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**MAHONE FUND CANCELS LINCOLN PARK LIVE**

**AND HARBORPARK JAZZ RHYTHM & BLUES FESTIVAL**

**For Immediate Release**

For More information contact:

Tim Mahone – chairman@mahonefund.org

PH. 262.654.2412

KENOSHA – Due to the ongoing uncertainty of the prolonged COVID-19 outbreak, the difficulty in securing musical acts and the concern for public health and safety, the Mary Lou & Arthur F. Mahone Fund has canceled the Lincoln Park Live Summer Music Series and the HarborPark Jazz, Rhythm and Blues music festival. Organizers will continue to monitor the COVID-19 situation and work with the City of Kenosha to evaluate the options to produce a music event yet this year.

“We produce both amazing events to raise money for our CEO mentoring program and our College Scholarship fund while bringing music fans from all over the Midwest to enjoy Kenosha’s beautiful Lincoln Park Memorial flower garden and our scenic Celebration Place on the lakefront. It’s a very painful and devastating decision to make given the financial impact on the Mahone Fund’s youth programming efforts. However, our number one priority is to always protect the health and wellness of our volunteers, neighborhood residents, concert attendees, vendors, sponsors and the community at large,” said Mahone Fund Board President, Bryan Albrecht.

"I’m disappointed for our volunteers who work really hard to showcase international and local talent which features a wide range of musical genres for all people to enjoy while visiting our community. We’ve been entertaining music fans for 16 years. I’m disappointed for our attendees who were looking forward to enjoying these events this summer with their friends and family to dance or relax and socialize with a cold beverage while listening to great music on Kenosha’s Lakefront. So, it’s very frustrating but canceling is the right thing to do.” said Mahone Fund Chairman, Tim Mahone.

This is only the second time in its 16-year history that the HarborPark Jazz, Rhythm and Blues music festival was canceled. The inaugural festival featuring Grammy winning artist Ramsey Lewis was canceled due to inclement weather. "We've been attending HarborPark Jazz since the start of the festival. It's always a great time bringing my friends and family to Kenosha’s gorgeous lakefront. Coming from Chicago, the ease of parking and of course – listening to the great music while tasting various types of food is the highlight! We will miss coming to Kenosha this summer but look forward to next year." said Dr. Michael & Kathy Valentine

**HP JAZZ & LPL pg2**

The Lincoln Park Live Summer Music series is in its sixth season. The popular and growing summer series provides free music on 5 select Wednesday’s in the Lincoln Park Memorial Flower garden.

“The joy of the whole season is to hear all the stories from the generation of families born in the Lincoln area that come back to reminisce about their fond memories of weddings, canoeing in the lagoon or walks in the park and to welcome those that aren’t from the area that just love being together as a community to enjoy the music and ambiance. We not only made the right decision but the best decision for all; to protect those families that frequent LPL and those that would have joined us for their very first experience.  There is no better park to bring the community together and enjoy such a wide variety of great music. It is our healthiest choice to put the music on pause and resume Lincoln Park Live for the Spring/Summer of 2021.” said Brandon Morris, committee member.

The Mahone Fund is a component of the Kenosha Community Foundation and its mission is to provide educational opportunities for economically and academically deserving youth. The Mahone Fund also supports healthy lifestyle initiatives in communities of color. Since its inception in 1999, The Mary Lou & Arthur F. Mahone Fund has raised $1.2 millionin college scholarship support for over 280 deserving local high school students.

The Mahone Fund thanks all our music fans and supporters for the well wishes and outstanding commitment to the growth and development of the HarborPark Jazz Rhythm & Blues event and the Lincoln Park Live Summer Music Series. For more information on how you can support the Mahone Fund initiatives including the CEO mentoring program and the College Scholarship Fund please contact Tim Mahone at chairman@mahonefund.org or by phone at (262) 654-2412.