

TOWN OF AMHERST, MUSICALFARE AGREE TO HISTORIC PARTNERSHIP AT AMHERST CENTRAL PARK

The Town of Amherst and MusicalFare Theatre Company announce that their partnership to bring a public theatre to Amherst Central Park has taken a significant step forward. At the Feb. 26, 2024 Town of Amherst Board Meeting, the board approved a lease agreement with MusicalFare for the new theatre that will be built in the park.

“This is an exciting project that brings a public theatre to the heart of Amherst in the same way that Shea’s, Kleinhans Music Hall, Lancaster Opera House and even Public Theater in New York City



operate and collaborate with their communities. The agreement with MusicalFare, an outstanding professional theatre company, adds value to the park where we can celebrate arts and culture. Being able to travel to Amherst Central Park to enjoy live theatre productions is an amenity that all can enjoy,” said Supervisor Brian Kulpa.

“We are very confident our partnership with the Town of Amherst will result in a new MusicalFare setting that will be thoroughly enjoyed by town residents and will be a significant economic and cultural contributor toward making Amherst Central Park a popular community attraction,” said Randall Kramer, MusicalFare Artistic/Executive Director.

“For nearly 35 years, MusicalFare has brought outstanding performances to our region. Arts and culture institutions are an incredible benefit to their communities. With a positive economic impact and tremendous entertainment value, they are a true asset. I am pleased that we will be adding MusicalFare to Amherst Central Park,” said Councilmember Shawn Lavin.

The lease agreement contains community benefits that include, but not limited to, hosting an annual Amherst Open House for Town of Amherst residents with free tours and performances; discounted ticket offers for town residents; and theatre internship programs for Amherst students. The new theatre, which is designed to be 15,000 square feet, is a small footprint on the 171-acre expansive park and will also serve as a venue for meetings and community events.