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Mark Weinstein & Tom and Joanne Parker to receive National Philanthropy Awards

Association of Fundraising Professionals Recognizes Brevard Music Center Leadership

Brevard, NC – The Western North Carolina Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals will celebrate the annual National Philanthropy Day with a luncheon and awards ceremony at the Asheville Renaissance Hotel Wednesday, November 15, 2023, from 11:30am – 1:30pm.

At the luncheon Drs. Tom and Joanne Parker will receive the 2023 Outstanding Philanthropists award. Generous catalysts for the Brevard Music Center’s **Parker Concert Hall** (opened 2020), Tom and Joanne moved to Asheville from Dallas seven years ago, bringing with them a wealth of experience in their respective fields. Joanne, a Clinical Psychologist, is actively involved in causes such as Planned Parenthood, the Evergreen School and more. Tom is a retired nephrologist with expertise in dialysis and transplantation, and they both practice what they call “active philanthropy.” Their desire to foster a thriving and sustainable arts community led them to support a number of cultural organizations in Western North Carolina, including the Asheville Symphony, Blue Ridge Public Radio, the Brevard Music Center and others.

Mark Weinstein, former President and CEO of the Brevard Music Center, will receive the 2023 Outstanding Professional Fundraiser award at the AFP National Philanthropy Day celebration.

Weinstein retired from BMC in September 2023 after serving the organization for ten years. His unique management style included active fundraising that significantly increased the Music Center’s endowment, planned giving, and organizational support. During Weinstein’s tenure, he led two successful capital campaigns raising over \$13M, tripled the number of donors and donations, and increased BMC’s endowment by nearly 50%. Weinstein is a graduate of Harvard Business School and has enjoyed a distinguished 35+ year career that included oversight of the New York City Opera, Washington National Opera, and the Pittsburgh Opera.

National Philanthropy Day is a momentous occasion dedicated to recognizing and honoring the immense contributions that philanthropy, and the dedicated individuals and organizations within the philanthropic community, make to enrich our lives, strengthen our communities, and better our world. This year, more than ever, we salute those who have shown extraordinary commitment to the betterment of Western North Carolina.



Tickets are available for the luncheon that pays tribute to area leaders, activists, and philanthropists who have impacted Western North Carolina with their unwavering support. These exceptional individuals and organizations have generously given their time, talent, or treasure in pursuit of advancing the work of nonprofits and enhancing various communities throughout the past year.

Distinguished 2023 honorees also include: Outstanding Philanthropist - Cassie Dillon; Outstanding Business in Philanthropy - Mosaic Community Lifestyle Realty; Outstanding Organization - AMY Wellness Foundation; Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser - Mark Collins; Summit Award - Jeff Miller; Summit Award - Charlotte Lunsford Berry; T. Kennon Roberson Excellence in Health and Human Services Executive - Keynon Lake.

To purchase tickets: www.afpwnc.org/npd

For further inquiries, please contact: Aimee Smallwood, Brevard Music Center at asmallwood@brevardmusic.org or Morgan Bradley, NPD Chair, AFP Western North Carolina Chapter at npd@afpwnc.org. Learn more about AFP and National Philanthropy Day at www.afpwnc.org/npd.

ABOUT BREVARD MUSIC CENTER | SUMMER INSTITUTE & FESTIVAL

Founded in 1936, the Brevard Music Center stands as one of this country's premier summer classical music training programs and festivals. Each summer, over 700 gifted students come to the Music Center from across the United States and around the world to study with a distinguished faculty and renowned guest artists. Brevard's hallmark is the powerful sense of community that re-emerges each year as faculty and students present remarkable concerts and events to summer audiences.

For more information visit brevardmusic.org, "like" the Brevard Music Center on Facebook, follow @brevardmusic on Instagram and Twitter, stream season highlights via SoundCloud, and visit the Brevard Music Center YouTube channel to enjoy performance videos from previous festival seasons.

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