

A 1940S MUSICAL REVUE

**BOOGIE
WOOGIE**

Babies





Hear our Demo! Check out our CD at CD Baby!
<http://www.cdbaby.com/bwbabies>

Greetings!

Thanks for your inquiry about the **Boogie Woogie**

Babies. Enclosed are materials for your review. If you have questions after you look at them, please call at any time. **We now have 3 high-energy, entertaining shows which feature great songs, audience participation, trivia and more!!!**

Boogie Woogie Babies – a 1940s Revue is a 2-act theatrical revue of the 1940s, and includes harmonies and songs of the Andrews Sisters, historical trivia and audience participation. We've performed it on a proscenium stage with full lights or a 12 x 8' platform in a banquet room – we're very flexible!

Boogie Woogie Babies – Boogie Down Broadway, featuring entertaining songs & audience favorites from Broadway and off-Broadway and great historical information from Tin Pan Alley to present day, delivered in that trademark, **Boogie Woogie Babies**® talent-busting style!

Boogie Woogie Babies – Boogie, Beehives & Beyond! featuring celebrated songs & harmonies from great girl groups & girl singers throughout pop music history. Hear favorites from The McGuire Sisters, Carol King, The Cookies, The Chiffons & many more!

Because we get so many requests to offer an after-dinner or lunch program or concert-version, we've also condensed each show into a 45-60 minute set, based on your needs. If it's not in a full theatre, we can bring our own basic show lighting and always provide sound, keyboard and costumes and props. The 40s show is perfect for audiences ages 50 and up, but younger audiences love it too, often because it is the music their parents grew up with. The Broadway and Girl Group shows are sure to delight audiences of all ages. All of our shows are high energy, entertaining and interesting, and I'm sure your audience will love whichever you choose!

Please call me for pricing – much depends on which version of the show we do and how far we travel. Look forward to hearing from you!!

Adjudicated members of:
Touring Artist Roster:
MI Humanities Council
(www.michiganhumanities.org)
Arts Midwest/Heartland
Arts Fund
(www.artsmidwest.org)

Francesca Amari, Creator
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616.364.8589

Email:
FrancescaAmari@comcast.net
website:
www.boogiewoogiebabies.com

A 1940S MUSICAL REVUE

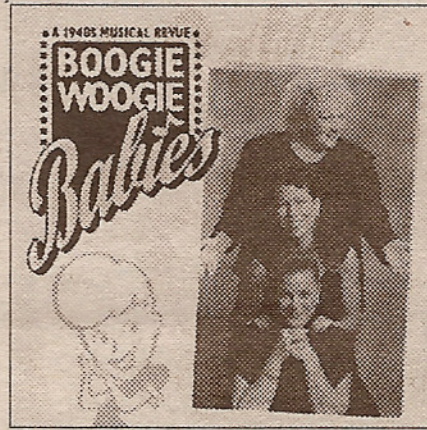
Boogie Woogie Babies

TOM HAGEN STUDIO

The Boogie Woogie Babies are all about the vocals. The title of their new CD is *A 1940s Musical Revue* and the vocals are right where they belong: front and center. From the opening harmonies of "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy" to the closing "Lullaby of Broadway Medley," it is obvious these Babies sing very well together.

There isn't much in the way of other instruments between these voices and listening ears. Mark Kahny is a talented piano player and he does a fine job of supporting the three Babies. I was fortunate enough to hear Kahny and the crew perform on the Lowell Showboat earlier this year and their collective talent impressed me then along with the rest of the appreciative audience.

Francesca Amari, Mary Rademacher, and Barbara Wisse bring a wealth of diverse singing experience to the music. Their backgrounds include everything from hammering out jingles and musical theater to the subtleties of jazz vocals and everything in between. Their flexibility serves them well on the CD and the fact that they have been singing together for nearly a decade is very evident—especially in the short (too short, ladies) a cappella version of "America" and



the beginning of "I'll Be Seeing You."

When the Babies perform live, their energy and smiles fairly force the audience to have a good time, and those smiles come across in their recorded performance as well. A tip of the hat to the Tom Hagen Studio in Saranac is probably due here. The project was recorded, mixed, and mastered there, and it sounds good on computer speakers as well as on a solid sound system.

Fans of composer/lyricist Johnny Mercer will be delighted. Five of his hits appear with four of them in a medley that includes favorites "Come Rain or Come Shine" and "Jeepers Creepers." Mercer's "P.S. I Love You" has Rademacher handling the lead, and she does it with flair. All three Babies have their time in the spotlight, but their ability to make harmonious melodies together is the standout feature. **A**

CLIFF YANKOVICH



WHO WE ARE...

Francesca Amari – (*fran-chess-ka a-mar-ee*) created BWB. She recently appeared with folk-legend Christine Lavin at the Birdland Jazz Club in NYC, and has trained and appeared with cabaret legends *Andrea Marcovizzi*; *Karen Mason* (Bway's *Mama Mia*); *Shelly Markham*, music director, arranger & producer for *Lanie Kazan*; *Barry Kleinbort*, composer and cabaret director; and *Craig Carnelia*, composer of *Working*. She was a 2006 & 2005 finalist in the prestigious American Traditions Vocal Competition for Savannah Music Festival and has appeared in national and regional theatre ("*Thumbelina*" and "*Sword & Stone*"), with training in Colorado, Chicago and New York City. In MI, she's appeared in "*Pump Boys & Dinettes*," "*You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*," "*Snoopy*," *A...My Name is Alice*," "*Taffetas*" and many other productions. Francesca teaches Drama in Education at Grand Valley State University, and has taught and/or directed children's theatre at Western Michigan University, Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp, G.R. Civic Theatre and Kalamazoo Civic Theatre and for numerous schools and organizations. Her one-woman cabaret act, "*CabaretAMARI*," is part of the Touring Artist Roster for

Michigan Humanities Council and Heartland Arts Fund. She's a member of Chicago Cabaret Professionals, West MI Cabaret Association and Cabaret Hotline. She's excited to be working on her very first CD, *Music of Your Life*.

www.cabaretamari.com

Mary Rademacher (*Rad-ih-maker*) – Recently named Jazz Musician of the Year by the West MI Jazz Society, Mary is one of West MI's busiest jazz vocalists. She has toured overseas with the USO, appeared in dozens of West Michigan theatre productions, is a regional Star Search winner, a former Michigan State University Cheerleader (Go Green!) and is a busy choreographer, fitness trainer and performer. She entertains throughout Michigan and beyond as a vocalist; most recently at the prestigious Sun Valley, ID and Sacramento, CA jazz festivals, World Class Jazz Tours, in Florida at Heidi's Jazz Club, and has opened for Bob Newhart. In addition to her own band, The Rad Pack (featuring Mark Kahny on keys), she performs regularly with The Night Band (17 piece) and the Midtown Horns Band in clubs, casinos and for private or corporate events. Both of her CDs, *RadHOT* and *You Hit the Spot!*, have been released to critical acclaim. Mary is also featured on Rick Reuther's CDs: *This Heart of Mine & Mud in Your Eye*.

Visit her website: www.maryrad.com

Barbara Wisse (*Wih-see*) Barb's silky voice has been heard on stages throughout West Michigan and she was featured on Circle Theatre's "*Tapestry, The Music of Carol King*" CD. Barbara's singing styles run the gamut from advertising jungles to vocal jazz, from opera to musicals, and from ensembles to solos. Her singing and studies have taken her to London and New York, but the musical theatre community in Grand Rapids is where she got her start. Barbara is also a Language and Fine Arts consultant for Grand Rapids Public Schools. She's performed her one-woman cabaret act "*Laughing Matters*" to critical acclaim.

Mark Kahny, (*cane-ee*) accompanist, is one of West Michigan's finest keyboard and vocal talents in demand by vocalists and bands alike. Originally from Cincinnati, Mark studied classically at the University of Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music, toured the country with the show band, *Kops & Robbers*, and is featured on many CDs, including Mary Rademacher's, Edye Evans Hyde's, Boogie Woogie Babies' and his own, "*Universe of Two*". Mark regularly is a headliner with World Class Jazz tours, performing throughout NW Michigan. Mark has worked with such celebrities as Red Buttons, Regis Philbin and Ray Charles.

Need more info?

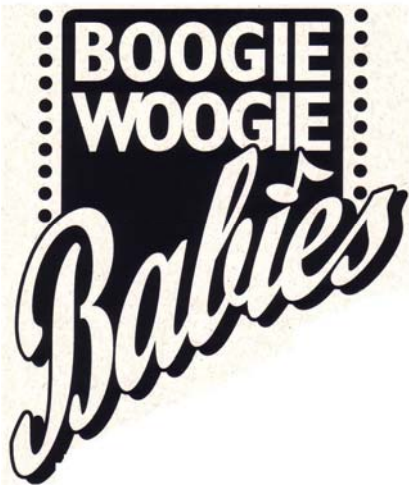
Call or email Francesca at:

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www.boogiewoogiebabies.com



The History of the **Boogie Woogie Babies**,...

The **Boogie Woogie Babies** are a vocal trio comprised of three versatile, talented, entertaining and busy West Michigan vocalists, and accompanied by one of the area's finest pianists.

Boogie Woogie Babies was created in 1993 by singer/actress/director **Francesca Amari** as a one-night-only dinner theatre production at the American Legion Boat & Canoe Club in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The "show" was so well received that **Amari** expanded it and started booking the 2-act theatrical revue throughout West Michigan. In the original **Boogie Woogie Babies - a 1940s Musical Revue**, **Amari** incorporated dialogue, historical information, trivia, skits and favorite songs from the WWII era, including many made famous by the fabulous Andrews Sisters. In order to create an evening that is true to the history books, **Amari** has sought out 1940s-period military uniforms and artifacts for set decoration and costumes for the performers. In addition, all information incorporated into the theatrical revue is based on actual historical events, including letters to and from WWII GIs and newspaper accounts of Pearl Harbor. This show receives standing ovations wherever it is presented and the **Boogie Woogie Babies** have enjoyed a growing, avid fan base because of their tight harmonies and entertaining presentation.

In 2000, the **Boogie Woogie Babies** became a member of the prestigious **Michigan Humanities Council Touring Artist Roster** (www.michiganhumanities.org), as well as the **Heartland Arts Fund Artist Roster (Arts Midwest)**, and is now invited to perform throughout the Midwest. In August, 2006, the MI Humanities Council announced the adjudicated members of its newest roster (2006-2009), and the **Boogie Woogie Babies** were once again on the prestigious list. Nonprofit groups that book artists from the Roster are eligible for grants from the Council. ***This is the third Directory to include this popular West Michigan trio.***

Because of the group's popularity, **Amari** has also created two other high-energy, entertaining musical revues for the group, **Boogie Woogie Babies - Boogie Down Broadway**, and **Boogie, Beehives & Beyond**. Both shows featuring a myriad of popular and little known gems from their respective genres (Broadway and off-Broadway; and girl group history). The revues both made their debuts at the Legend Theatre in South Haven, MI to standing room only crowds and the audiences were wowed by the variety of music included in both shows and the depth of the performances by the versatile vocalists.

The **Boogie Woogie Babies** has a self-titled CD, which features the songs from the 1940s, plus a bonus medley of Broadway songs. The group is currently working on its newest CD, which should be available in late 2006!

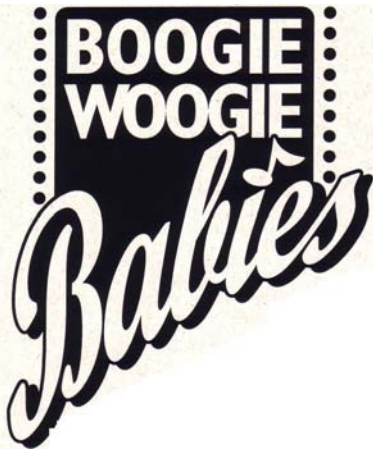
Members of the **Boogie Woogie Babies** are **Francesca Amari**, **Mary Rademacher** and **Barbara Wisse**, with piano accompaniment provided by **Mark Kahny** (bios available on separate page).

More information is available by calling or emailing:

Francesca Amari ~ 616.364.8589

francescaamari@comcast.net or boogiewoogiebabies@comcast.net

www.boogiewoogiebabies.com



Partial Client List/Performance Venues

Major Engagements

- ◆ Hot Springs, Arkansas Symphony Guild
- ◆ Chillicothe Area Artist Series (shared season w/ Boston Pops), Ohio
- ◆ Lakes Art Center Guest Artist Series, Okiboji, Iowa
- ◆ Lowell Showboat, Lowell, MI - 3 years
- ◆ Ohio State University Guest Artist Series - 3 years
- ◆ Ozaukee Artist Series - Ozaukee, WI
- ◆ Ponca City, Oklahoma Guest Artist Series - 2 years
- ◆ Sandwich Opera House, Sandwich Illinois
- ◆ Season Opener (5 summers) - Howmet Playhouse, Whitehall, MI
- ◆ Season Opener & Closer (5 summers) - Legend Theatre of South Haven, MI
- ◆ Village Theatre @ Cherry Hill Guest Artist Series, Canton, MI

Boogie Woogie Babies is an adjudicated artist featured in the **Touring Artist Roster** sponsored by the **Michigan Council for the Humanities** and **The Heartland Arts Fund/Arts Midwest**. Partial grants are available.

Michigan Humanities Council
119 Pere Marquette Dr., Ste. 3B ~
Lansing MI 48912-1270
On-line:
<http://michiganhumanities.org> ~

**For more booking information,
call**

**Francesca Amari @
616.364.8589**

**FrancescaAmari@comcast.net ~
www.BoogieWoogieBabies.com**

Additional Clients:

- ◆ 103rd Infantry Division National Reunion
 - ◆ AIDS Walk Michigan
- ◆ American Legion Chapters throughout Michigan
 - ◆ Birmingham Public Library
- ◆ Celebration on the Grand, Grand Rapids, MI
 - ◆ Centennial Country Club
- ◆ City of Roseville Summer Concert Series
- ◆ City of Wayland Summer Concert Series
- ◆ City of Grosse Pte. Park Summer Concert Series
 - ◆ Discovery Theatre, Battle Creek, MI
 - ◆ The Grand Forum, Grand Rapids
 - ◆ Grand Rapids Festival of the Arts
 - ◆ Grand Rapids Home for Veterans
- ◆ Grand Rapids WWII Memorial Celebration
- ◆ Grayling Arts Council Guest Artist Series
 - ◆ Greencrest Manor, Battle Creek, MI
 - ◆ Greenville Concert Series
 - ◆ Hartland Arts Council
 - ◆ Indiana State Medical Society
- ◆ Ionia Community Bank Concert Series
- ◆ Kellogg's Cereal City, Battle Creek, MI
 - ◆ Kent County Medical Society
- ◆ Ladies Literary Club, Grand Rapids, MI
 - ◆ Michigan Dental Association
 - ◆ Michigan Realtor's Association
- ◆ Michigan Township Supervisor's Association
 - ◆ Northville Victorian Festival
- ◆ Porter Hills Foundation 50th Anniversary-The USO Show!
 - ◆ Rochester Public Library
- ◆ St. Cecelia Music Society, Grand Rapids
- ◆ Thunder Bay Arts Council Guest Artist Series
 - ◆ Wealthy Theatre, Grand Rapids, MI
 - ◆ What Not Inn, Fennville, MI

Boogie Woogie Babies

What our Clients Have Said...

Chillicothe Area Artist Series, OH

"We loved you, you were fabulous, fabulous, fabulous! We can't wait to have you back again."

Jean Flesher, Coordinator

Bristol Village Retirement Village, Waverly, OH

"You were wonderful, talented, adorable, smart and what's more, you were ours! What a night! I can't tell you how much Bristol Village loves you!"

Anita Cooper, Special Events Committee

Lowell Showboat (2 years)

"With rain threatening, the Boogie Woogie Babies took to the stage for the 5th concert of Lowell's Summer Sizzlin' Concert series. From the second they started it was clear that they were the shining stars of the concert series, this year and past years (my opinion). Their show is a two act journey through the 1940's tracing the happenings and the music of the era. Their

voices and music brought back fond childhood memories for me. My father was a music teacher and played in big bands in the 1940's. I grew up on this type of music. As the show progressed the "babies" added different outfits and props to help tell their story. About half way through the show the sky opened up, they just kept on singing as long as they could. After a short break they came back as the storm passed and performed the second act of their show. At the end of their show they received the first standing ovation at the Sizzlin' concerts. They deserved it, if you get a chance to see them, DO IT!!" *Bruce T. Doll*

Jazz at the Zoo - West MI Jazz Society

"If you attended last year's Jazz at the Zoo events, you may have caught some of the wonderful entertainment provided by the famous Boogie Woogie Babies. If so, then you won't be surprised to hear that the performance here on Monday evening was a classic!

This act somehow seems to draw from every age group and from every area in the greater West Michigan community. People simply loved the music and almost everyone wanted to sing along with the Boogie Woogie Babies. ***This event attracted the largest crowd of the series so far.*** Close to 700 people yelled, screamed, sang and danced to the hot sounds of the Boogie Babies with Mark Kahny on keyboards and Tim Johnson on drums."

Northville Victorian Festival (performed 3 years in a row)

"Thanks, Boogie Woogie Babies, for another great job! Our audiences love you!"

Laurie Marz, Northville Chamber of Commerce

Thunder Bay Arts Council Guest Artist Series (3 years)

"What a great way to kick off our series! Your harmonies are superb! *Judy, Coordinator*

Boogie Woogie Babies is a member of the prestigious Michigan Council for the Humanities

Touring Artist Roster (www.michiganhumanities.org) and The Heartland Arts Fund (<http://www.maaa.org/haf/>)





Boogie Woogie Babies – a 1940s Music Revue!

Get ready to jump, jive and wail with the Boogie Woogie Babies, an entertaining, two-act theatrical revue featuring swing sounds of WWII and fabulous harmonies of the Andrews Sisters. Audiences rave about BWB, which features favorite tunes from the 1940s, presented with historical trivia in a delightful, humorous & touching manner. Songs include *Don't Sit Under the Apple Tree*, *Rum & Coca Cola*, *In the Mood*, *A Nightingale Sang in Berkeley Square*, *Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy* & more!

Complete with set dressing, vintage costumes & sound. Shorter, concert-style excerpt available to meet space needs & time constraints.



*Featuring Mary Rademacher, Barbara Wisse & Francesca Amari!
With Mark Kahny on keyboard!*

*"For a little while, I forgot I was 80! Thank you for the wonderful memories!"
Dorothy, Bristol Village, Ohio*

*"Boogie Woogie Babies... I just want to tell you how much my husband and I enjoyed your group at the "Taste of Music" evening a week ago! Everyone I talked with was commenting on what a great show you put on! It was a trip down memory lane for many of us. We certainly hope this will be an annual event and that you will be part of it...we'd pack the place next year!! Thanks for a wonderful evening."
Carol M., Muskegon, MI*

**Need more info? Call or email Francesca at:
616.364.8589**

**francescaamari@comcast.net
boogiewoogiebabies@comcast.net
www.boogiewoogiebabies.com**



Presenting...

"Boogie Down Broadway"



Grand Rapids, MI – Having met with such great success presenting its entertaining 1940s musical revue, the **Boogie Woogie Babies** have created a new Broadway-themed music revue.

The show features favorite songs (and some little known gems) and trivia from Broadway's illustrious history – from Tin Pan Alley to Off-Off-Broadway, right up to the modern-day 'Great White Way!' Musicals featured in this fast-paced, musically enlightening evening of song include:

- South Pacific
- Wonderful Town
- Hair
- Annie Get Your Gun
- Sound of Music
- Chess
- Follies
- Cabaret
- Chorus Line and many more!

Chillicothe Area Artist Series, OH
"We loved you; you were fabulous, fabulous, fabulous! We can't wait to have you back again."
Jean Flesher, Coordinator

The show highlights music from the "Popular American Songbook" - songs of the great composers and lyricists, including the Gershwins, Irving Berlin, Stephen Sondheim, Cole Porter and Rodgers and Hammerstein. Folks will love reminiscing and celebrating this tribute to the Broadway melody by those entertaining, delightful and musical **Boogie Woogie Babies!**

Call 616.364.8589 for booking info or email:
francescaamari@comcast.net or
boogiewoogiebabies@comcast.net
www.boogiewoogiebabies.com

Check out our CD at CD Baby - www.cdbaby.com/bwbabies

Boogie Woogie Babies is an adjudicated artist featured in the **Heartland Arts Fund** and the **Michigan Arts & Humanities Touring Artist Roster**, sponsored by the Michigan Council for the Humanities; partial grants available.

Michigan Humanities Council

119 Pere Marquette Dr., Ste. 3B ~ Lansing MI 48912-1270

On-line: www.michiganhumanities.org

517/372-7770 or fax: 517/372-0027

BOOGIE WOOGIE Babies

Introducing our newest, fabulous show!!!

Boogie, Beehives & Beyond!

A new musical revue featuring the great songs of 'boss' girl groups and 'fab' girl singers!

Your favorite 'Babies' are **BACK** with a brand new music revue featuring entertaining songs from **Great Girl Groups & Girl Singers** throughout pop and musical theatre history, like:

- The McGuire Sisters
- The Shirelles
- The Cookies
- Debbie Reynolds
- Carol King
- Diana Ross & and lots more!

Featuring West Michigan's finest vocalists, **Francesca Amari**, **Mary Rademacher** and **Barbara Wisse**, with our favorite Boogie Woogie Buddy, **Mark Kahny**, on piano!!



"This act somehow seems to draw from every age group and from every area in the greater West Michigan community. People simply loved the music and almost everyone wanted to sing along with the Boogie Woogie Babies. This event attracted the largest crowd of the series so far." *West Michigan Jazz Society*

"You guys were terrific. Thanks for the wonderful weekend! We have had lots of people ask if we plan to bring you back. What that means is they loved!!!! the program." *Dale Hull, Crooked Tree Arts Center Performing Artist Series*

"Thank you so much for coming to the Lakes Art Center to perform. Everyone I spoke with just loved the show. We can't wait to have you back!" *Andrea Tonsfeldt, Performing Artist Series, Okoboji, IOWA*

Now Booking!

Call 616.364.8589 or 616.364.6609

Francescaamari@comcast.net or boogiewoogiebabies@comcast.net

www.boogiewoogiebabies.com

Boogie Woogie Babies come back

By Sue Merrell

*G.P. Press
3/14/84*

The Grand Rapids Press

Boogie Woogie Babies, a local trio doing a '40s musical revue for more than a decade, has been boogieing beyond the Michigan borders in the past year with sold-out shows in Ohio, Illinois and Oklahoma.

"It's really been exciting," said member Francesca Amari. "We've been getting calls from all over the Midwest."

The trio is listed in the Heartland Arts Directory, which presenters use in planning cultural series and other performances.

"It's been really neat to share memories of the '40s with veterans groups and perform in really beautiful little opera houses," member Mary Rademacher said. "We've been treated very well, like stars."

Today, the stars come home for their third annual show at Wealthy Theatre, which will celebrate the release of their debut, self-titled CD.

Amari said the revue has been updated since she, Barbara Wisse and Sheila Hart first performed it in 1993 for Grand Rapids' American Legion Boat and Canoe Club. Hart dropped out of the group in 1996, and Rademacher joined the trio.

"We've adapted to each of our personal strengths," Amari said. "The blend of our voices is pretty magical. We have great

The stars return for their third annual show at Wealthy Theatre.

TODAY

BOOGIE WOOGIE BABIES, 3 p.m., at Wealthy Theatre, 1130 Wealthy St. SE. Tickets, \$15, are available at the door.

harmonies." Rademacher, a dancer, added some songs that allow her to kick up her heels, including a tap dance number.

Amari's husband, Ray Gautreau, has a one-man, 50-minute show on Harry Truman, and sometimes he performs a shortened 10-minute version with the Boogie Woogie Babies.

"In the summer, we're booked every weekend at festivals," Amari said. That includes a June 17 show opening the Lowell Showboat. She estimated the group performs about 50 shows a year.

Beyond the Boogie Woogie Babies, each of the trio members is involved in other aspects of entertainment. Amari teaches children's theater classes at Grand Rapids Civic Theatre as well as teaching classes at Grand Valley State University. She's also directing the spring musical, "Footloose," at Union High School and performs a solo cabaret show.

Rademacher has a regular nightclub act with her Rad Pack, performing a

varied repertoire of rhythm and blues, pop and jazz at conventions and private parties. She's also choreographing a musical for Westwood Middle school.

Wisse is a frequent performer in local theater, appearing in a Cole Porter revue for Heritage Theatre Group and "Tapestry" for Community Circle Theatre.

The trio is accompanied by Mark Kahny.

A year ago, the Babies created a second revue featuring show tunes, "Boogie Down Broadway."

But the '40s revue remains their most popular.

"It's uplifting to perform this music," Amari said. "It gives you a real patriotic feeling."

"One of my dreams is to sing at one of the White House events," Rademacher said. "I don't think that's out of reach."

The members of Boogie Woogie Babies

are, from left, Barbara Wisse, Francesca Amari, M. Kahny and Mary Rademacher.



Nov. 2003
Ponca City, Oklahoma



THE BOOGIE WOOGIE Babies will perform at the Ponca Theatre Tuesday, Veterans Day. Their style is reminiscent of the Andrews Sisters and the World War II era complete with 1940s military uniforms and artifacts. The performance starts at 7:30 p.m. and is free.

Boogie Woogie Babies Appear At Ponca Theatre Veterans Day

The Boogie Woogie Babies will celebrate the tradition of patriotism and the veterans who have fought for this country with an evening of music from the World War II era. The performance at the Ponca Theatre will be presented Tuesday, Veteran's Day, at 7:30 p.m. Admission is free.

The two-act music revue features three performers from Grand Rapids, Mich. Mary Rademacher, Barbara Wisse and Francesca Amari execute the tight vocal harmonies and songs of the Andrew Sisters and other popular music of the 1940s.

"We perform for many veterans' groups, and it's always a tremendous experience," Amari said. "Performing the show specifically for national Veterans Day is a thrilling prospect and a great honor. I hope a lot of people will come out and show their support and enjoy the music, too," she said.

To give the songs historical context, the performance is mingled with vignettes from the past. There's dialogue, historical information, trivia, skits and favorite songs from the World War II era, including many made famous by the Andrews Sisters. In order to create an evening that is true to the history books, Amari has sought out 1940s-period military uniforms and artifacts for set decoration and costumes for the performers. In addition, all information incorporated into the theatrical revue is based on actual historical events, including letters to and from World War II GIs and newspaper accounts of Pearl Harbor.

"Everybody is feeling that this show seems really vital right now," Amari commented.

Francesca Amari has been a professional

vocalist for more than 20 years and is the creator of Boogie Woogie Babies. This singer/actress/director trained in New York City and has appeared in national and regional theater. She also teaches theater at a Michigan university, a summer fine arts camp and the Grand Rapids Civic Theatre.

Mary Rademacher, a West Michigan's jazz vocalist, has appeared overseas with the USO, in addition to dozens of Michigan area theater productions. She also appears as a vocalist, has her own band, and is a choreographer.

Barbara Wisse most recently performed her one-woman cabaret act at the Circle Theatre in Grand Rapids. She has been heard on stages throughout the Michigan area, starring in music theater productions for more than 20 years. Wisse is a reading specialist with Grand Rapids public schools.

Mark Kahny, accompanist, will perform on the keyboard and sing. He studied classically at the University of Cincinnati's College-Conservatory of Music, and is regularly a headliner with World Class Jazz tours, performing throughout north-west Michigan.

Local support for this program comes from Ponca City Arts and Humanities Council and ConocoPhillips. This presentation is also supported by the Heartland Arts Fund, a program of Mid-America Arts Alliance funded by the National Endowment for the Arts with additional contributions from Oklahoma Arts Council, and foundations, corporations, and individuals throughout Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma and Texas.

January 21, 2005

TRAVERSE CITY RECORD-EAGLE

It's all about harmony

Boogie Woogie Babies go for nostalgia

By TOM CARR

Record-Eagle staff writer



The Boogie Woogie Babies are performing at the Crooked Tree Arts Center tonight and tomorrow evening.

PETOSKEY - The Boogie Woogie Babies will blend musical nostalgia with history and trivia when they play two shows at the Crooked Tree Arts Center.

The three-woman singing group from Grand Rapids will showcase songs from the 1940s in one show and Broadway tunes in the other when they play at 8 p.m. today and Saturday.

They'll mix songs with historical tidbits and act out parts of classic radio shows and commercials. While they sing tunes associated with big bands and pit orchestras, they're backed up solely by pianist Mark Kahny.

"Usually, it's just kind of a nice, simple show," said Francesca Amari, creator and performer. "It's really about the harmonies."

The three singers have distinct voices and ranges, yet none of the three singers take all of the low notes or all of the high notes.

"We each have very different voices, but as to who's singing which part, you can't always tell," Amari said.

The singing group consists of Amari, Barbara Wisse and Mary Rademacher. Amari and Wisse have sung together for 10 years, since Amari created the revue at the request of the American Legion Boat & Canoe Club.

Rademacher has been with the group for five years. They've taken shows all over the Midwest and into the Southwest.

They're working on another - "Boogie, Beehives and Beyond," a tribute to girl groups - which they expect to debut in the summer.

Today's performance is a patriotic revue of music, history and trivia from the World War II era. Saturday's is titled "Boogie Down Broadway."

Non-member tickets are \$25 for adults and \$10 for student. Members of the Crooked Tree Arts Council pay \$20 for adults and \$8 for students. The best reserved seats are \$50.

Tickets are available at Crooked Tree Arts Center in Petoskey, by calling 347-4337 or on-line at www.crookedtree.org.



AMARI

PUBLICIST
PRODUCER
PERFORMER

October 7, 2002
Contact: Sherry, Wealthy Theatre at 451.8001

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!

**WEALTHY THEATRE CELEBRATES VETERANS DAY
WITH THE "BOOGIE WOOGIE BABIES"**

For the second year in a row, the Wealthy Theatre will celebrate Veterans Day by presenting the acclaimed Grand Rapids-based touring theatrical revue, "Boogie Woogie Babies." The show is a high-energy, entertaining and patriotic revue of music, history and trivia from WWII, and features the stylized harmonies of the Andrews Sisters and popular big band songs of the era.

The Wealthy Theatre teamed up with the "Boogie Woogie Babies" last year as a way to celebrate Veterans Day by offering the show and donating \$2.00 of every ticket to the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans. The groups will continue this partnership as a way to honor and celebrate veterans of all wars during this national holiday.

"Boogie Woogie Babies" is comprised of seasoned performers of the Grand Rapids theatre and music scene, the popular Mary Rademacher, Barbara Wisse and Francesca Amari. Amari created the revue in 1993 by request of the American Legion Boat & Canoe Club, and the group has been performing the show ever since throughout Michigan and Illinois.

"We perform frequently and all over the state, often at private functions," says creator Francesca Amari. "But we rarely get to perform in our own home town in front of family and friends, so this is a welcome luxury as well as an honor for us to pay tribute to our nation's Veterans." This year, as an added benefit will be a special appearance by veteran Grand Rapids actor Ray Gautreau, portraying President Harry S Truman.

The show will run Friday and Saturday, November 8 & 9th at 8:00 p.m. and Sunday, November 10th at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are \$12.00, with \$2.00 of each ticket being donated to the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans. Call 616.451.8001 for information and reservations. The Wealthy Theatre is located at 1130 Wealthy S.E., near the corner of Fuller and Wealthy Avenue.

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PHOTOS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST



A note about Fees...

We want to assure you that we are artists of the highest integrity and professionalism. As such, we work hard to bring you the best show possible, reflecting years of study, practice, planning, research and rehearsal. We strive to work with prospective clients to meet all their needs, including financial. Do keep in mind, please, that our fees *are not and cannot be just a reflection of actual 'performing time.'*

Our fees must reflect our *traveling time to and from* a gig, our *set up and tear down time*, and whether or not we must stay overnight in a location because the distance away from our homes is too far to travel safely in one day.

Not only are you paying for our talent, but our time and expertise, as well; as successful business people, our fees must reflect that.

Please call with any questions!
Francesca ® 616.364.8589
boogiewoogiebabies@comcast.net



The Boogie Woogie Babies!
Featuring (l-r) Barbara Wisse, Francesca Amari,
Mark Kahny & Mary Rademacher



The Eccie Weegie Ladies!
From left, Francesca Amari, Barbara Wise &
Mary Eademacher (with Mark Fahmy on piano)

