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For Immediate Release

Friends of Ottawa Memorial Auditorium Advances to Public Voting Phase for a Multi-Year Levitt Foundation Grant of up to \$120K

August 29, 2025—Friends of Ottawa Memorial Auditorium (FOMA) is now in the running to bring a free outdoor music series to Ottawa, Kansas, starting in 2026.

With funding from the Levitt Foundation—a national social impact funder at the intersection of music, public space, and community building that supports the largest free outdoor concert series in America—FOMA hopes to qualify as a finalist to receive a Levitt Music Series Grant. We encourage the community to support our proposal by participating in the public voting process, via online or text to vote, taking place from September 5-15, 2025, at levitt.org/vote.

Levitt Music Series Grants are an exciting, multi-year matching grant created by the Levitt Foundation to bring the joy of free outdoor concerts to cities across the country. For the 2026–2028 grant cycle, the Levitt Foundation will award U.S.-based 501(c)(3) nonprofits up to \$120,000 over three years (up to \$40,000 per year), to produce their own Levitt Music Series— seven to ten free outdoor concerts annually featuring a diverse lineup of music genres with professional musicians, activating an underused public space, creating a vibrant, inclusive community destination for people of all ages and backgrounds.

FOMA's proposal is now posted on the Levitt Foundation website, where the public can vote and learn more about the proposals from across the country that have advanced to the voting phase. An individual may submit one vote for up to five proposals of their choosing. There are two easy ways for the public to cast their vote: online at levitt.org/vote or via text to 877-409-5525 with keyword OTTAWA.

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