



WOLF TRAP

FACT SHEET

- Wolf Trap, the nation's only national park for the performing arts, is a partnership between the Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts representing the private sector, and the U. S. Department of the Interior/National Park Service representing the public sector.
- Wolf Trap has grown to encompass more than Wolf Trap Farm Park for the Performing Arts. Wolf Trap is also The Barns, a 350 seat year-round theater and adjoining community room constructed of two 18th century barns.
- The Wolf Trap Foundation, created in 1968 at the request of the government, is a not-for-profit organization. It is responsible for creating and selecting programming for the Filene Center and The Barns; developing educational and informational programs at different levels; handling ticket sales, marketing, publicity and public relations; and raising funds to support these programs while keeping ticket prices affordable for all.
- Catherine Filene Shouse, founder of Wolf Trap, donated 100 acres of her Virginia farmlands and buildings to the U. S. Government along with funds for the construction of a 6,500 seat theater which included seating for 3,000 on the lawn. The gift was accepted by an Act of Congress in 1966 and the Filene Center opened in 1971. In 1981, Mrs. Shouse also donated the land and funds for The Barns to make Wolf Trap a year-round center for the performing arts and related educational programs.
- The Department of the Interior through the National Park Service maintains the grounds and buildings of Wolf Trap Farm Park for the Performing Arts, runs an interpretive program in the Children's Theatre-in-the-Woods and Meadow Tent, and provides technical theater assistance for the Filene Center.
- On April 4, 1982, the Filene Center burned to the ground. Response from around the country has resulted in 17,000 contributions and pledges from people in 50 states, 7 foreign countries, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.
- The many friends of Wolf Trap wanted the old Filene Center back, so the new Filene Center is on the site of the original, is the same basic design and is again constructed of wood. The new theater is protected by a \$1.7 million fire detection and fire-protection package in addition to the Foundation's insurable interest per congressional legislation, 1982.
- On October 14, 1982, the President signed into law a bill authorizing a \$9 million grant toward the estimated cost of \$18 million for rebuilding the Filene Center. The Wolf Trap Foundation is conducting a fund drive to raise the money necessary to cover the private sector's share of the rebuilding and for necessary program funding. The minimum needed is \$20 million.
- All ages and walks of life are represented in Wolf Trap audiences. Over the last twelve years, over 1100 performances have been held at Wolf Trap and over six million people have enjoyed this gift to the nation.

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Vienna, Virginia