

# LAKES AREA MUSIC FESTIVAL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Lakes Area Music Festival Presents Two Glamorous Evenings of Cabaret in Aitkin and Nisswa

**Opera stars dazzle in up-close performances July 19–20**

**Brainerd, MN (July 15, 2025)** – The Lakes Area Music Festival (LAMF) prepares for its 2025 Season with Cabaret, a stylish and intimate evening of music and storytelling performed by a cast of international opera singers and rising stars. Performances will take place on Saturday, July 19 at the historic Ripple Center in Aitkin, and Sunday, July 20 at Grand View Lodge’s Norway Center in Nisswa. Both events begin at 7:30 p.m. A cash bar is available beginning one hour before the event.

In these elegant performances, audiences are transported into the golden age of Vaudeville and cabaret, featuring favorites from musical theater, operetta, and opera. A signature blend of sophisticated charm and theatrical flair, the LAMF Cabaret offers a rare chance to experience world-class vocal talent in intimate, cabaret-style settings. Limited capacity and consistent sellouts make these events some of the most in-demand tickets of the season.

“These Cabaret nights are always among the most joyful of the Festival,” said Scott Lykins, LAMF’s Founder and Executive & Artistic Director. “Our audiences get to experience these incredible singers up close in beautiful venues, and the performers love the freedom and spontaneity of the evening.”

Featured performers include sopranos Jillian Tate, Sarah Rachel Bacani, and Amy Guarino; mezzo-sopranos Olivia Gronenthal and Abi Levis; and baritone and LAMF Artistic Director John Taylor Ward. Both venues offer rich history and character—ideal backdrops for these unforgettable performances.

The 2025 Lakes Area Music Festival Season, running July 25 to August 17, invites audiences on a journey through fairytales, legends, and epic sagas with the theme MYTHS & MAGIC. More than 200 world-class musicians from the nation’s top orchestras and opera companies converge in central Minnesota each summer to present orchestra concerts, chamber music, opera, and family-friendly events. Highlights this season include Wagner’s *Ring Without Words* and a new production of *Hänsel & Gretel* set in the North Woods. From spellbinding symphonies to storybook settings, LAMF offers transformative musical experiences for audiences of all ages.

Tickets and details available at [lakesareamusic.org](https://lakesareamusic.org).

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## **About the Lakes Area Music Festival**

The Lakes Area Music Festival is Minnesota's summer home for world-class opera, orchestra, and chamber music. Celebrating its 17<sup>th</sup> anniversary season, more than 200 artists from the nation's top orchestras and opera companies will present 60 concert, education, and community outreach activities this July and August. Founded in 2009, the Lakes Area Music Festival sparks connections between its central Minnesota community and the nation's top classical performers to create transformative musical experiences. The Lakes Area Music Festival is a 501c3 non-profit based in Brainerd, MN. To find out more visit [lakesareamusic.org](http://lakesareamusic.org) or call 218-ASK-LAMF (218-275-5263).