



Club Leaders



[Christopher A. Lewis](#)
President



[Earl K Wolf](#)
President-Elect



[Sharon L LaPointe](#)
President-Nominee



[Wanda Bloomquist](#)
Treasurer
Past President



[Gene Kico](#)
Assistant Secretary
Webmaster
Secretary



[Mark Steinberg](#)
Rotary Foundation Chair



[Robert Stephenson](#)
Club Director

Speakers

June 22, 2024

[Duck Race Day](#)
Help all you can

June 25, 2024

[Social Meeting at Zynda's](#)
Officer Exchange night

06/18/24-Eric Olmschied - Wharton Center

Williamston Rotary @ 7:30 a.m.

June 18, 2024

Attendance: 22 Rotarians, 5 Guests

Guests: Eric Olmschied, Kristine Calabrese & Jeff Williams from Wharton Center

President Chris opened the meeting at 7:34am

- o Pledge
- o Reminder of Rotarians of the Year @ Chris and Jim & Naomi
- o Many prizes are set for the Duck Race
- o Several guests attended due to our speaker
 - o Sandy Hopkins
 - o Ann Lemmen

Guest Speaker: **Wharton Center Directors**

- o **Eric Olmschied**, Executive Director of Wharton, along with Kristin Calabrese, Jeff Williams



- o Tony Award winner
- o Raj is on their advisory council.
- o Eric asked us to think of a transformative moment from the arts - who, where and why was this important?
 - o So many pathways and uses of the arts, brings people together
- o Wharton Center is part of University Arts and Collections
 - o Beal
 - o Botanical Gardens
 - o Wharton
 - o Broad Museum
- o Wharton is
 - o an Arts Presenter, select and negotiate the contracts
 - o a Venue, world class facility and building
 - o a Leader in Arts Education @ started in late 80s
 - o 22,000 learners every year @ teachers, students, community
 - o a Creative Producer

Annual reach of Wharton

- o 200+ events
- o 200,000 guests
- o 50% outside tri county
- o 20M impact on local community

@23-@24 year

- o 92 performances

- o 6 Broadway
- o To Kill a Mockingbird was best-selling play
- o SIX Sold out

One of the smallest markets in the country!

World Class performing arts

- o 750 club series launches
- o Classical Music, Jazz,
- o Master Classes and workshop learning

Education Programs

- o School Matinees since 1986
 - o 15,000 students attended this year
 - o Donors make it \$1.00 per student Ticket for all students
 - o Already sold over 17,000 for next year
- o Take It From the Top
 - o Grown, advance track " separate overnight option
 - o Expansion of a week in Detroit
- o Sutton Foster Awards
 - 12th year of program
 - 62 schools from across Mi.
 - 3,000+ students, 120 nominees
 - Learning opportunities throughout the season
- o High School Music Theatre since 2012
- o Musical Development
- o Many more

Ways to be involved

- o Season ticket holders
 - o Broadway series
 - o Performing arts series
 - o Try 5
- o Single Purchase tickets
- o Donate
 - o Support quality programming and meaningful arts education
- o Volunteer
 - o Performance ushering
 - o Education initiative
- o Gifts are always welcome!

Eric answered our questions!

- o Take it from the Top " good for all ages
- o How can we get an Arts Scholarship for Williamston Students discussed
- o Always working in 3-4 seasons, last year, this year, next year and beyond
 - o Broadway - Mix, what makes sense for our community, not too careful, but thoughts about how to draw in the most of the market
 - o Performing Arts - Variety of the mix for types of music combinations



Group photo: Sharon LaPointe, Jeff Williams, Kristine Calabrese, President Chris Lewis & Eric Olmschied

Happy Dollars all around!

- 4 Way TEST
- Meeting concluded at 8:32am

Upcoming meeting dates:

- Satellite Volunteer Service â€" Thursday, June 20 at 5:30 at Zynda's (every 3rd Thursday of the month at 5:30pm)
- Red Cedar River Celebration â€" Wednesday, June 19, 6:30pm at Zyndaâ€™s - Celebration is Sept. 8th
- Service Projects â€" June 18, 8:30am WUMC

Thought for the Week

By Gene Kico on Saturday, July 1, 2023

Now is yesterdayâ€™s later.

Joke of the Week

By Gene Kico on Friday, July 1, 2022

Happy & Healthy!

I have been happier since I followed my doctorâ€™s advice and changed my morning coffee to orange juice. He thinks it is the natural sugars and Vitamin C, but I think it is the vodka!

June Birthdays

By Gene Kico on Saturday, June 1, 2024

Wishes for a **Happy Birthday** in **June** go out to:

Sharon LaPointe June 6

Steve Terry June 16

Jim Conroy June 29