were able to enjoy an experience of a lifetime when the Cavani String Quartet came to the school to lead very special workshops for them. The workshops were presented through ORMACO, a nonprofit organization with the mission of making music, arts and culture accessible to all with a focus on minority, disadvantaged and rural populations.

Not only is the Cavani String Quartet a world-class ensemble, but the quartet has established itself as a dynamic leader in the field of arts education. Nationally acclaimed for their innovative teaching and proactive approach, the quartet has developed creative programs for audiences of all ages.

At Claggett Middle School, the Cavani String Quartet first met with 54 orchestra students and immediately drew the group into musical conversation as they talked about and played excerpts from such great masters as Beethoven, Bartok and Dvorak. These budding musicians were totally absorbed by the music and the performance of the dynamic quartet.

The Cavanis then met with 15 students of the Union Square nonprofit program “Let’s Make a Difference,” which focuses on working with underprivileged youth to introduce them to activities and events in which they might not normally participate.

The students in this session were unfamiliar with the music presented, but as soon as the musicians put their bows to the strings, every one of them was drawn into the Cavanis’ musical magic. It was thrilling to see the reactions and sense the emotions that these children were experiencing as they sat and interacted with some of the world’s finest musicians playing the timeless works of such great masters.

“This musical and cultural outreach is nourishment for our souls, and for the Women’s Endowment Fund to make this day possible was significant,” said Thomas Sigel, ORMACO founder. “We are so thankful to MCWEF and hope that we can continue to collaborate in the future for other programs that will touch the lives of the youth of Medina County.”

If you would like to contribute to the Medina County Women’s Endowment Fund, or for more information, please visit us at www.medinawomensendowment.com.

MCWEF is an affiliate of Akron Community Foundation, a 501(c)(3) public charity.
Women Helping Women Event — A Great Success!

On Thursday, Sept. 29, the advisory board of the Medina County Women’s Endowment Fund joined some of the women movers and shakers of Medina County at the Potomac Bead Company for an evening of networking, wine and great food. MCWEF President Linda Loveless welcomed guests and talked about how MCWEF was started and its mission.

One of the recipients of a grant from MCWEF was the Child Assault Prevention program. Sue Simmons of CAP gave a nice talk on the program, which is offered to all second graders in the Medina City Schools.

Special recognition was given to the group's founding donors who, 12 years ago, made the commitment to raise $100,000 to start MCWEF. Advisory board member Tammy Daubner designed a unique beaded bracelet, which was given to each of the founding donors present at the event as a token of our appreciation. A similar bracelet was given to the donors who made a commitment to MCWEF at last year’s Women Helping Women event.

The short presentation time was concluded by founding donor and advisory board member Jill Heck, who spoke about her passion for the mission of the organization and encouraged everyone to lend their support. The guests enjoyed a beautiful venue, wonderful food and great conversation.

The board of the Medina County Women’s Endowment Fund wishes to express our heartfelt gratitude to our gracious host from the Potomac Bead Company, Sherry Grandy, for providing the lovely venue and helping the committee with planning. Additional thanks go to Miss Molly’s Tea Room, Main Street Cafe, Sully’s, and Cool Beans Café for providing the delicious food.

Left: Event attendees enjoy good food and company

Below: President Linda Loveless welcomes WHW guests

**2011 MCWEF Officers & Advisory Board**

**President**
Linda Loveless

**Vice President**
Cathy Posner

**Secretary/Treasurer**
Ann Cole

Tammy Daubner
Penny Evans
Karen Glass
Jen Graham
Jill Heck
Hannah Jones
Jane Langol
Madeline Laribee
Tina Sabol
Nancy Sprowls
Kris Turner

The Medina County Women’s Endowment Fund provides grants to nonprofit organizations throughout Medina County that are working to improve the lives of women and children.

We will be holding a grant information meeting on Monday, Jan. 30, 2012, at 3 p.m. in Room A at the Medina County Main Library.

This will be a question-and-answer session where your organization’s representative will obtain all necessary information about the grant process.

Please contact Cathy Posner at 216-337-2106 to RSVP for this event.

**UPCOMING GRANT INFORMATION**
As 2011 comes to a close and we look back over the year, it is exciting to reflect on the successes of the Medina County Women’s Endowment Fund.

Our most important success was the impact we made on the lives of women and children in Medina County. That’s what drives our passion and is our reason for being. In the last year, we distributed $6,800 to five organizations that support our mission. The only disappointment lies in the fact that we received more than $41,000 in requests for grant funding. There is still so much more to do.

That imbalance between requests and available grant funding was our motivation to increase our fundraising efforts. With the dedication and hard work of our advisory board, our reformatted Festival of Trees event brought in more than $15,000. That is the largest fundraising effort in the 13-year history of the Medina County Women’s Endowment Fund. More than 185 attendees rallied around the cause of helping women and children, generously opening their purses and wallets to achieve this success. Thank you to so many of you who believe in our mission and want to support it.

As the end of the year approaches, I hope you will consider making a gift to the Medina County Women’s Endowment Fund. There are so many more needs in our community to be met. Giving to an endowment fund ensures that your generosity is a lasting investment in the community you treasure. Because gifts such as life insurance policies, real estate and appreciated stocks and mutual funds take time to complete, I encourage you to initiate your gift now to ensure the transactions are finalized by the end of the year. Also, be sure to talk with your tax advisor. Certain tax breaks are set to expire at the end of 2011, which may make giving now even more beneficial to you.

Thank you for supporting the Medina County Women’s Endowment Fund.

The Legacy

President’s Message

From Linda Loveless

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Thank you for supporting the Medina County Women’s Endowment Fund.

WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

The Medina County Women’s Endowment Fund, an affiliate of Akron Community Foundation, was established in 1998 to improve the quality of life for women and children in Medina County.

Over the years, it has made grants totaling more than $75,000. The mission of the Medina County Women’s Endowment Fund is to fund organizations and programs in Medina County that support women and children; to serve as a catalyst for needed projects; and to assist women in their growth as philanthropists. The fund encourages the advancement and full participation of women and children in the community and in society. In addition, it supports organizations and programs that create opportunities for the educational, physical, emotional, social, artistic and personal growth of local women and children.

For more information, or to contribute to the Medina County Women’s Endowment Fund, please call Akron Community Foundation at 330-376-8522 or visit us at: www.medinawomensendowment.com

The Mission of MCWEF

- to provide grant funding to organizations and programs in the Medina County area that support women and children;
- to serve as a catalyst for needed projects; and
- to assist women in their growth as philanthropists.
Festival of Trees Raises $15,000 for Local Women, Children

The ballroom of the Blue Heron Golf Club & Banquet Center was aglow with sparkling lights and festive décor at the newly revamped Festival of Trees fundraiser on Thursday, Nov. 10. Nearly 200 guests enjoyed a delicious dinner and desserts as they browsed more than 75 silent auction items, including decorated trees of all sizes, gift baskets, service packages, and holiday décor items.

After dinner, a live auction of six featured items, including a crowd pleasing “Snowman Tree,” a lovely “Wine With Friends” tree, and a Polar Express Train Ride package, raised more than $1,700 in just a few minutes. By the end of the evening, the event had raised more than $15,000 for the endowment fund.

The Festival of Trees committee would like to extend our thanks to the following media sponsors for their support of our event: Medina County Women’s Journal, Mimi Vanderhaven, MedinaCountyEvents.com and Armstrong Cable. In addition, we would like to thank the following sponsors for their generous support:

**Silver Bells ($500):** Homestead Insurance Agency, Inc., Jennifer Graham, Katie Horn, Dick & Betty Lynham, Summa Health System.

**Snowflake ($250):** Ann L. Cole, 600 East Smith Properties (John Jeandrein, Gregory Huber & Lisa Dunn), Kevin W. Dunn Co. LPA, HHL Group, Inc., Nancy W. Sprowls, Western Reserve Bank, Western Reserve Masonic Community.

**Evergreen ($100):** Sandy & Chuck Calvert, A Cupcake A Day, Gorsek & Co. CPAs,


Finally, we wish to thank all the individuals and businesses, too numerous to list here, who generously donated silent and live auction items.