

# 48th Annual May Wine Brunch Stay at Home Event

A fundraising event of the Women's Association of Northwest Indiana Symphony Society (WANISS)

Northwest Indiana Symphony  
1040 Ridge Road  
Munster, IN 46321

MSA Population: 700,896

**Presenter:**

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**Project Overview:** The Women's Association (WANISS) has for 47 years hosted the May Wine Brunch in varied locations but normally at the Center for Visual and Performing Arts (CVPA) facility located in Munster, IN. It draws our WANISS Board and membership along with 350 community members to raise money for our Northwest Indiana Symphony Orchestra (NISO). Due to COVID-19, we had to pivot to a Stay at Home event for our 48<sup>th</sup> Annual event.

**Project Goals:** WANISS budgets annually the minimum of \$20,000 to donate to the Northwest Indiana Symphony Orchestra each year and this project allows us to reach or exceed half of that goal. Our goal for this event was to raise \$10,000 or more which would help us reach our annual pledge amount.

**Project Description:** Combine Stay at Home event fee of \$25.00, additional donations of any amount, raffle tickets at 5 for \$20.00 or 1 for \$5.00 and opportunities to purchase additional raffle tickets was offered on the RSVP card. Engaging those on our Facebook page as well by email to send us a picture of themselves in their hat with a glass of wine. This idea comes from our in-person event with a hat judging contest and a glass of May Wine. We held a Zoom drawing on June 24<sup>th</sup> of the raffle prizes and enjoyed seeing the attendees in their hats.

**Timeline:** **March 2020-** We had developed the in person invitation packet which included the invitation, RSVP card, RSVP return envelope, raffle tickets and outer mailing envelope, secured the raffle license from the State of Indiana and raffle prizes had been secured from 4 generous donors. **May 2020-** pivoted to a Stay at Home event from an in-person event with a date change of June 24, 2020. We made changes to the invitation packet materials and contacted the Charity Gaming Commission with the State of Indiana to change the raffle prize draw date. **May 22, 2020-** invitations were bulk mailed to our 1000+ mailing list by the printers. **Late May/ June 2020 until June 23, 2020-** processing of the RSVP cards into a spreadsheet with columns for event fee, donations, raffle tickets and extra raffle tickets. On **June 24, 2020-** event day- We hosted a Zoom raffle drawing for all Facebook and email invitees to attend wearing their hat in honor of the May Wine event. Four raffle prizes were drawn, announced, and notified right away of their winnings.

**Financials**

**2020 May Wine Brunch Stay at Home Event Income and Expense Report**

**Income**

Raffle sales*	\$ 3,648.18
Raffle prize donations	\$ 1,000.00
Event Fees	\$ 2,831.34
Donations	\$ 3,160.48
Sponsors	\$ 1,293.36

**Expenses**

Invitations/Mailing/Postage	\$ 1,336.08
Cash Raffle Prize	\$ 1,000.00
<b><u>Total Expenses</u></b>	<b>\$ 2,336.08</b>

**Total Income**                               **\$ 11,933.36**

**Total Event Profit**                       **\$ 9,597.28**

\* Raffle tickets donated by printer

**Volunteers:** 20 WANISS Board members voted at our April Board meeting to pivot from an in-person event to a stay at home event. After the vote, five (5) volunteers set into motion the revised invitation design of the invitation package, setting up a excel spreadsheet to track the event fees, donations, raffle ticket sales including additional sales and the treasurer who deposited all the monies by cash or check along with processing Square payments. On June 24, the WANISS board along with another attendees were present on Zoom in their festive hats to watch the raffle prize drawing live, the WANISS President did a welcome, the Symphony accountant drew the four winning raffle prizes and the chairperson announced the winners. Reminder for everyone to submit their hat pictures so we could post to Facebook and use in membership emails. A big thank you to those in attendance and then by email, that we raised over \$10,000.00 for the Northwest Indiana Symphony Orchestra during a pandemic with a Stay at Home event.

**Successes:** 175 participants supported this new type of event and we met our goal of \$10,000 since the WANISS Board decided to round it up to the \$10,000 amount.

