**PAMYUA TO TOUR 6 STATES WITH ARTS MIDWEST**
Residencies and Concerts Aim to Foster Culture Exchange in Small Communities

**MINNEAPOLIS, MN:** Since 2003, Arts Midwest World Fest has been offering small Midwest communities once-in-a-lifetime opportunities to learn about the world from musicians inside and outside the US. This October and April, World Fest continues with a six-state tour featuring Yup’ik ensemble Pamyua.

Pamyua is Alaska’s most famous Inuit band. Founded in 1995 by brothers Phillip and Stephen Blanchett, their performances honor and share indigenous Inuit cultural traditions through ceremony and songs passed down through generations. Their unique performances blend traditional Inuit drum/dance melodies with contemporary R&B and soul music, often referred to as “tribal funk” or “Inuit soul.”

Over the course of two visits to the Midwest, Pamyua will tour through Portsmouth, Ohio; Sullivan, Indiana; Albion, Michigan; Oskaloosa, Iowa; Freeport, Illinois; and Marinette, Wisconsin. They will perform concerts and participate in residency events embedded in each community.

**Watch: Pamyua #ConcertsForKids**

https://youtu.be/ss5r26AMBHY

**Download Pamyua Press Kit**

<https://www.artsmidwest.org/programs/worldfest/presskit>

"We are honored to have a voice in the cultural community that communicates the indigenous mindset and experience,” said Phillip Blanchett of **Pamyua**. “Our performances are a joyous celebration of our Inuit culture, showcasing the music, dance, ceremony and heritage of our ancestry. We are gratified and excited to have the opportunity to bring our music and the stories of our Yup’ik heritage to people everywhere. We hope the experience helps forge a deeper appreciation of cultural diversity and encourages people to build stronger relationships with each other and strengthen the ties between us so we all become stronger together.”

"We’re so excited to have Pamyua on these World Fest tours” said **Torrie Allen**, President & CEO of Arts Midwest. “We can’t wait for our Midwestern communities to get to experience the music and traditions of Yup’ik culture.”

Residency Schedule

**October 30 – November 5, 2022: Portsmouth, Ohio**

Presented by [Vern Riffe Center for the Arts](https://vrcfa.com/)

**November 6 – 12, 2022: Sullivan, Indiana**

Presented by [City of Sullivan](https://www.cityofsullivan.org/)

**November 13 – 19, 2022: Albion, Michigan**

Presented by [Bohm Theatre](https://bohmtheatre.org/)

**February 5 – 11, 2023: Oskaloosa, Iowa**

Presented by [George Daily Auditorium](https://georgedaily.org/)

**February 12 – 18, 2023: Freeport, Illinois**

Presented by [Freeport Art Museum](https://www.freeportartmuseum.com/)

**February 19 – 25, 2023: Marinette, Wisconsin**

Presented by [Rusty Wolfe Studio](https://www.rustywolfe.com/)

A program of Arts Midwest, the 2022 World Fest artist tours are generously supported by the National Endowment for the Arts and Margaret A. Cargill Philanthropies. World Fest is also made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

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Arts Midwest believes that creativity has the power to inspire and unite humanity. Based in Minneapolis, Arts Midwest grows, gathers, and invests in creative organizations and communities throughout the nine-state region of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin. One of six nonprofit United States Regional Arts Organizations, Arts Midwest’s history spans 35 years. For more information, visit artsmidwest.org.