

Dear Michael McDonald Concert Attendees,

Thank you for attending the Michael McDonald concert on August 7, 2010, and for keeping such a positive attitude despite the weather's unfortunate turn.

As is the case with many outdoor events, our ticket policy does not provide refunds or ticket replacements for bad weather. We apologize for any previous communications implying otherwise. We thank you for understanding that once the concert started, and Michael McDonald had performed several songs, Lake Tahoe Music Festival incurred all expenses as if it were a full-length concert.

Unfortunately, our 2010 season ended with a serious financial shortfall - ticket sales and sponsorships fell below our expectations, challenging our conservative budget. We ended the year with a loss of over \$100,000 and no resources to cover those expenses. Our Lake Tahoe Music Festival Board had to make hard decisions at the end of the 2010 season as to how or if we would move forward. We did not have the resources to consider refunding the Michael McDonald tickets. We were seriously considering bankruptcy yet we did not want to abandon this long standing Lake Tahoe tradition. Therefore after much deliberation, it was solely our decision to move forward in the manner that we did. As a local non-profit organization, our mission is to present diverse and quality musical experiences and to create educational and performance opportunities for aspiring young musicians and we felt this was the best way to accomplish it.

Northstar-at-Tahoe Resort has generously agreed to partner with our organization this summer to help get us back on our feet and "Back to Black." The Village at Northstar is very enthusiastic about hosting our iconic summer event.

Without the support of Northstar Resort, our dedicated sponsors, donors and ticket purchasers, we could not continue to offer outstanding musical experiences and educational opportunities to aspiring young musicians. Much to our disappointment, because of our financial limitations, we were unable to continue the Orchestra Academy for 2011 but are planning on recommitting to the program for summer 2012. Our inaugural 2010 Orchestra Academy was a huge success and we look forward to bringing back this incredibly talented ensemble of young adults.

We thank you for your patronage and understanding!

Sincerely,

Sally Lyon  
President - Board of Directors  
Lake Tahoe Music Festival