

A photograph of a man and a woman in a stylized, possibly theatrical setting. The man is wearing a dark jacket over a red shirt, and the woman is wearing a blue jacket. They are both smiling and looking towards the camera. The background features a large, illuminated sign with the letters "B" and "S" visible.

YOUR SUPPORT ★ **ROCKS!**

Together we're building a
more **vibrant** community



Hello!

Thanks to you, GREAT is full of creativity, connection, and possibility.

This past season, your support was more than a donation. It created pathways for participation, discovery, and growth for thousands of people of all ages. Because of you, youth gained confidence, volunteers found purpose, and our community connected through GREAT experiences onstage, backstage, in the classroom, in community spaces, and in the audience.

As we reflect on all that you helped make possible and look ahead to the season already taking shape, we remain focused on how these stories are told, how we foster growth, and how we adjust to best create an environment that meets the needs of participants, volunteers, professionals, and our community. Your generosity has and will continue to play a critical role in fueling theatre that transforms lives today and builds a brighter tomorrow.

Together, we are nurturing future leaders, strengthening our community, and ensuring that the magic of live theatre continues to inspire, challenge, educate, and entertain for years to come.

Thank you for your support and for being part of our story!

With gratitude,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lacey Schirmers'.

LACEY SCHIRMERS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

GREAT
THEATRE



OUR IMPACT AT A GLANCE

These are not just numbers. They represent young people finding their voice, volunteers discovering community, and audiences moved by the power of live theatre.

Great River Educational Arts Theatre (GREAT) enriches lives by inviting our community to build lasting connections through theatrical storytelling experiences that inspire, educate, challenge, and entertain.

47,735 people engaged with GREAT in the audience, on stage, backstage, or in the classroom.


30K+ ADULTS


17K+ YOUTH

839
SUMMER CAMP
REGISTRATIONS

\$40,370
GIVEN IN
SCHOLARSHIPS
TO 213
CAMPERS

68 TOTAL
PERFORMANCES 

44 AT THE PARAMOUNT
CENTER FOR THE ARTS

24 AT THE HELGESON
LEARNING LAB THEATRE


53 SUMMER
CAMPS!

A story of stories! With more than 20 years since GREAT last produced *Into the Woods*, and 37 years after its debut, it was a joy to bring a fresh concept to this beloved musical. Each production begins with the script, exploring what the story is, how to tell it, & why. Our concept centered on the fabric of storytelling, reflected in design details like Milky White made of books, a library for the setting & fabric printed with script text in every costume!

**GREAT Donors
June 2024 - July 2025**

Advantage 1 Insurance
- Andrew Noble
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- Jason Noska
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Barth, Daniel & Hokan, Raine*
Bastien, Becky & Schlough, Mike*

“**I WAS BLOWN AWAY
BY THIS PRODUCTION.
IT TRULY RIVALLED
ANYTHING I HAVE
SEEN ON BROADWAY.**”

Bauerly, Helga & Rick*
BCI Construction
Bechtold, Patricia

Beckius, Jacob
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Bell, Julie
Bellmont, Bob & Karen*
Benschoter, Bonita & John*
Bensen, Jan
Benson, Joanne & Robert
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Berg, James & Kruger, Mary*
Berg, Lisa*
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Jordahl, Clint*
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Bjorklund, Byron,
PegAnne & Megan
Blaha, Madi
Blake, Amara & Miles*
Blattner Company
Bleam, Jeffrey & DeBlieck,
David*
Blenkush, Micki &
Michaels, Dan*
Blesener, Rose &
Daly, William*
Boatz, Margaret & Robert*
Bobeldyk, Karen*

A highlight of every season! Our Youth Artist Project pairs high school students with professional theatre artists & educators for hands-on, real-world experiences. Together, they bring a short musical to life with an all-youth cast to introduce our youngest audiences to the magic of theatre. Whether or not they pursue careers in the arts, students attain skills in teamwork, leadership & collaboration that benefit them wherever they go.

Bohn-Gettler, Chris & Kate*
Bologna, Bonnie & Steve*
Bolton, Aaron & Nicole*
Bonfield, Kimberly
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Branam Macauley, Kelly*
Bregier, Anna
Brewster, Mary Jane & Roger
Brinkman, Deb
Britz, Bea*
Broker, Julie & Mike*
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Brossoit, Maggie &
Berg, Gary
Brownstein, Lisa &
Rand, Jonathon
Bruender, Katie & Nathan*
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James E. Bruner*
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Burggraff, Carrie & Don*
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Carlson, Peggy &
Nielsen, Chuck*
Carpenter, Elizabeth &
Michael

Cash, Brian & Karen
Catalinas Michoacana
- Luis Hernandez
CentraCare
Central Minnesota Arts Board*
Central Minnesota Community
Foundation*
Chediak, Trez
Childs, Mark & Amy*
Christensen, Katie & Mike

“**I HAVE LEARNED THERE IS SO
MUCH MORE WORK THAT GOES
ON BEHIND THE SCENES THAN
YOU WOULD THINK.**”

Cicharz, Pat & Rick*
Clark, Bennie, Desirée, Elijah & Isaiah
Clark, Doug & Tarryl*
Clary, Tammy
Coaching Brilliance LLC
Como, Paulette & Tom*
Cook, Allen & Malecha, Hannah

Court, Sheila & Tim
Cragle, M.D., Beth &
Stephen P.*
Creative Planning
Cross, Adyson, Harper &
Maizie
Dando, Lucas
Daubanton, Mary
Davis, Mary A.*
Dearing, Amy & Eric*
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DeLong, Jeanette & Leonard
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Minnesota Community
Foundation*
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of Dinndorf, Joyce, Linda
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Don Helgeson* & Sue
Shepard Fund of
the Central Minnesota
Community Foundation*
Dorothy C. Becker Fund
of the Central Minnesota
Community Foundation*



**INTO
THE WOODS**

**WINNIE
THE POOH KIDS**



WAITRESS

THE WIZARD OF OZ

Dorrie & Scott Larison Fund
of the Central Minnesota
Community Foundation *
Dorsher, Joanne & Paul *
Dorsher, Steven *
Droll, Becky & Brock *
Duclos, Judy *
Durken, Deb & Kevin
Dwyer, Seal *
Edeburn Family
Edward Joxnes Advisors:
Matt Boenish, Curtis
Brown, Tommy Carney,
Jamie Christensen, Beau
Hanowski, Brian Lutzke,
Troy Molitor, Jaclyn
Gwost, Marty Radi, Adam
Schlichting, Joe Tetrault &
Randy Zeilenga
Egeland, Deb *
Eilers, Mary *
Eisenwinter, Becky & Mark *
Elg, Marsha & Ronald *
Elise, Tiffany
Ellis, John & Sara *
Ensign, Melissa & Zach
Euteneuer, Jennifer, Chris, &
Kaylee *
Executive Express
- Logeman Family *°

Fabian, Sandra & Tom
Fark, Dan & Jane *°
Feigh, Alison & Leona *
Fenlason, Karen & Tom *
Finlayson, Karen & Loren *

“HOW EXCITING THAT GREAT
WAS INVITED TO BRING THIS
HEARTWARMING STORY TO
OUR COMMUNITY! A GREAT
HONOR, INDEED!”

Finlayson, Max *
Fischer, Susan & Stephen *
Fisher, Loretta & Family
Fitzharris, Pat
Fleming, Ann
Flinck, Theresa & Engholm, Joel *°
Fogal, John & Sue
Foster, Kimberly & Nicholas *°
Fowler, Denise
Frank, Christine *

Freudenrich, Layne &
Oothoudt, Renae *
Frie, Collin
Friedrich, Suzanne &
Kuehl, Eric *
Froehling, Marcia & Sandra *
Gallagher, Michael &
Mancini, Kateri *
Gammell, Ginny & John *
Gannett Giving
Garding, Mary & Richard
Gartland, Bob & Patti *
Gartner, Julie & Mark *
GC - GREAT Theatre Fund
of Central Minnesota
Community Foundation
George, Sandra
Giese, Teresa & Anton *
Gilder, Lynnae *
Gilleland Chevrolet
Gillmore, Allison & Gunnar
Ginny and Jim Bisek
Designated Family Fund
of Central Minnesota
Community Foundation *
Glanz-Gambrino, Lori *
Glenn, Sondra
Gnarly Bard Theater -
- Bubba Hollenhorst
Goenner, Mary *

Gouker, David & Roberta
Grachek, Art & Barb *
Granite Partners Foundation
of Minnesota, Inc.
Gratitude Counseling
Gray, Keira
Great River Children's
Museum
Greve, Karen
Groetsch, Anne, Rick, &
Paige *
Groseth, Brent & Marjorie
Gross, Richard
Gruber, Rachel - Dale Gruber
Construction
Gully, Christopher & Kelly
Gustafson Berreau, Linda *
Hageman, Diane &
Stemper, John *
Halliday, Christie, Jim, &
Presley
Hammer, Elliott
Hammer, Kathi *°
Hammer, Tierney
Hance, Lisa
Hansen, Angela & Eric
Hansen, Judy & Norm
Hanson, Brad & Lisa *
Hanson, Mona

Harmon, Katharine &
Sherman, Matthew
Harris, Angie
Haugen, Keith & Susan *
Heen, Dena & Mike

“WHAT A HUGE ASSET TO
CENTRAL MINNESOTA! A PLACE
WHERE YOUNG AND OLD ACTORS
CAN LIVE OUT THEIR DREAMS
AND WHERE THE AUDIENCE CAN
JOIN THEM!”

Helgeson, Karel & Michael *
Hemker Park & Zoo
Hemmesch, Eileen
Hennigs, Dee
Hershberger, Anne
Hinnenkamp, Ruth *
Hoehn, Ann *
Hoelscher, Brad & Megan *
Hoffman, Irene *

Holien, Chad & Kelsi *
Hollenhorst, Jane Ann &
Mark *
Holmen, Kenneth & Linda
Holweger, Kimberley *
Hotz, Geri & John *
Hovis, Heidi & Morris, Dan
Howard, Laura *
Hunter, Amy &
Leinen, James *
Hurrle, Mitchell *
Husen, Damien & Kristy
iDigital
Imholte, Peg & Frank
In Memory of Daniel J.
Cicharz
In Memory of Kyle
Weisbrich
In Memory of Lucy Lesko
In Memory of Ross Harris *
In Memory of Sonja Ziturf
Ippin Ramen
Ivers, Gail *
J.A. Wedum Foundation
Jacobson - Ree Family *
Jacobson, Amber & Sean *

The first in the state! Thanks to an early offer to apply for a license to produce *Waitress*, GREAT was the first of four Minnesota theatres to produce this show last season! The success of past productions, thanks to community support of GREAT shows at the Paramount, was a key role in us receiving this offer & we are grateful.

A stage full of possibility! To give more youth the chance to shine, we double cast the munchkins. Reflecting on their role, one wise munchkin shared, “In *The Wizard of Oz*, Glinda says to Dorothy, ‘You’ve always had the power my dear, you just had to learn it for yourself.’ GREAT helped me see my power and showed me that I’m important.”

The surprise hit of the season! This show wasn't a top pick in our season planning survey, but we believed in its message & our community reacted with unexpected enthusiasm. Featuring the hits of Elvis, this show marked our first weekday matinee for adults. Busloads of seniors filled the Paramount on a Thursday afternoon, celebrating nostalgia of 50s rock 'n' roll while connecting with a fresh story of love, freedom & individuality.

Double the cast, double the charm! With only six roles & no ensemble parts for understudies, we chose to double cast *Steel Magnolias*. This gave 12 women the chance to step into Truvy's Beauty Salon & offered flexibility for cast members to step away from a performance & take care of themselves while still delivering a high-quality performance every night.

Janet & Tim Wensman
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of Central Minnesota
Community Foundation
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Minnesota Community
Foundation *
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Jennissen, Kevin, Kayla,
Eleanor & Stephen
Jensen, Patricia L. *
Johannes, Andrew *
John and Kathryn
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of Central Minnesota
Community Foundation *
Johnson, Barbara
Johnson, Betty *
Johnson, Bob & Judy *
Johnson, Curtis & Lori

Johnson, Diane *
Johnson, Murdoch & Tuff, Dianne *
Johnson, Tim °
Jones, Judi *
Jones, Karen
Joudieth, Daniel
Joul Family Fund of Central
Minnesota Community
Foundation *
Juilfs, Cathy & Darren *
Kaatz Walquist, Amy *
Kampa, Nancy *

Kiminski, Matt
Kinder Coffee Lab
King, Buddy & Keshia
Kittok, Gerry *
Kivel, Amanda *
Klein, Karen & Rick *
Klinefelter, Angie & Jason
Kloos, Gary & Lori
Knutson, Sharon *
Koepl, Amber & Jeff
Koepp, Duane & Kim
Korppi Coffee + Bakeshop -
- Kayla Adams & Laura
Wolfram
Krebs, Judy
Kremer, Diann & Thomas
Kremer, Liz *
Krillan *
Kroll, Gerard & Taffy *
Krueger, Karla & Paul
Kruse, Karen
Kudrna, Chris, Joanne &
Family *
Kuha, Marisa
Kuhlman, Brad & Ruth
Kurtz, Janell & Morris *
Kutz, Heidi
Lacroix-Shutter, Nancy
Lacroix, Bill & Phyllis *
Landman, Jane & Kirk *

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Community Foundation
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Legg, Allison, Jon & Penny *
Leigh, Debra
Lenarz, Denise & Tom *
Lesnau, Brenda & Jesse *
Lewison, Gwen
Lieser, Alvina & Isidore *
Lieser, Judy *
Linn, Jasmyn
Lombardi, Joan *
Lopez, Carlos & Clara *
Lord, Hanna
Loy, Leanne
Lyons, Nicole
Macaulay, Kelly
Mahowald, Bob & Marissa
McClelland, Bruce & Nystrom,
Betty *
Mancini, Jordan & Stacy,

Marco
Marks Family *
Marston Ruhlman Family *
Martin, Ben
Marty, Lucinda *
Maryanne & John Mahowald
Family Fund of Central
Minnesota Community
Foundation *
Mason Vojtasek
Mastroianna, Jane
Mazacek, Joan *

McCourt, Nancy
McDonnell, Toni
McKeever, Darren & Sara
Mechelke, Kate & Mark **
Meers, Sue *
Melby, David & Gloria *
Melis, Rachel & Galler,
Robert *
Meyer, Cherrie & Dan *
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with Bing
Middendorf, Tammy
Miles Psychological
Services, LLC **
Miller, David
Miller, Isaac
Mills, Corey
Minnesota State Arts Board *
Miron, Aimee & Joel *
Moeller, Angela
Moeller, Diane & Ralph *
Morgan Family Foundation
Morgan, Lee & Vicki *
Mosack, Nancy & Stan *
Mrozek, Faye & Gary *
Muehlbauer, Roxanne *
Mueller, Nadine & Gary *
Muff, Ann & Murray
Mulder, Andy & Leslie *
Mund, Merry C. *
Murray, Pauline *

“THIS SHOW HAS A
BEAUTIFUL STORY & WAS
TOLD IN A VERY
CREATIVE & FUN WAY.”

Kelash, Lisa
Kelley, Melissa & Mike
Kensington Bank *
Kieser, Don & Mary Anne *
Kiffmeyer, Clarence & Judy *
Kimball, Tambi

“ONE OF THE MOST BEAUTIFUL
SHOWS I'VE SEEN IN A LONG TIME.
IT WAS TRULY AMAZING WHAT SUCH
A SMALL CAST COULD ACCOMPLISH.
I LAUGHED WITH THEM. I CRIED
WITH THEM. PURE MAGIC.”

McAnally, Dan & Michele *
McCarl, Deb & Skurdahl, Marilyn *
McClelland, Lynn & Mike *
McClintock, Tamara *
McClure, David & Diane *





Nastrom, Darlene & Greg
Nelson Roenfeldt, Kristen &
Steven
Nelson, Josh & Michele
Nelson, Margaret & Justin
Nelson, Pat *
Nessa, Jill *
Neu, Don & Kelly
Nielson, Janice
Nieves, Traci
Nikodym, Jessica & Matthew
Nohner, Steven *
Nohner, Theresa
Nord, Beth & Peter
Norton Dando, Kendra &
Michael *
Norton, David & LB *
Novak, Bryan & Cassie
Novak, Melissa
Noyes, Jonathon,
Mardi & Alexa *
Nunke, Jim & Mary *
Nutrien, Inc.
O'Driscoll, Audrey & Kevin
Odgers, Jane
Oechsle, Chantal
Ohlenkamp, Mark &
Melinda *
Oker, Larry
Olde Brick House

Olson, Jo Ann *
Osendorf, Gail & Phil
Ostendorf, Julie
Oswell, Larry G. & Sandy *
Overman, Trista
Oxton, Jane & John *
Paasch, Steve & Susan

“
ONLY ONE WAY TO
DESCRIBE GREAT:
SUPERCALIFRAGILIS-
TICEXPIALIDOCIOUS!!”

Pace, William
Palmer, Deb & Steve *
PAM'S Auto Inc. *
Pantzke, Kathleen *
Paramount Center for the Arts
Parries Family
Parsons, Sarah & Josh

Pat Welter and Patrick
Henry Advised Fund
of Central Minnesota
Community Foundation *
Patrick & Jane Mitchell
Family Fund of the
Initiative Foundation *
Pattit, Katherina
Patton, Alice
Paul, Robyn & Steve
PCI
Peterka, Pamela
Petersen, LaWayne & Pam *
Peterson, Ardith *
Petitto, Sarah
Petroski, Jodi
Pettit, Jenna
Phillips, Virginia
Pieper-Olson, Heather &
Pieper, Todd
Piepkorn, Cindy
Pinpoint Acupuncture
- John Miley,
D.Ac., L.Ac.
Pitzen, Sally
Place, Elaine *
Planchon, Lynn
Pogatschnik, Susan *
Potter, Bob
Potter, Lori *

Pounds, Sam
Preferred Credit, Inc.
Prochnow, Bob & Joanne *
Proell, Mary *
Proviant - Barclay & Janet
Carrier*
Quade, Deanna & John
Quiggle, Gretchen & Scott
Radeke, Katie & Paul *
Rajala, Nikki
Ramler, Ken & Nancy *
Rasmussen, Chris
Reagan, Janet & Michael *
Reck, Jerry & Jane *
Reding, Peggy
Regan, Bruce &
Peterson, Vera
Reid, Carol & Sherwood *
Reisinger, Elizabeth & Eric *
Rennecke, Andy
Rethmeier, Dan & Mary *
Reuter, Bernice & Nicholas *
Reuter, Nathan & Valerie
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Ries, Teresa &
Takala, Ted *
Riesner, Ann, Shawn &
Bryce *
Ritter, Debra *

Riverside Dental
Robatcek, Debra
Roquette, Jan
Rosenberger, Michelle
Ross, Roseanna Gaye *
Rotto, Judy & Luther *
Rowley, Farrah & Shaun

“
I LOVE SMALL CASTS LIKE THIS
WITH RANGING AGES AND
BACKGROUNDS. IT WAS SUPER
INTIMATE AND SPECIAL.
PROBABLY ONE OF MY FAVORITE
SHOWS I'VE BEEN A PART OF.”

Rubink, Luca
Ruis Consulting Group
- Ruis, Jon & Joy
Running, Cheryl *
Ruth, Andy & Janet
Satterberg, Bonnie & homas
Sauer, Nicole & Nicholas
Schad, Alex & Katie

Schaefer, Victoria *
Scharf, Lisa & Ted *
Schelske, Patsy R. *
Scheuerell, Bob & Judy *
Schindele, Paulzine, Dana
& Paulzine, Lee *
Schindler, Jason &
Sarah *
Schirmers, James & Lacey *
Schirmers, Pamela & Steve
Schlenner Wenner
& Co., CPA's
Schlueter, Jill *
Schmid, Judith
Schnobrich, Abby
Schoenfelder, Jackie & Ron *
Schoepf, Jenny
Schroden, Jerome & Carol *
Schultz, Mindi & Ryan
Schumacher, Greg & Stacy *
Seaton, Barbara
Segura Schwartz, Mónica &
Troy *
Sells, Bobbi
Sells, Jake *
Senkler, Rhoda & William
Shaughnessy, Shannon &
Kosel, Dave *

All in on all the wow factors! *Mary Poppins* pulled out all the stops with flying effects, magical moments, and full-cast dance numbers. From Mary's graceful flight across the stage to Bert tap dancing upside down, every element brought the magic of this beloved story to life, delighting audiences of all ages.

A myth for our time! In this retelling of the Greek myth of Orpheus & Eurydice, playwright Sarah Ruhl focused on Eurydice & her emotional journey. With poetic language, abstract imagery, & surreal beauty, the story gave actors a unique opportunity to stretch their artistry & connect with audiences in powerful, personal ways.

A stage for every fifth grader!

By removing cost and transportation barriers, all 632 fifth graders in ISD742 participated in a musical-in-a-week as part of their schoolday education, performing for their schoolmates, friends, and family. Your support sparked confidence and collaboration, fostered a sense of community, strengthened connections with families, and opened educators' eyes to new possibilities for their students.

SCHOOL RESIDENCIES



“ I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU DID, BUT THIS STUDENT WHO NEVER ENGAGES IN CLASS WAS HERE EVERY DAY, MEMORIZING LINES & TAKING CHARGE BACKSTAGE.”

Shaw, Sarah
Shobe, Joel & Susan *
Sidmore, Andrea & Frederick
Sinclair, Jan & Ken *
Sing, Deborah & Steven
Smith, Jeanne & Steve
Social Indoor
Solheid, Lacey
Solheim, Dave & Jean *
Soltis, Patty
Sommerfeld, Allen &
Wojtanowicz, Max

Sorell, Jan *
Spah, Adam & Brittany
Spanier, Maureen *
St. Cloud Area Sertoma Club
St. Cloud Optimist Club
St. Cloud Reading Room Society
St. Cloud Rox Baseball -
Scott Schreiner
Stainbrook, Renotta & Scott
Stanichar, Joseph
Stark, Al
Stavrum, Dick & Perian *

Stegman, Brian & Tanya
Steil, Nina & Mike
Steiner, Lee
Stenger, Chuck *
Stephens, Charlotte *
Steve & Peggy Laraway
Family Fund of Central
Minnesota Community
Foundation*
Stevens, Craig & Jennifer
Stockinger, Monica
Stoeckel, Julie & Micah *
Stoermann, Joanne *
Storkamp, Mary *
Striker, DeAnn

Stupar, Karen & Pete *
Sturlaugson, Nancy & Phil *
Suddard-Bangsund, Wendy
Sueker, Beth *
Svensson, Meg & Mike
Svoboda, Isiah
Swan, Laurie
Swanson, Kimberly
Sweeter, Nikki & Jake
Symanietz, Steve & Sue
Tagney, Burke
Tennessee, Linda G. *
The Athman-Wagner Family
The Dorsher-Guercinci
Family *

The Lord's Bountiful Blessings -
David & Karen Blattner
The Nate and Michele
Danielson Donor
Advised Fund
The Veranda Lounge -
- Ray Herrington
Theis, Jennifer
Thell, Joleen *
Thielen, Dan & Diane *
Thielman, Jane & Marilyn
Thomas & Joyce Schlough
Fund of Central
Minnesota Community
Foundation *

Thompson, Jeff & Molly *
Thronaum, Maggie
Tibben, Kristen
Tilstra, Dave & Janet *
Toepfer at Law
- Tony Toepfer
Tomprowski, Mary Alice *
Torrey Family Fund
of Central Minnesota
Community Foundation
Towner, Annette & William
Trettel, Dan & Lisa

“ I HAVE HEARD NOTHING BUT GREAT THINGS ABOUT YOUR STAFF AND THE STUDENTS' EXPERIENCES WITH THEM! THANK YOU FOR PARTNERING WITH US!! I APPRECIATE EVERYTHING YOU AND YOUR TEAM HAS DONE FOR THE STUDENTS HERE AT TALAH!!”



Igniting creativity in everyday spaces!

In partnership with youth-serving organizations, Drama Workshops meet kids where they are—integrated into after-school and summer care programs. By returning to the same sites multiple times each year, we deepen skills and relationships over time. Thanks to your support, more than 500 youth experienced the joy and growth of theatre, all at no cost to their families or community partners.



DRAMA WORKSHOPS

Tri-County Humane Society
Trombley, Amy *
Trombley, Matt °
Trompeter, Aaron
Turnow, Caryl *
Unger, James
Unger, Jennifer
Vadnie, Michael &
Kilkelly, MJ
Van Beck, Diane & Joe *
Vance, Lori

Vander Weyst, Stacey &
Christopher
Vejtruba, David & Marcia
Vermillion, Dr. Hillary &
Terry *
Vetter, Brian & Megan *
Vick, Carol *
Visit Greater St. Cloud
Visser, Diane
Voelz Family *
Voigt, Karla, Larry & Family *
Voit, Michelle
Von Korff, Connie & Jerry &
Rinke Noonan Law Firm *
Vos, Mary *

Vosen, Judy & Thomas *
Voss, Hannah
Wagner, Alicia
Wagner, Gordon *
Walker, Jason
Wallin, Maggie
Watkin, Dove & Tracey *
Weatherz, Tia & Brandon *
Weber Family Fund
of Central Minnesota
Community Foundation
Weiler, Heidi & Dave
Welch, Summer
Welle, Andy & Nicole *
Wells, Christy



**Confidence!
Confidence!
Confidence!**

It's what we hear time and time again from parents as the biggest takeaway from camp. Your support keeps GREAT Theatre camp accessible and life-changing for over 850 youth ages 4-18! Thanks to you, we provided \$40,370 in financial aid through our pick-your-price registration to help 213 students attend theatre camp this summer!



SUMMER CAMPS

**“ I WAS ABSOLUTELY
IN AWE OF HOW
HIGH-QUALITY THE FINAL PERFORMANCE
WAS, THAT THERE WAS NO COST FOR US
TO ATTEND IT, AND THAT THEY WERE ABLE
TO PULL THAT OFF IN JUST ONE WEEK!”**

STUDENT MATINEES



**The theatre vibrates
with energy!**
Over 6,000 students attended a weekday performance with their school, many seeing live theatre for the first time. Your support keeps these experiences accessible, with tickets just \$8 (90% below actual cost) and many schools with limited budgets using our pick-your-price option for even greater savings.



**“ THE KIDS HAD AN
AMAZING TIME.
THEY WERE POINTING OUT SO MANY
THINGS WE LEARNED IN ENGLISH
LANGUAGE ARTS, AND EVEN IN MATH.
THEY KEEP ASKING WHEN THE NEXT ONE IS.”**



Wemlinger, Cathie
Wendt, Barbara
Westby, Eloise & Jerry
Weyer, Scott & Valerie
Wheeler, Adam & Kristie
White Schad, Adam & Katie
Wigham, Chad & Wendy
Williams, Sandra Q. *
Willis, Bob & Carrie
Wilmesmeier, Barbara &
James *
Windfeldt, Beth & Greg
Wirth Center for the

Performing Arts
Witte-Nyberg, Annette & Brandon
Witte, Debbie *
Wojtanowicz Family Fund
of Central Minnesota
Community Foundation
Wojtanowicz, Diane
Woods, Brian & Melissa
Worm, Kaysie
Xcel Energy
Zabinski, Nancy & Robert
Zaid, Samanxtha
Zeleny, Katey & Pete *

Zetah, Jody *
Zoeller, Diane & David *

* Supporter for 3+ years
° Monthly Sustainer

**Thank you for supporting
GREAT Theatre!**

24/25 VOLUNTEERS

20,115 HOURS THANK YOU!

Micah Alm
Jonah Alm
Kyle Anderson
Ollie Anderson
Scarlett Anderson
Cassidy Arndt
Marianne Arnzen
Angela Aronson
Hope Aronson
Tsisia Ashley
Traci Athman
Reese Balaski
Kalli Balken
Jordon Barker
Daniel Barth
Isabel Becker
Lori Becker
Jacob Beckius
Julie Bell
Nicholas Benner
Pamela Benson-Moberg
Matthew Benton
Sara Biru
Jeffrey Bleam
Oleg Blinnikov
Sophia Bohn-Gettler
Kathy Bokovoy
Bonnie Bologna
Steve Bologna
Zack Boos
Rebecca Botz
Della Bowden
Terri Boysen
Kelly Branam Macauley
Alissa Brickman
Erica Brookshire
Riley Brookshire
Anthony Brown
Brenda Brown
Lisa Brownstein
Katie Bruender
Ann Brummer
Travis Bunkers
Zach Burnham
Catharine Bushman
Zadie Bushman
Katie Campbell
Kelsey Christensen
Rick Cicharz
Amelia Clark
Desiree Clark

**“ I HAD THE MOST
AMAZING
EXPERIENCE IN THIS SHOW,
FROM THE BEGINNING TO THE
END. I FELT VALUED, SEEN,
RESPECTED.”**

Kylee Crews
Gabe Dando
Tiffany Daniels
Jorge Delgado
Elaine DeWenter
Steve Dinndorf
Karen Dinndorf
Sereen Dodin
Margo Drown
Carla Durand
John Ellis
Drew Elo
Kate Fergen
Larisa Filippova
Alida Fischer
Molly Fischer
Naima Fisher
Jessica Fisher
Kimberly Foster
Becky Frank
Katie Frank
Madds Franzmeier
Marty Franzmeier
Liz Frerich
Rob Galler
Elsa Galler
Deb Galvez
Patti Gartland
Lynnae Gilder
Ayden Giswold
Lori Glanz-Gambrino
Keira Gray
Marijke Groat
Jeremiah Guerrero
Georgia Hallman
Elliott Hammer
Tierney Hammer
Sienna Hannay
Celena Hansen
Sabrina Hanson-Reiter
Story Haws
Shantel Hendrickson
Charlotte Hendrickson
Tom Hergert
Ryan Heydman
Ann Hiltner
Jae Hoeschen
Maddison Hofer
Chari Hoffman
Kaylyn Hogenson
Mae Hogenson
Raine Hokan
Alex Holen
Chad Holien
John Hollermann
Molly Hommerding
Mitchell Hurrle
Janna Idzerda
Renae Imholte
Maren Inkster
Brianna Inkster
Amber Jacobson
Grace Jacobson
Claudia Janku

**“ I HAVE GAINED WAY
MORE THAN I COULD
HAVE ASKED FOR FROM
THIS EXPERIENCE. IT GAVE
ME THE CHANCE TO PROVE
TO MYSELF THAT I CAN DO
ANYTHING I PUT MY MIND
AND EFFORT INTO.”**

Wayne Janku
Mary Jensen
Cassie Johnson
Roman Jordan
Sarah Justin
Michael Kalpakoff
Kathy Kampa
Kirstin Kehrer
Taten Keller
Eleanor Kiel
Brendan Kiel
Matt Kiminski
Buddy King
Mackenzie King
Nathan Kleppe
Anna Knutlund
Milena Kolbe
Kate Kompas
Liz Kothman
Chris Kudrna
Joanne Kudrna
Therese Lafrentz
Aida Langston dos Santos
Holly Lathe
Allison Legg
Jon Legg
Jimm Legg
Karen Legg
Penny Legg
Debra Leigh
Shawn Leslie
Alvina Lieser
Sophie Linn
Eloise Lloyd
Jan Lochner
Theo Longard
Elaina Longard
Michelle Lortz
Neak Loucks
Matthew Luczak
Marie (MJ) Macauley
Annette Majerus
Max Marek
Dylan Mart
Sara Mart
Leah Martin
Molly McAlister
Marie (Annette) McConnell

Jim McConnell
Henry Meinert
Rachel Melis
Aaron Miller
Diane Miller
Isaac Miller
Jasper Miller
Matthew Miller
Joel Miron
Darrell Mitzel
Cindy Mitzel
Connor Montoya
Xander Moon
Lainey Moon
Sheri Moran
Del Morrison
Roxanne Muehlbauer
Lisa Mullen
Tami Naslund
Amanda Niemeyer
Beth Nord
Colin Nord
Peter Nord
Bennett Nordstrom
Hadlee Nordstrom
Sabrina Nordstrom
Jonathan Noyes
Mary Nystrom
Chad O'Brien
Jane Elizabeth Odgers
Sherry Olson
Dave Olson
Eli Olson
Mary Cheryl Opatz
Victoria Pangerl
Michelle Paripovich
James Person
Melissa Peterson
Nelia Peterson
Rebekah Phifer
Katie Phifer
Mary Phillips
Sally Pitzen
Jackie Popp
Jennifer Potter-Vig
Janet Reagan
Anita Reber
Luke Reber

**“ YOU CAN TELL
THAT THEY
REALLY CARE ABOUT THEIR
VOLUNTEERS THROUGH
ALL OF THE WORK THAT
THEY PUT IN TO MAKE
SURE THEY HAVE A GREAT
EXPERIENCE.”**

Mark Reber
James Reichow
Toby Reid-Newton
Abby Reiter
Hannah Reiter
Jessica Reiter
Kennedy Riffe
Noelle Ritzema
Kathy Robinson
Nicole Roehrl
Ally Roehrl
Joni Rone
Lee Rone
Roseanna Ross
Luca Rubink
Nick Rysavy
Abdulaziz Said
Martha Sanguma
Megan Sarazin
Shantelia Sauer-Dunn
Katie Schad
Hunter Scherbing
Jessica Scherer
Pamela Schirmers
Steve Schirmers
Alex Schleper
Susan Schleper
Renae Schneider
Abigail Schnobrich
Jenny Schoepf
Levi Schoepf
Erica Scott
Ross Seamans
Mandi Seamans
Ellori Seamans
Kyle Seamans
Cami Sells
Bobbi Sells
Jake Sells
Hadleigh Sells-Kezar
Madelyn Shimek
Kelsey Short
DeDe Simon
Rebecca Simpson
Lily Sinko
Allison Skinner
Lauren Smith
Timothy Snook
Patricia Soltis
Elizabeth St. Hilaire
Jason Stafford
Bailey Stalmer
Kristin Stang
Lissa Staples
Rhonda Stay
Elijah Stay
Meaghan Steege
Sarah Steinfeldt
Grace Steinhofner
Hailey Stobb
Brie Stole
Mara St Pierre
Leeda Strynar
Carol Stuckmayer

Beth Sueker
Isiah Svoboda
Laurie Swan
Grace Swanson
Audrey Taatjes
Burke Tagney
Alyssa Tasto
Linda G. Tenneson
Cole Thomes
Megan Timm
Bethany Tollefson
Lukas Tollefson
Paul Tollefson
Matt Trombley
Khalil Uvero
Gabriel Van Heel
Nora Vedder
Valerie Vedder
Timothy Vedder

**“ I HAVE MADE SOME
VERY DEAR FRIENDS
THROUGH THIS SHOW & I AM
QUITE THANKFUL. THEATRE
TRULY IS AN ART THAT
BRINGS TOGETHER AND
BONDS COMMUNITIES.”**

Hillary Vermillion
Max Vetter
Charles Vilina
Erin Volker
Judy Vosen
Kendra Vossen
Betty Vossen
Theresa Vossen
Elaina Waggoner
Nicole Waggoner
Belle Waggoner
Cooper Wagner
Kelly Waid
Margaret Wallin
Nihel Walz
Nhiam Walz
Maria Warhol
Monique Waters
Tia Weatherz
Summer Welch
Kari Wendroth
Ellie Wigham
Grayson Willman
Barb Wilmesmeier
Josiah Wright
Derik Wright
Delilah Wright
Audrey Zeiszler

24/25 SPONSORS



IN-KIND CONTRIBUTORS



GRANT SUPPORT



This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through grants from the Minnesota State Arts Board and the Central MN Arts Board, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

“THERE IS IMMEASURABLE VALUE TO THE COMMUNITY IN HAVING A THEATRE LIKE GREAT - WHETHER YOU ARE AN ACTOR, VOLUNTEER, OR AUDIENCE MEMBER. OUR COMMUNITY IS RICHER FOR HAVING THESE OPPORTUNITIES!”

Gifts of all sizes collectively make a big impact.

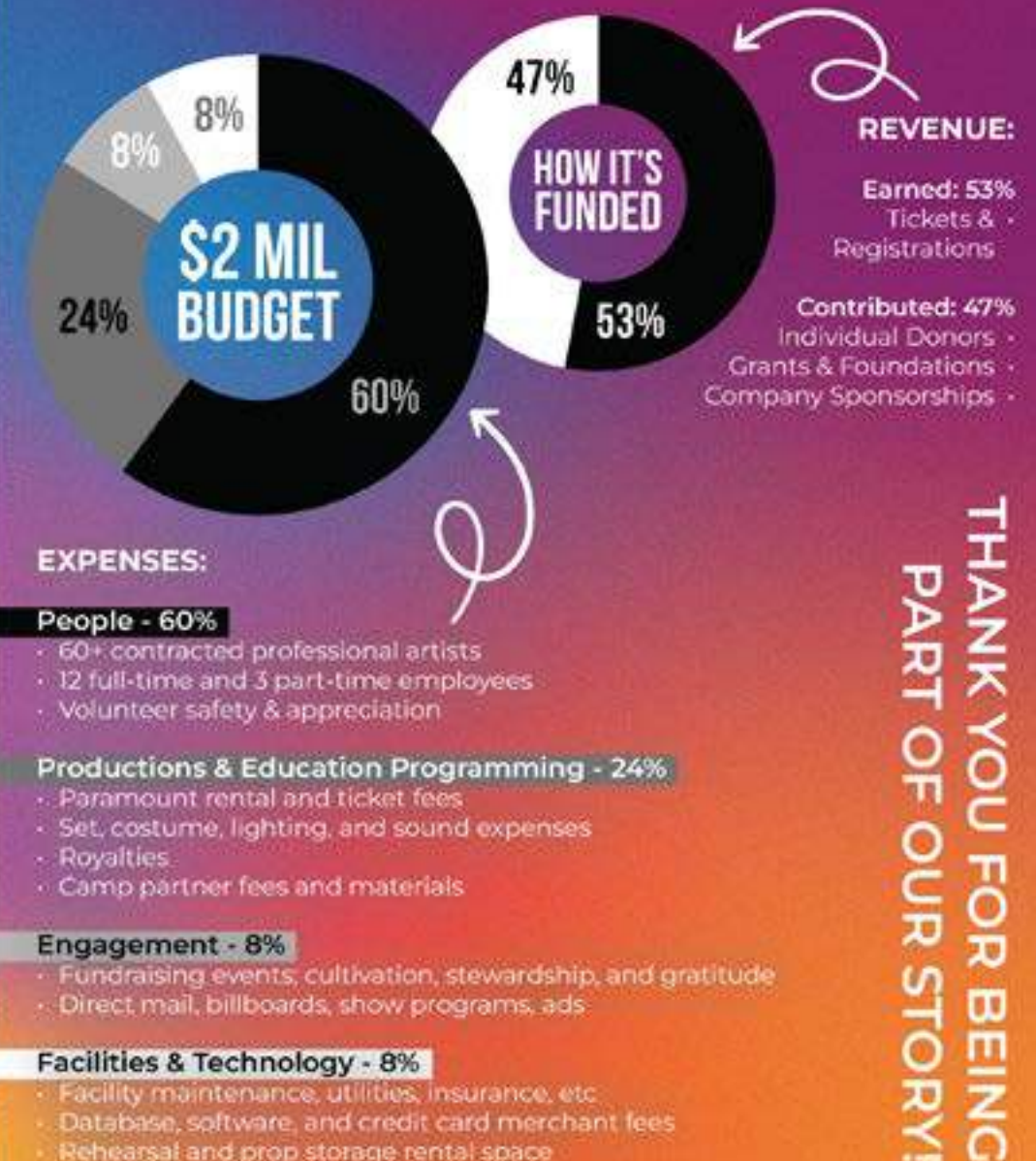
GREAT is thankful for the generosity of our donors, sponsors, and grantors whose annual support bridges the gap between ticket sales and the true cost of producing high quality shows, camps, and education outreach programming to ensure everyone in Central Minnesota has access to the transformative power of the arts.

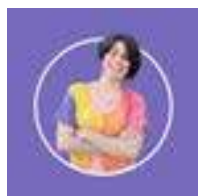


FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

What it takes create year-round theatre experiences for nearly 50k people:

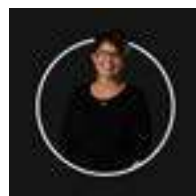
With a budget of just over \$2M, our largest investment is in people. We are a people first business - both in *why* and *how* we do what we do.





RISA ALECCI
COSTUME DESIGNER &
PRODUCTION SUPPORT

GREAT TEAM



BONNIE BOLOGNA
RESIDENT VOLUNTEER
PROP DESIGNER



BREANA BURGRAFF
FINANCE & ADMIN
MANAGER



LILLYANA CHOUINARD
GRAPHIC DESIGNER &
MARKETING COORDINATOR



MARK HENNIGS
TECHNICAL DIRECTOR



EMILY JOHNSON
EDUCATION MANAGER



JESSICA MANCINI
COSTUME DESIGNER
& SHOP MANAGER



BEN MARTIN
ASSISTANT TECHNICAL
DIRECTOR



KENDRA NORTON-DANDO
ARTISTIC &
EDUCATION DIRECTOR



ANITA REBER
HOUSE MANAGER



STEVEN SANDERS
SOUND ENGINEER



LACEY SCHIRMERS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



ANTHONY SCHROCK
CARPENTER



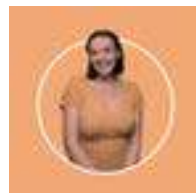
JAKE SELLS
COMMUNICATIONS &
EXPERIENCE COORDINATOR



DANA SVENSSON
COSTUME DESIGNER
& SHOP LEAD



HILLARY VERMILLION
PIT CONDUCTOR



GRACE WRIGHT
COMPANY STAGE MANAGER
& PRODUCTION ASSOCIATE

PLUS 60+ CONTRACTED ARTISTS: DIRECTORS, CHOREOGRAPHERS, MUSIC DIRECTORS, DESIGNERS (SCENIC, SOUND, & LIGHTING), STAGE MANAGERS, MUSICIANS, & ASL INTERPRETERS

2025/26 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Mandy Rubink
Burke Tagney
Matthew Trombley (Vice President)
Michael Vadnie

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Kimberly Foster (Secretary) - 9 years!
Lori Glanz-Gambrino - 9 years!
Chad O'Brien (President) - 9 years!
Erica Ngoue - 2 years!

THANK YOU!

GREAT ★ THEATRE



A NOTE FROM ARTISTIC & EDUCATION DIRECTOR KENDRA NORTON DANDO

Of course we are excited about what's to come this season! Whether bringing a red-headed orphan back to our stage or adventuring out into the forests of Arendelle, the productions we have slated for this season are sure to spark joy, provoke thought, and inspire curiosity. We are thrilled to invite you back for another season of engaging storytelling!

While we are excited to welcome you to the theater in a matter of weeks, the creative process follows that iceberg metaphor: the final show that thousands of audience members see is just a little piece sticking out of the water and there's so much more under the surface. We are already weeks-deep in rehearsals for our first two shows of the season and creative work has been under way since May. From director concept and design meetings, to auditions and rehearsals, to scenic build and costume construction, professionals and volunteers are hard at work making theatre. And it's such an exciting place to be!

The exploration of different ideas, whether discussing sound design or acting choices or choreographed moves, is where the magic happens. Through play, creativity, and intentional collaboration we build connections and develop as artists and human beings.

Thank you for believing in the magic of theatre and for supporting its development! Your time, energy, passion, and financial contributions make arts accessible to our community. Thank you for being a part of our story and for bringing important stories to life both on and offstage.

LOOKING AHEAD...

ROCKIN' GREAT GALA

FEB 3, 2026

SPONSORED BY  BCI
CONSTRUCTION, INC.

SAVE THE DATE!
TUESDAY, FEB 3, 2026
@ THE REGENCY & PARAMOUNT

A FUNDRAISER BENEFITING GREAT'S EDUCATION
& OUTREACH PROGRAMMING FOR YOUTH.

Join us for a night of music, mission, and making a difference! We'll start at the Regency with hors d'oeuvres, upbeat vibes, and creative ways to give, then head to the Paramount for a one-night only *School of Rock*-inspired showcase that cranks up the volume on community, creativity, and impact. More than just a night out, this is a celebration of how GREAT Theatre brings people together, nurtures future leaders, and helps our community shine. Have fun, feel the power of live theatre, and help fuel GREAT's education and outreach for youth!

TICKETS & SPONSORSHIPS



GREAT THEATRE'S 25/26 SEASON

ELEPHANT & PIGGIE'S "WE ARE IN A PLAY!" JR
SEPT 19-28, 2025
HELGESON LEARNING LAB THEATRE

9 TO 5
OCT 17-NOV 2, 2025
PARAMOUNT CENTER FOR THE ARTS

ANNIE
NOV 21-DEC 7, 2025
PARAMOUNT CENTER FOR THE ARTS

SCHOOL OF ROCK THE MUSICAL
JAN 23-FEB 8, 2026
PARAMOUNT CENTER FOR THE ARTS

CABARET
FEB 19-MAR 8, 2026
HELGESON LEARNING LAB THEATRE

DISNEY'S FROZEN
APR 17-MAY 3, 2026
PARAMOUNT CENTER FOR THE ARTS

ANON(CYMOUS)
MAY 8-17, 2026
HELGESON LEARNING LAB THEATRE

TICKETS: GREATTHEATRE.ORG | 320.258.2787

OPEN FOR...

- ★ The impact of your support in our 24/25 season
- ★ Donor & Volunteer Acknowledgement
- ★ Messages of Gratitude & What's Ahead

For details on the 2025/26 season visit GREATTheatre.org

710 Sundial Drive
Waite Park, MN 56387

