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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Bohemian Foundation Grant Supports New Stage in Old Town Square**

FORT COLLINS, Colo. – The Fort Collins Downtown Development Authority today announced that Bohemian Foundation provided a \$200,000 grant to support a new entertainment stage in the city’s Old Town Square.

“The Downtown Development Authority Board is pleased to accept the generous Bohemian Foundation grant on behalf of the Old Town Square renovation project,” said Matt Robenalt, Executive Director of the Fort Collins Downtown Development Authority. “The Old Town Square renovations have included the installation of new amenities our community will enjoy for another 30-50 years, and the stage is an integral part of the Old Town Square experience. Thanks to Bohemian’s grant, we’re able to build a multi-use stage that will feature quality sound, lighting and electrical equipment.”

The new stage is part of a broader renovation project that is slated for completion in October. The stage, which anchors the north side of the Old Town Square plaza, replaces a smaller stage constructed in 1984. The stage design evolved as a result of collaborative input from many long-time Old Town Square users, including event producers, performers, production technicians and audience members. The new stage will accommodate a broad variety of performance styles and event sizes. When not in use for performances, the stage will be available as a casual seating area for downtown visitors. Construction crews installed a steel canopy over the stage in late August; the remaining equipment will be installed over the next several weeks.

“Old Town Square is at the heart of downtown Fort Collins,” said Kristen Karabensh of Bohemian Foundation. “The Downtown Development Authority has done a fantastic job bringing the community’s vision for the area to fruition. Bohemian Foundation is proud to be able to contribute to such a vital project and we’re looking forward to all of the new and creative ways the community will embrace the space.”

Bohemian Foundation’s Music Programs produces many free community concerts that are held in Old Town Square. These concerts are among the dozens of special events and programs Old Town Square hosts each year.

The Old Town Square renovation project is in its last six weeks of construction. Details regarding a reopening celebration will be announced by mid September.

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### **About the Old Town Square Renovation Project**

As part of the vibrant Downtown experience, the public plaza portion of Old Town Square has been heavily used over the last 30 years. The DDA and its project team are committed to creating a high-quality, public gathering space that accommodates a variety of activities now and into the future. Construction is underway and will be complete this fall.

### **About Fort Collins Downtown Development Authority**

The mission of the Fort Collins Downtown Development Authority is to build public and private partnerships that advance economic, cultural and social growth in the Fort Collins central business district.

### **About Bohemian Foundation**

Bohemian Foundation is a private family foundation established in 2001. Based in Fort Collins, Colo., Bohemian Foundation works to empower citizens and impact communities through its strategic grant making programs and special initiatives. For more information about the foundation's work, visit [bohemianfoundation.org](http://bohemianfoundation.org).

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