

ANNUAL REPORT

R4 performs in Chicago

River Raisin Ragtime Revue performed for enthusiastic audiences in October and November at Chicago’s Northshore Center for the Performing Arts. R4, led by Kelsee Vandervall, opened for the Broadway musical “Ragtime.”



Tricks and Treats for Glacier Hills Retirement Center

R4 performed vintage Halloween music in costume for residents of Ann Arbor’s Glacier Hills Retirement Community. Residents were also encouraged to attend in costume and the orchestra played numbers that included “Skeleton Rag,” “Red Devil Rag,” “That Haunting Rag,” and other vintage works appropriate for the occasion.

Extravaganza Moves to the Plane Wave Campus

Our first major event at our new home on the Plane Wave Instruments arts and science campus was a huge success! Our 10th annual Ragtime Extravaganza served approximately 2,000 visitors to the campus, as guests listened to ragtime music, took part in art and woodworking demonstrations, and celebrated with a grand fireworks display that followed R4’s performance. The local Tejano band, Los Hermanos Villegas opened for R4 and many of their followers came out to enjoy the event. Children enjoyed games, chalk art, a bounce house, and an instrument petting zoo. We look forward to expanding this event for 2023 and plan to keep it free to the public!



RIVER RAISIN
RAGTIME REVUE



Attendance solid for Ragtime at Greenfield Village's Old Car Fest

Over 10,000 visitors attended the annual Old Car Festival at Greenfield Village in Dearborn, MI where they enjoyed music and dances of the ragtime era performed by R4 and the Greenfield Village Dancers. The Old Car Festival is America's longest running antique car show.

R4 performs for the Chelsea Retirement Community

We had a terrific time playing for the residents of the Chelsea Retirement Community, as part of a summer celebration event sponsored by the CRC. Residents enjoyed barbecue and ice cream as R4 presented vintage ragtime and early jazz favorites from under an outdoor tent. R4 has developed reduced fee programming to make music accessible to senior citizens.

Moving the annual Extravaganza to the PlaneWave campus is part of the bigger project of renovating the historic 1879 chapel on the campus into a performing arts center that will house our orchestra and archive. Executive Director William Pemberton spent much of this year meeting with community foundation directors, economic development agencies, service organizations, and government and business leaders to build support for this ambitious project. Initial grant applications have been submitted to kick off an aggressive capital campaign for fiscal year 2023, with hopes of beginning renovations in the spring of that year. R4 is working with architects Craig Spiegel and Gritzmaker Builders to complete renovations that are both accessible and historically sensitive.



R4's new home, Haviland Hall

