

Minnesota Legacy Funds Support Three Concert Tours by the Minnesota State Band in 2016!

Our First Tour: Alexandria, Minnesota

On Saturday, April 30th, The Minnesota State Band performed a joint concert with the Alexandria High School Band. Our concert included Morning, Noon, and Night in Vienna and the El Capitan Waltzes by John Phillip Sousa. Our joint numbers with the Alexandria High School Band included Ave Maria and the National Emblem march. The concert concluded with First Suite for Military Band by Gustav Holst, The Promise of Living by Aaron Copland and The Hobbits by Johan de Meij from the Lord of the Rings Symphony.

It was grand to make a musical connection with band members from Alexandria High School. Playing with a group of very talented young people is always a pleasure.



Alexandria High School Concert

Second Tour Stop: Litchfield, Minnesota

The Historic Litchfield Opera House was the site of our concert on September 24. Built in 1900, this restored treasure has hosted traveling theater troupes, stage plays, musicals, lectures, readings, revivals, local musical performances, and gatherings of all kinds. Although becoming Music Director less than a month earlier, Keith Liuzzi jumped in with both feet helping to organize the concert. This concert was also a fundraiser for the Opera House Association to help to restore the interior of the Opera House to its full 1900 glory. Special thanks to Minnesota Representative Dean Urdahl and his wife Karen for helping make this concert a reality.



Litchfield Opera House

The concert theme was “Here in America” and featured *Minnesota Portraits*, a work by a Minnesota composer Carl Schroeder. Mr. Schroeder was a former student of Keith’s when he was the band director at Southwest High School. The work is in three movements entitled: *Historic Fort Snelling*, *Lake Calhoun Sunrise* and *Mississippi River*. Other works on the concert included *Kentucky*

1800 by Glare Grundman and *Shenandoah* by Frank Ticheli. We ended the concert with a huge crowd favorite *Gershwin!*, a medley of songs from Ira and George Gershwin including *Fascinating Rhythm*, *Someone to Watch Over Me* and *I Got Rhythm*.



Our wonderful Litchfield audience

Our Last Tour of 2016: a Three-Day, Three-Concert Trip to Northern Minnesota's Iron Range

Our first stop was Moose Lake to perform a joint concert with the Moose Lake Community Band. The members of the Moose Lake Band were very gracious hosts and helped in many ways including providing percussion equipment from Moose Lake High School for our concert.

After spending the night at a local hotel, the band loaded up and headed for Cherry School in Iron Minnesota. What a pleasure it was for the band to play for over 400 students, from Kindergarten to High School age, who gave us rousing applause and visited with the band after the concert. During the trip we took the time to find out a little more about Iron Range history when we visited the Minnesota Discovery Center in Chisholm. We finished our tour with a concert at Northwoods High School in Cook, Minnesota.



Our friends from Cherry School in Iron, MN



Members of the Cherry High School Band



Young students enjoying the show

The Minnesota State Band plans to return to the legislature next session to apply for new grants which will allow the band to continue to visiting the smaller communities in outstate Minnesota.

Finally, the Minnesota State Band is proud to announce that we have been asked to perform a concert as part of the **Capitol Grand Opening** celebration, August 11-13, 2017. Our state capitol has been closed during its three-year, 300-million-dollar renovation, repair and restoration. It is indeed fitting that the band be a part of this re-opening since 111 years ago on June 14, 1905, the Minnesota State Band performed in a Ceremony declared “Flag Day” when the battle flags from the Civil War and Spanish-American War were marched from the old State Capitol in downtown St. Paul to the New State Capitol on University Avenue.

We thank you all for your continued support for the “**Only State Band in the Country.**” With your help, we promise to reach out to people in towns of all sizes throughout the State of Minnesota and to continue the musical and historical journey of the **Minnesota State Band.**



MSB on Tour

**The Band traveled over 1300 miles
in 2016!**

**Alexandria, Litchfield, Moose Lake,
Iron, Winona, Hutchinson, Park
Rapids, Wadena, Fairmont,
Chatfield and Sauk Centre**

Don't see your city represented? Contact
the **Minnesota State Band** and we will do
our best to arrange for a concert in your
hometown!