Groundbreaking held for Brownville renovation project

(KLZA)--A groundbreaking ceremony was held on a long-planned renovation project in Brownville, April 5th.

The Brownville Concert Series accepted the gift of the Brownville Concert Hall from James Keene III and Ruth Haley Keene in 2016 to ensure the long-term continuation of the Brownville Concert Series.

With the change in ownership, it became necessary for the building to be brought up to current codes in regards to fire standards and ADA requirements.

Work on the project is to begin this spring at a cost of \$775-thousand which includes the \$35-thousand cost of a seven-foot Steinway Piano.

The organization received a \$350-thousand Community Development Block Grant and a capital campaign including applying for grants from major foundations, area businesses and individuals has led to commitments totaling more than \$531-thousand.

This accounts for 70-percent of the needed funds with another quarter-of-a-million dollars still to be raised.

Hopes are for those interested to join "The Grand Club" to raise the rest of the funds.

AHRS Construction of Bern Kansas is the contractor on the project.

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