

MEDIA CONTACT

Angie Eckel
Development and Communications Director
angie.eckel@belwin.org
651-435-0687



“MUSIC IN THE TREES” RETURNS TO BELWIN

This August, Belwin Will Host A Two Day Live Music Event, Featuring Musicians Performing from Perches Among Red Pines

Afton, MN — On August 13th and 14th, from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM, Belwin Conservancy will host Music in the Trees, a live music event featuring dozens of instrumentalists and vocalists improvising from perches among Belwin’s red pine restoration. The event will take place over two days at Belwin’s Education Site (1553 Stagecoach Trail S., Afton, MN 55001). Tucked away in the hills of Afton, the site contains 250 acres of woodlands, prairies, and wetlands. Saturday’s performers will be dedicated to family-friendly, interactive music and Sunday will be focused on reflective, meditative programming. A fully accessible hour-long performance will be held during the final hour each day.

Curated by Belwin’s Program Director Susan Haugh, and first held in 2019, Music in the Trees was envisioned as a way to draw attention to the health of Belwin’s beloved red pine grove. Planted in 1933, the pine forest is aging and crowded, so Belwin staff are working to restore the area to a more biodiverse and healthy plant community. Music in the Trees seeks to share the story of this iconic grove with the community through two days of live, collaborative music.



With the pines as inspiration, dozens of artists are set to perform from tree stands 16 feet above the ground. Attendees can watch at the base of these stands and enjoy the music as they explore trails that weave through the grove. Visitors are welcome to bring their own picnics, blankets, hammocks, or camp chairs to enhance their experience.

New to the event this year will be Saturday’s focus on family-friendly children’s programming. Acts such as singer songwriters **Barrel Flash** and **Tricky Position** will create songs and instrumental pieces with audiences, and Young Dance, a dance ensemble for youth of all abilities, will help visitors of all ages connect with the pines through energetic movement and play.

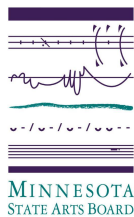
Other notable performers include **Colton Warren, Larsson & Hobart**, and **Heartstrings. Titambe West African Dance Ensemble of Minnesota** will end the event Sunday.

“This event is like nothing I’ve ever seen before,” says Belwin Communications Director Angie Eckel. “The dignity of the setting, juxtaposed with the wild variety of artists makes it just magical. Watching the public discover it year after year has been a delight. Each year we’ve seen more families come to explore, so it will be fun to inject some playfulness into the weekend with Saturday’s family-friendly programming this year.”



We invite the public to join us in celebrating the red pine restoration and the creativity it inspires on August 13th and 14th, from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM at Belwin's Education Site (1553 Stagecoach Trail S., Afton, MN 55001). Families are especially encouraged to attend on Saturday, which will be dedicated to all ages programming. Parking for both days will be \$10 per car. A fully accessible hour-long performance will be held during the final hour each day. No dogs are allowed at this or any Belwin event. We suggest families bring lunch or a snack.

Music in the Trees is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through grants from the Minnesota State Arts Board and the Metropolitan Regional Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.



INFORMATION

Please note: No dogs allowed at any Belwin event. Masks suggested but not required inside Belwin buildings.

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Angie Eckel, Development and Communications Director
angie.eckel@belwin.org
651-435-0687

www.belwin.org/events
info@belwin.org
651-436-5189

ABOUT BELWIN CONSERVANCY

[Belwin Conservancy](#) is a nonprofit organization with a mission of inspiring connection and engagement with the natural world. At Belwin, we spark passion for wild places through a variety of innovative experiential programs that include the arts, astronomy, athletic fields, bison, education, and public access to our restored lands. Through land protection and habitat restoration, we revive threatened ecosystems so wildlife can thrive for generations to come. Located in Afton, Minnesota, on the ancestral home of the Wahpekute Dakota people, Belwin's 1,500 acres of permanently protected land includes woodland, prairie, oak savanna, ponds, streams, and wetlands.

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