

Hammerstein Museum Presents Broadway Gala with Stars Christy Altomare, Derek Klena and Justin Guarini

The Hills of Bucks County are Alive with the Sound of Music!

Did you know that the lyrics to this beloved tune from the musical of the same name was composed by Oscar Hammerstein II in his Bucks County, PA home, Highland Farm?

The nonprofit Oscar Hammerstein Museum and Theatre Education Center (OHMTEC) is raising funds to acquire, restore and preserve this historic property, where Oscar Hammerstein and his wife, Dorothy, lived with their family at Highland Farm for the last 20 years of his life. Here he forged his legendary partnership with Richard Rodgers that inspired many of their greatest musical works, including *The Sound of Music*, *Oklahoma!*, *South Pacific* and more. It is also where Hammerstein mentored a young Stephen Sondheim, and where he contributed to society by increasing our awareness of social issues and the need for tolerance of diversity.

OHMTEC's goal is to create a multifaceted and dynamic museum experience, with a strong theatre education component, serving as a place of inspiration for Broadway fans and humanitarians alike. Much like the highly successful Hemingway House in Key West, Oscar's 1840 manor home will be converted to a house museum open to the public. The large barn on the property will be transformed into a state-of-the-art theater education center, where generations of children who would not otherwise have the opportunity to participate in live theatre can learn and be inspired.

Hammerstein Museum will host a Broadway gala in support of their mission on July 11 at The Inn at Barley Sheaf Farm. This glamorous evening with cocktails and dinner will feature entertainment by Broadway stars Christy Altomare and Derek Klena (*Anastasia* on Broadway) and hometown favorite, Justin Guarini (*American Idol*).

Businesses and individuals who are interested in sponsoring this exclusive event should contact board member Grace Alfiero (gracealfiero@gmail.com). If you would like to volunteer or donate an item for the live or silent auction, contact board member Amy Cinque (amy.ohmtec@gmail.com). Tickets will be available to the public starting April 30 at www.hammersteinmuseum.org.