

# CHARLES LAFITTE FOUNDATION RAISES \$1 MILLION FOR COUNT BASIE THEATRE ENDOWMENT

## 12th Annual Charity Golf Classic Raises Record Proceeds



CLF unveiled and presented a \$1 million donation to Count Basie Theatre in Red Bank. Suzanne and Jeffrey Citron, CLF co-founders, matched each donation from the event

### AT ITS 12TH ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF CLASSIC

on June 29, 2015 at the Baltusrol Golf Club in Springfield, NJ, the Charles Lafitte Foundation (CLF) raised a record \$1 million for Count Basie Theatre in Red Bank, this year's beneficiary.

Count Basie Theatre is a world-class arts and entertainment venue in Red Bank, that fosters understanding and appreciation for the power of the performing arts and creates opportunity for cultural enrichment for people at all economic levels. The funds raised at this year's Charity Golf Classic will create an endowment for arts and educational outreach programs at Count Basie Theatre, making the arts available to students of all backgrounds.

"We are incredibly grateful to the Charles Lafitte Foundation and all of the other supporters of the Golf Classic," said Tom Widener, Chairman, Count Basie Theatre Board of Trustees. "The money raised will have a tremendously positive impact on our education programs, which are the soul of the Count Basie Theatre."

Suzanne and Jeffrey Citron, CLF's co-founders, matched each Golf Classic donation, dollar for dollar. Over the past 12 years, CLF's Charity Golf Classic has raised nearly \$6.5 million to improve the lives of countless individuals.

"Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors, we are proud to support Count Basie Theatre with the largest amount raised at this event in our foundation's history," said Jeffrey Citron, co-founder of CLF. "These funds will help provide access to the arts for students of all socioeconomic levels for many years to come. We are extremely grateful to our Golf Classic partners, many who have supported this event for more than a decade, for their

contributions in making this the most successful year."

The Count Basie Theatre's educational mission is to provide a foundation of cultural enrichment to students of all ages and economic levels. These efforts include arts instruction and coursework, plus unique programs like teacher's professional development and bus-in programs for students in underprivileged school districts.

"Whether onsite at the historic Basie's Performing Arts Academy, or offsite in the schools, the Citrons and supporters of the Charles Lafitte Foundation helped us raise one million dollars to advance the Count Basie Theatre's mission," said Adam Philipson, President and CEO, Count Basie Theatre. "The endowment created from this year's Golf Classic will provide thousands of arts education and outreach opportunities for generations to come."

Each year, CLF selects a different nonprofit organization as the beneficiary of its signature event. Since the first event in 2003, CLF has devoted the Golf Classic's proceeds to a single organization that works to improve and enhance communities.

**FOR MORE INFO ABOUT CLF, VISIT [CHARLESLAFITTE.ORG](http://CHARLESLAFITTE.ORG).**



LEFT TO RIGHT: Suzanne Citron, co-founder of CLF; Jeffrey Citron, co-founder of CLF; Jennifer Vertetis, president of CLF; Kyra Citron, director of the Foundation's Kid's Corner.