

Contact:
Grove Music Festival
Robin Von Wald, Director
(989) 835-8183
vonwaldr@att.net

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
July 8, 2026

Grove Music Festival Presents Bayberry String Quartet

Midland, MI –The Grove Music Festival presents the Bayberry String Quartet at 7:30 p.m. Friday, October 16, 2026 at St. John's Episcopal Church, 405 N. Saginaw Road. The artists will be performing a program of Mozart, Beethoven, Golijov and Schulhoff. Tickets are available at the door for \$10.

The Bayberry String Quartet combines performing and education to encourage people from all walks of life to enjoy and play music together. Through their individual and collaborative work, the four musicians have impacted the lives of thousands of musicians.

Violinist Nurit Pacht was a top prize winner in international competitions including the Irving Klein International Music Competition in California and the Tibor Varga International Violin Competition in Switzerland. She has toured as soloist with orchestras around the world including the Houston Symphony, the Pacific Symphony, the Rhode Island Philharmonic and the Israel Chamber Orchestra. As a baroque violinist, she has a master's degree from Juilliard's Historical Performance program.

Violinist Steffani Kitayama splits her time performing, teaching, and dancing with a small ballet company in Michigan. She holds performance degrees from the University of Cincinnati College Conservatory Music and Northwestern University. She currently maintains a private studio with her husband, Gabe Bolkosky, in Ann Arbor, Michigan and teaches at institutes across the States and abroad.

Violist Gabe Bolkosky has performed and taught across the United States and abroad. Gabe has released seven CDs that show his breadth as a musician focused in the areas of contemporary music, jazz and tango as well as traditional classical music. He has taught as Guest Artist at the University of Michigan and is the Executive Director of The Phoenix Ensemble, a nonprofit chamber music organization.

Cellist Laura Usiskin has performed throughout North America and Europe. She has worked as a Baroque cellist through the Yale Baroque Ensemble and has also premiered dozens of works as well as commissioned works in her name. Usiskin resides in Birmingham, AL, where she is on faculty at the University of Alabama-Birmingham and Birmingham-Southern College. She graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts in Neuroscience and Behavior from Columbia University, Master of Music from The Juilliard School, and Doctor of Musical Arts from the Yale School of Music, where she was awarded the Aldo Parisot Prize.

For more information, see the Grove Music Festival website or Facebook page:

<https://www.grovemusicfestival.org> or <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Grove-Music-Festival>.

Founded in 1998 by Lois Palen, the Grove Music Festival is a non-profit arts organization that brings professional jazz and chamber music programming to Midland. This concert marks the 24th year of classical concerts presented by the festival. Recent artists include Pauline Martin, Sharon Sparrow, Alexander Kinmouth, Will Haapaniemi, Jeremy Crosmer and Addison Teng .