



OUR STORY

North Coast Repertory Theatre has been a jewel in North County San Diego's theatre and arts community for over four decades. Known for its artistic excellence, it welcomes over 45,000 theatergoers of all ages each year to experience North Coast Rep's critically acclaimed performances and educational programming.

North Coast Rep emerged from humble beginnings, founded through the shared vision of Olive and Tom Blakistone. Olive's deep love for theatre, combined with Tom's savvy business sense, laid the foundation for what has become a cultural landmark in North County San Diego. Supported by a devoted group of volunteers, their collective determination breathed life into what would become North Coast Repertory Theatre.

Today, under the dynamic leadership of Artistic Director David Ellenstein and Managing Director Bill Kerlin, North Coast Rep has flourished into a premier performing arts institution. Earning widespread acclaim for its commitment to artistic excellence and consistently high-caliber productions, the theatre has cemented itself as one of the region's most respected cultural organizations.

North Coast Rep captivates audiences with its diverse, award-winning repertoire, producing seven meticulously crafted Mainstage productions each season and a collaborative Variety Night series. In its intimate 194-seat theatre, the company brings to life a rich tapestry of classic and contemporary works. Productions have included 8 commissioned new works, 22 world premieres, and an impressive tally of over 175 San Diego and West Coast premieres. In addition, the theatre serves hundreds of young people each year through the Theatre School @ North Coast Rep's education and outreach programs.

Our Mission

is to create a platform where artists and audiences thrive through the intimacy of live theatre, recognizing the power of theatre to challenge complacency, revitalize the imagination, nurture the unexpected, and embrace the variety and diversity in our lives.



NCRT Founders
Tom and Olive Blakistone

STATE OF THE THEATRE



It continues to amaze me that in the beautiful coastal town of Solana Beach sits a world-class cultural institution delivering excellent theatrical productions month after month and year after year. As North

Coast Repertory Theatre

enters its 43rd season, it is important to reflect on how far we have come and how extensively we have impacted the community.

San Diego is blessed to be a prominent “theatre town,” featuring La Jolla Playhouse and The Old Globe, with North Coast Rep having the third largest budget and patron base. North Coast Rep’s new season, commencing with Arthur Miller’s iconic play, *A View from the Bridge*, promises a fantastic assortment of drama, music, comedy, and variety nights.

Last season was our best yet in terms of total revenue (well over \$4 million from ticket sales, donations, and grants), even without counting an extraordinary gift from a patron’s estate. The box office sold around 42,000 tickets across more than 270 performances. Among the many Season 42 highlights were the timeless Lerner and Loewe musical, *Camelot*; the sophisticated Molière masterpiece, *Tartuffe*; the successful world premiere of *The Angel Next Door*; and the wildly popular holiday show, *2 Pianos 4 Hands*.

Notably, our footprint extends beyond the adult demographic. The Theatre School @ North Coast Rep is a community mainstay, enriching lives through education, enabling creative expression, and instilling cultural appreciation to the next generation. Theatre classes are offered during the school year to youths from 4-19 years old, and various theatre camps are offered during the summer months. Nearly 500 students participated last season, with 20% of them receiving full or partial scholarships.

As a professional, non-profit theatre, North Coast Rep is fortunate to be in an excellent financial position with a strong balance sheet, healthy ticket sales, and a loyal and generous donor base. Our outstanding employees are completely dedicated to providing a superlative customer experience, now and into the future. And with a growing reputation for artistic excellence, we are able to attract top-notch actors not only from San Diego but also from across the country.

Thank you so much to all our constituents for your essential support. We look forward to seeing you at the theatre!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marc Tayer". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Marc Tayer

President, Board of Directors

“Tom and Olive would be so proud and humbled by how far North Coast Rep has come. They birthed something that's a legacy and that's grown with wise leadership and the support of our community beyond their wildest expectations. Tom always said, 'our theatre is a cultural point of light.' Now it's a beacon.”

— Marilyn Tedesco, board member

SEASON
42

IN REVIEW



WORLD PREMIERE

The Angel Next Door

September 6 - October 8, 2023

By Paul Slade Smith, Directed by David Ellenstein
Lead Production Sponsors: the Lee and Frank Goldberg Family

“Theatre People!”

Tom Daugherty and Elinor Gunn

Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde

October 18 - November 19, 2023

From the novella *Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*
By Robert Louis Stevenson
Adapted by Jeffrey Hatcher
Directed by Shana Wride



Ciarra Stroud and Conner Marx

“I dreamt I was a man named Henry Jekyll....Thank God I woke in time to know I wasn’t him.”

Thank you to our Season 42 Sponsor - The Step Family Foundation

“A gentle touch is gold in any country.”



Intimate Apparel

January 10 - February 4, 2024

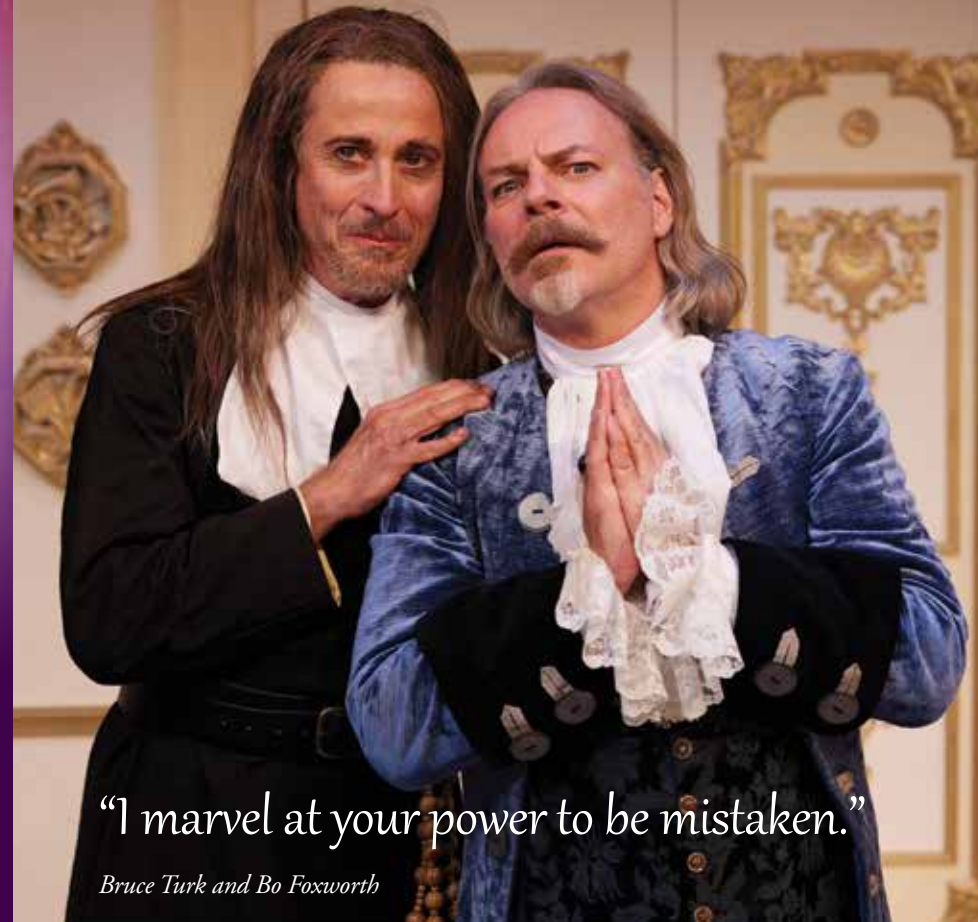
By Lynn Nottage, Directed by Jasmine Bracey
Lead Production Sponsors: Jeannie and Gerry Ranglas

Nedra Snipes and Madeleine Barker

Tartuffe

March 6 - April 7, 2024

By Molière, Translated into English verse by Richard Wilbur
Directed by Richard Baird
Lead Production Sponsor: Darlene Marcos Shiley



“I marvel at your power to be mistaken.”

Bruce Turk and Bo Foxworth

SEASON
42

IN REVIEW

WORLD PREMIERE

Sense of Decency

April 17 - May 12, 2024

By Jake Broder, based on the book
The Nazi and the Psychiatrist, by Jack El-Hai
Directed by David Ellenstein and Jake Broder



"I also have magic. If they had listened to me, this war never would have happened."

Brendan Ford and Frank Corrado

*"Merlin, make me a hawk!
Let me fly away from here!"*



Camelot

May 29 - July 7, 2024

Book & Lyrics by Alan Jay Lerner, Music by Frederick Loewe
Based on *"The Once and Future King"* by T.H. White
Original production directed and staged by Moss Hart
Book adapted by David Lee, New Orchestrations by Steve Orich
Directed by Jeffrey B. Moss

Lead Production Sponsor: Mary Ann Whittier-Johansen

Brian Krinsky, Jered McLenigan, and Lauren Weinberg



Don't Dress for Dinner

July 17 - August 18, 2024

By Marc Camoletti, Adapted by Robin Hawdon

Directed by Christopher Williams

Lead Production Sponsor: **Bobbie Ball**



“Who?” “You know who.”
“I haven't the faintest idea who.”

*Kim Morgan Dean, Katy Tang,
Brandon Pierce, Jared Van Heel,
Brian Robert Burns, and Veronica
Dunne*



A Strategic Alliance | LAGUNA PLAYHOUSE

In 2022 North Coast Repertory Theatre and the historic Laguna Playhouse forged a unique, strategic producing alliance designed to maximize return on organizational investments, increase production efficiencies, create long-term work opportunities for artists, and share best practices.

By the end of Season 43, these independent 501(c)(3) theatres will have collaborated on 9 shows, offering multi-city, long-term engagements for actors, directors, and designers. With David Ellenstein as Artistic Director and Bill Kerlin as Managing Director of both organizations, the collaboration extends to shared leadership, as well as pooled resources for production costs.

This groundbreaking model has proven mutually beneficial, setting a new standard for regional theatre cooperation.



SEASON 42 | A LOOK AT THE NUMBERS

222
Mainstage
Performances

35,824
Tickets Sold

2,396
Subscribers

2
World Premieres

1
New Play Commission
"The Angel Next Door"

4
Production
Collaborations

TOO MANY Standing Ovations to Count!

A MESSAGE FROM OUR ARTISTIC DIRECTOR



As the lights dim, the stage grows dark, and the murmur of voices silence, anticipation mounts in the audience. We wait with bated breath and excitement for the actors to begin the performance.

This is the extraordinary interconnection between artists and audiences. It hangs in the air and can be felt as the play unfolds, and whether classic works from the past or new works of the present, our hearts beat together.

I have been a theatre artist my entire life and believe that live theatre is more important now than ever before. It is a powerful unifying force, transcending the boundaries that often divide us in everyday life. It encourages dialogue, broadens perspectives, and

fosters a sense of shared cultural experience. As an audience member, it doesn't matter where you're from, what you believe, or how you live - you become part of a unique and collective experience that speaks to the core of our shared humanity. It is a unifying force and a remedy for the isolation created by a world increasingly fragmented by technology and ideological divides. Theatre is the antithesis of social media, and in a world that often emphasizes our differences, theatre reminds us of our similarities. It is an irreplaceable art form.

At North Coast Rep we celebrate our commonality and embrace our differences through world-class productions that foster empathy, provoke thought, and perhaps most importantly, bring joy to our audiences. It is theatrical storytelling at its finest. We believe that North Coast Rep makes our community a better place.

We are nothing without our audiences and patrons who make the artistry on our stage possible. Our actors, designers, and staff work tirelessly to create the highest quality productions that we are able to showcase in our intimate space. I am proud and thankful every day for my life in the theatre and the community we share.

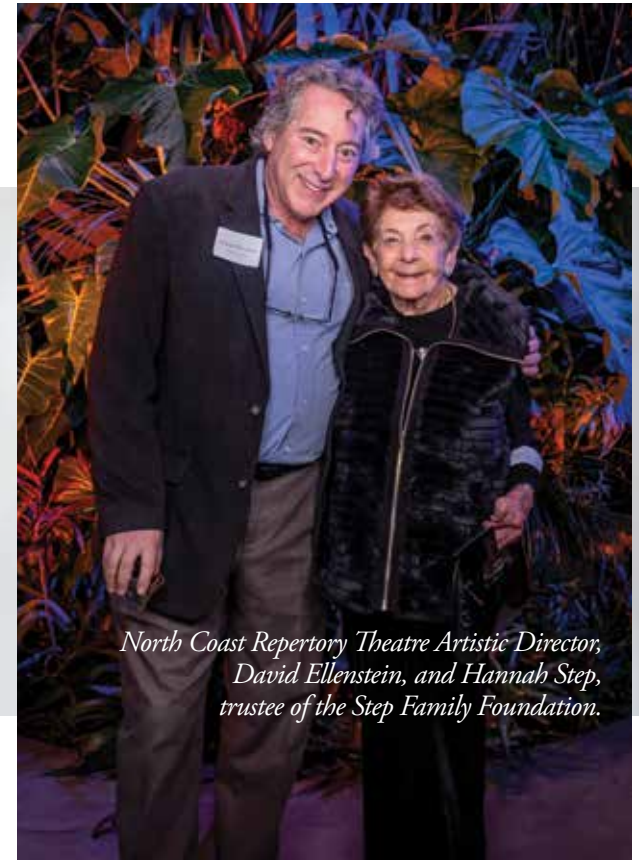
See you at the theatre!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Ellenstein". The signature is fluid and cursive, written on a light-colored background.

David Ellenstein
Artistic Director

“I regard the theatre as the greatest of all art forms, the most immediate way in which a human being can share with another the sense of what it is to be a human being.”

— Oscar Wilde



*North Coast Repertory Theatre Artistic Director,
David Ellenstein, and Hannah Step,
trustee of the Step Family Foundation.*

VARIETY NIGHTS

We love showcasing talented performance artists with our audiences! These collaborative productions range from comedy nights to music to historical dramas from artists both local and nationwide.

Tuesday Night Comics

Hosted by Mark Christopher Lawrence, a two-time Emmy nominee and award-winning actor, comedian, and North Coast Rep Board Member. MCL taps into his extensive list of friends from all over the country with credits from Comedy Central, HBO, SHOWTIME, etc. It's the funniest night of comedy in San Diego!

The Spirit of Harriet Tubman

We were delighted to bring back Leslie McCurdy for her award-winning one-woman production! The Spirit of Harriet Tubman was also presented at the National Black Theatre Festival in Winston-Salem North Carolina; DC Black Theatre Festival Living Legacy Series, Washington, DC; Paul Robeson Art Is A Weapon Solo Play Festival, London, England; and numerous other venues.

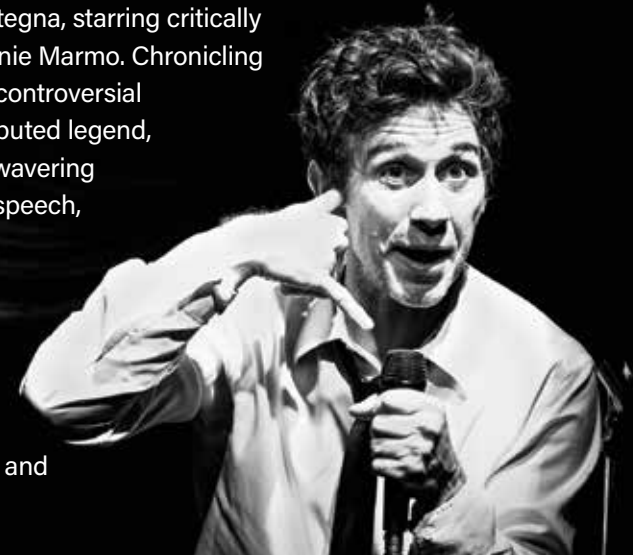


Additional Collaborations:

- Tea for Three: Lady Bird, Pat & Betty
- 2 Pianos 4 Hands
- John Denver Tribute
- Defending Liberty
- Reading of Rocket City, Alabama!
- Italian Bred
- The Peter Sprague Quartet

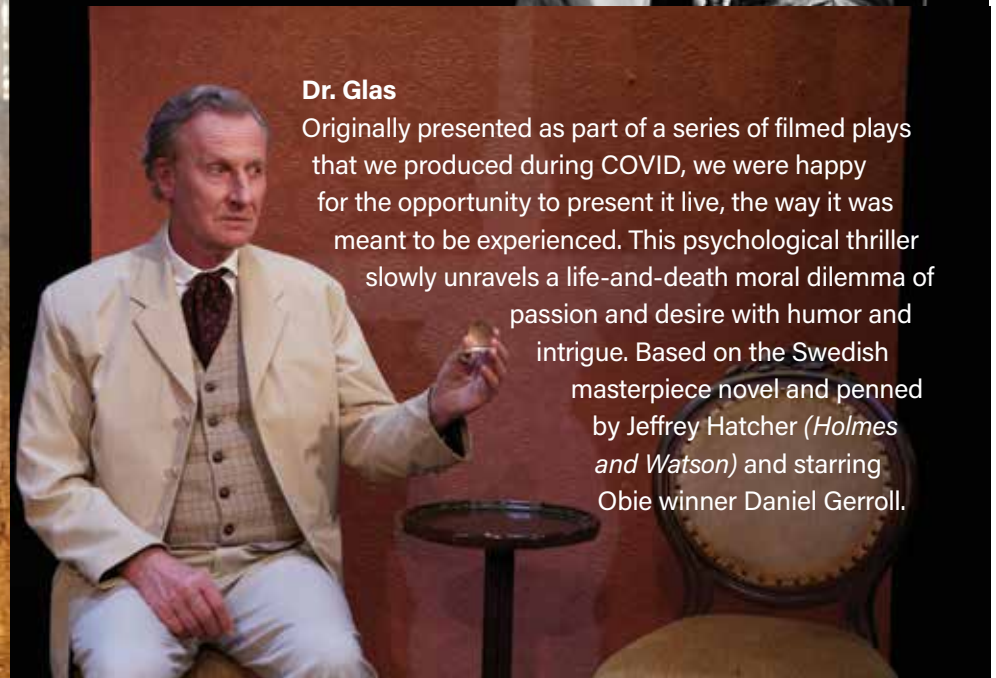
I'm Not A Comedian...I'm Lenny Bruce

Directed by Joe Mantegna, starring critically acclaimed actor Ronnie Marmo. Chronicling the life and death of controversial comedian and undisputed legend, Lenny Bruce. His unwavering commitment to free speech, sharply funny social commentary and completely original, freestyle comedy left a lasting impact on today's poetry, politics, music, film – and of course – comedy.



Dr. Glas

Originally presented as part of a series of filmed plays that we produced during COVID, we were happy for the opportunity to present it live, the way it was meant to be experienced. This psychological thriller slowly unravels a life-and-death moral dilemma of passion and desire with humor and intrigue. Based on the Swedish masterpiece novel and penned by Jeffrey Hatcher (*Holmes and Watson*) and starring Obie winner Daniel Gerroll.



Visit our website to explore upcoming Variety Nights!

THEATRE SCHOOL



The Theatre School @ North Coast Rep, with its educational programming and productions, is a highlight of our organization.

We offer classes and occasional workshops during the school year, and performance camps during the summer months for children and youth between the ages of 4-19. Our educational programs inspire self-confidence and creative expression while teaching essential tools for a well-rounded education and emotionally intelligent adult.

Student productions in Season 42 included *The War of the Worlds: The 1938 Radio Script*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Failure: A Love Story*, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, and *Hamlet* as our Summer Touring Shakespeare production. We also tackled *King Lear* as a special project for the newly created "North Coast Knights": a group of advanced students requesting an additional challenge.

Almost every single day throughout the year, something is happening at the Theatre School. We are proud to provide an exciting and safe environment where students feel at home, exploring a deeper appreciation of artistic expression and supporting each other.

Thank you for everyone's continued support of the Theatre School @ North Coast Rep.

Ben Cole

Director of Theatre School Education and Outreach

Preparing the next generation of theatre lovers

In each 7-show season, plays are chosen for their impact and educational opportunities in these categories:

A Play of Historical Significance

This play will focus on history and literacy, prompting students to pursue further reading and comprehension.

A Musical

Music, dance, and creative self-expression.

Outdoor Shakespeare

This touring production is presented FREE to the public and challenges some of our more advanced students.

A Play for the Imagination

Selection is based on the merits of creativity, new ideas, and concepts.

A Holiday Show

Wonderful for the whole family!



NEW! ProtoStar Social Impact Series

Starting in 2025, this play series will explore important contemporary issues including cultural diversity, gender equality, mental health, and environmental conservation. Developed with input from community experts, these productions aim to encourage thoughtful reflection among students and audiences. The series will invite viewers to examine their own beliefs and biases, consider how these shape our communities, and foster greater understanding and empathy.



Touring Shakespeare Production

During the school year, we offer an outreach production that travels to middle and high schools with a combined cast of students and professional adult actors. We had fun presenting *Romeo and Juliet* this year.

and artists



SEASON 42 | THEATRE SCHOOL IMPACT

7

Student Productions

541

Total Students Served

7

Performances at Local Schools

\$33,590

Awarded in Scholarships and Discounted Tickets

232

Students Benefited from Scholarships, Discounts, Grants

Thank you to US Bank, and the cities of Solana Beach, Encinitas, and Carlsbad for supporting Theatre School @ North Coast Rep scholarships, internships, productions, and outreach programming.

OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE



Thanks to the record of remarkable artistic programming over the past twenty years, North Coast Rep has reached new levels of financial stability, setting the stage for a bright future in an otherwise unstable environment for most regional theatres. The loyal support of our subscribers, donors and board members is testimony to the quality of our productions, the value of our Theatre School, and that special feeling of being a part of a theatre family which has developed over the years. Actors, directors and designers across the country understand our reputation for the work we create, and more importantly for the way we care for our talent while in our home. We value the creative people that are often struggling to carve out a living in

this industry, and this has paid off in the form of soaring productions and loyal artists.

To elucidate our turnaround, at a low point just after the great recession, our fund deficit had reached -\$440,000, but with steady progress in artistic excellence and financial oversight, we turned that around to a surplus of +\$480,000 before COVID. Our family rallied to reinvent our model during the pandemic by creating new ways to deliver content, soliciting strong support from our donor base, and securing extraordinary federal funding. Now, the theatre has emerged stronger than ever and much better positioned to move ahead at a time when many theatres are closing around the country.

Our patrons, donors, staff and creative team have achieved some notable milestones recently. Our Spotlight Gala has grown to be the largest in attendance and financial success in our theatre's history. Our recent production of CAMELOT was the highest grossing show ever. Our Theatre School

students have won local awards for excellence. The theatre has received the largest estate gift in our history this year. All of this has resulted in the best balance sheet we have ever generated.

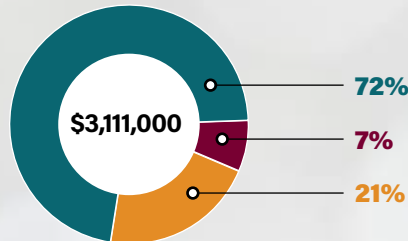
Over the past 43 years, our boutique professional live theatre has survived fires, floods, recessions and pandemics, and the spotlight shines brighter than ever on our future. We are committed to producing the best shows, recruiting amazing talent, providing top notch education, and doing our part to improve the quality of life in our North County Coastal Community. Thank you for your support, and we look forward to seeing you in our audience very soon!


Bill Kerlin
 Managing Director

Statement of Operations | Fiscal Year September 2023 – August 2024*

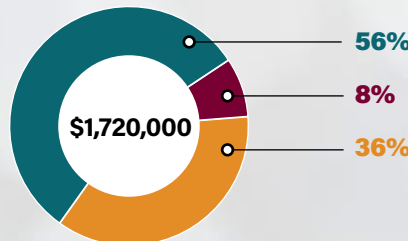
EARNED INCOME

■ Ticket Sales	\$2,243,000
■ Theatre School	\$216,000
■ Other	\$652,000
Total	\$3,111,000



CONTRIBUTED INCOME

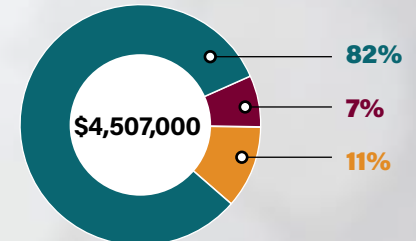
■ Individual/In-Kind . . .	\$959,000
■ Gov't, Corp, Fdns	\$136,000
■ Special Events	\$625,000
Total	\$1,720,000



TOTAL OPERATING INCOME \$4,831,000

EXPENSES

■ Programming	\$3,714,154
■ General Admin	\$297,071
■ Fundraising	\$495,775
Total	\$4,507,000



TOTAL OPERATING INCOME	\$4,831,000
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$4,507,000
NET RESULTS FROM OPERATIONS	\$324,000
EXTRAORDINARY ITEMS	
Bequests	\$2,590,000
Associated Expenses	-\$266,000
TOTAL NET INCOME	\$2,648,000

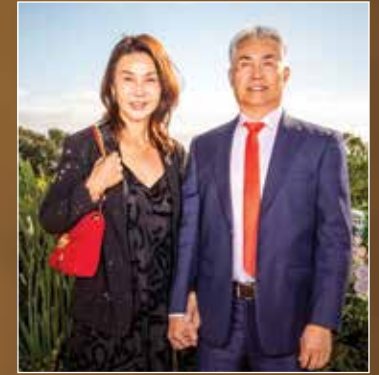
MEMORABLE MOMENTS WITH OUR THEATRE FAMILY



Amanda and Marion Dodson



Joan Embery and Dr. Chuck Wheatley



Lucy and Brian Jiang



Marisa Kikis and Bobbie Ball



Ronnie Matinka, Brian Ganji, Homeira Coffelt, and Kamdin Karimian



Pamela Mason and Karen Wilder



Jessica Rattler and Mark Christopher Lawrence



Hal and Hilary Dunning



Helena Galper and Leonard Hirsch



Rafael and Marina Pastor



David and Robin Fantin

Save the Date!
2025
SPOTLIGHT
GALA
May 17, 2025

THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR AMAZING DONORS!

BENEFACTOR'S CIRCLE

\$100,000+

John L. Schooley†
The Step Family Foundation*
The State of California

FOUNDER'S CIRCLE

\$50,000+

Anonymous
The Lee & Frank Goldberg Family*

PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE

\$25,000+

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\$5,000+

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Ayse Underhill
Warren Family Foundation
Amy & Mike Warlick

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\$3,000+

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Shirley & Harold Pidgeon*
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Elizabeth & Brian Tresp*
Amy & Mike Warlick
Karen B. Wilder*

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Elaine Robinson
Carol Rolf
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Marcia Schofield
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Annette & Walter von Klein
Allan Wasserman
Margaret & Charles Weigand
Cathy & John Weil
Jocelyn Shannon & Jane Weiss
Nikki Winston
Lynn Yahr
Beryl Young*
Sandra Zarcades*
Brenda & Dave Zito

ACTOR'S CIRCLE

\$500+

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Robin Allgren

Deirdre & Michael Alpert
Weston Anson
Fiona & Scott Bechtler-Levin
Robert Bell
Jane Benton
BJ & Peter Boland
Sheila & Gerald Bordin
Judith & Dan Boyle
Roz & Steve Brotman
Janice Callahan
Robyn & Robert Caringella
Carmella Carr
Joy Charney
Dalia & Dr. Edward Cohen
Steven Cologne
Joanne & Ken Conrad
Susan Steele & Mike Conley
Linda & Dennis Costello
Donna Cross
Kate & Tom Dalton
Caroline DeMar
Barbara & Dan Dickey
Sidney Djanogly
Anita Edman
Denise Young & David Ellenstein
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Claudia Fainman
Rachel Findling
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Mimi Lee
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Marcia Malkus
Laurel Marion
Monique Mason
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Susan & Charles Muha
Lawrence Newmark
Teresa Ann Norton
Mary Norwood
Kim Page
Courtney & Stefan Pastor
Gale & James Petrie
Mahesh Podar
Jane & Peter Polgar
Judy & Joel Pressman

Keren & Joe Ramsdell
Janet & Bill Raschke
Constance Gonczy & Steven Reich
Bingo & Gino Roncelli
Robin Roulette
Christine Rounsavell
Theresa Sample
Melinda Sarkis
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Terri Peterson Zimdars
Kate Murashige & Chris Zones

STAR \$250+

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Vincent Andrunas
Christine Barnes
Kathleen & Tay Bass
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Dr. Ruth Black
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Dori Brown
Debby & Todd Buchholz
Steve Bunyak
Jane Burgin
Karen & David Burnett
Cathy Busby
Raedel Calori
Sheila Cameron
Jane Cassidy
Elizabeth Cate
Nancy & Allan Chapman
Janet & Steve Chitwood

Danielle Cooley-Graham
Diane Cottingham
Penny & Weyman Cox
Jacquelyn Ritz & Thomas Daugherty
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* Members of Encore! Annual Giving Society
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All donations listed from August 27, 2023
to September 27, 2024

All the World's a Stage! *It takes a brilliant team of talented*

From the moment the lights dim to the elation of the final curtain call, it is our unique privilege to bring world-class theatre to the North County San Diego. Our work is collaborative in every sense, bringing together theatre artists of all kinds, and the impact of our efforts extends far beyond the talented artists and staff you've come to know and love. From deepening empathy in our community through shared catharsis, to fostering a sense of belonging among seniors, to planting seeds of confidence in the next generation of artists, and raising the economic tide for local restaurants and businesses, we are deeply honored to be part of this vibrant, thriving community.



CREATIVE TEAM

In the Spotlight

Our productions come to life through the collaborative artistry of top-tier professionals who work together to deliver exceptional quality on stage.

- ◆ Actors
- ◆ Directors
- ◆ Playwrights
- ◆ Set, costume, lighting, prop, and sound designers
- ◆ Composers, choreographers, and dialect coaches

TECHNICAL CREW

In the Wings

These unsung heroes orchestrate the unseen magic that makes each show shine.

- ◆ Stage managers and backstage crew
- ◆ Lighting and sound technicians
- ◆ Set builders and carpenters
- ◆ Makeup artists and hair stylists
- ◆ Costume makers, dressers, and wardrobe supervisors



theatre professionals to make the magic come alive.

FRONT OF HOUSE

The Show Must Go On

We owe so much to our dedicated staff and the army of volunteers who generously give their time to ensure our audiences have an exceptional experience—from purchasing tickets and finding their seats to enjoying a sweet treat at intermission and feeling warmly welcomed into the North Coast Rep family.

- ◆ House managers
- ◆ Box office staff
- ◆ Volunteer ushers



AUDIENCE

Center Stage

Theatre cannot exist without our audience. In our intimate space, the audience is akin to another member of the cast! Their presence charges the shared air with an electricity that the actors need as a scene partner, and every moment on stage is crafted with our audience in mind.



ARTISTIC STAFF

Setting the Stage

Everything we do is ultimately in support of the artistry that is on our stage. The creative vision that establishes and maintains our artistic identity is all-important. Casting, season programming, collaborating on new plays, nurturing artists and playwrights, and hiring directors and designers is just a fraction of what brings a season together.

Stage design starts with a simple sketch and evolves into a captivating visual experience, meticulously built and brought to life on stage.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Behind the Curtain

We are a fiscally sound organization with diverse income streams from both ticket sales and donations. Effective budgeting, financial planning, fundraising events, and promoting our productions are all essential to our success.

- ◆ Managing Director
- ◆ Accounting
- ◆ Marketing & PR
- ◆ Office Management
- ◆ Development & Fundraising

BOARD OF DIRECTORS & LEADERSHIP

Take a Bow

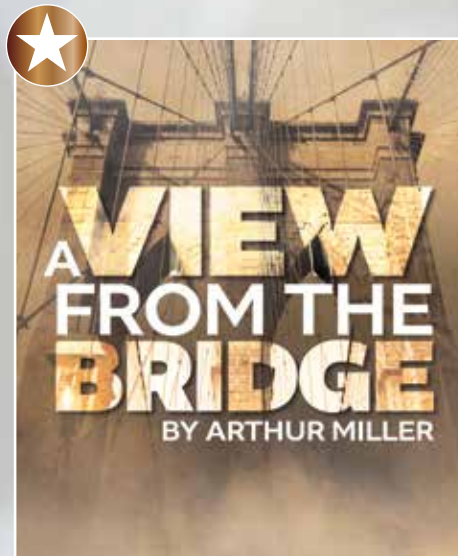
Our Board of Directors are not only our strongest advocates, but they also play a vital role in shaping long-term goals and strategic planning, providing financial oversight, and offering their unique expertise to support our staff.

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Standing Ovation

We couldn't do what we do without the unwavering support of those who go above and beyond the price of admission to help secure the theatre's financial future. Our gratitude for their generosity is boundless.

SEASON 43 PREVIEW

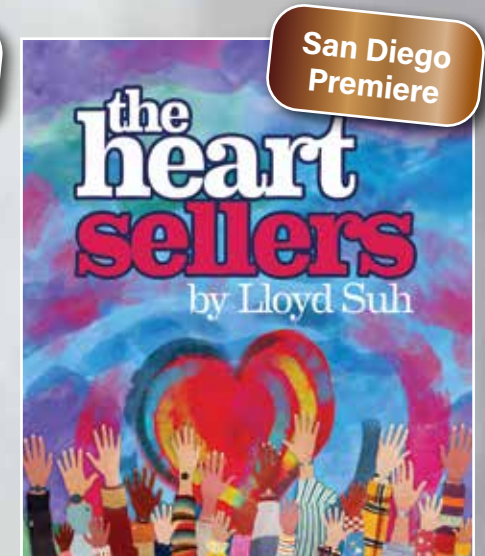


Sep 11 — Oct 13, 2024



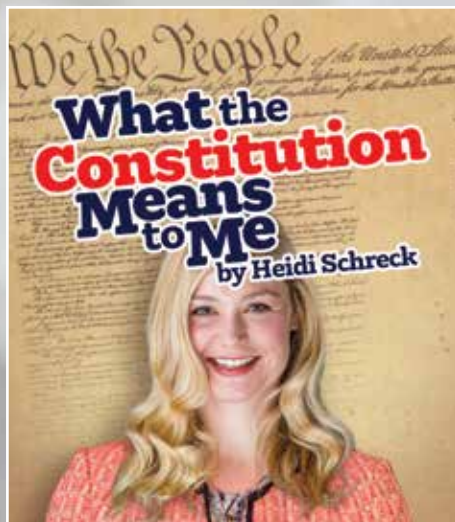
San Diego
Premiere

Oct 23 — Nov 24, 2024

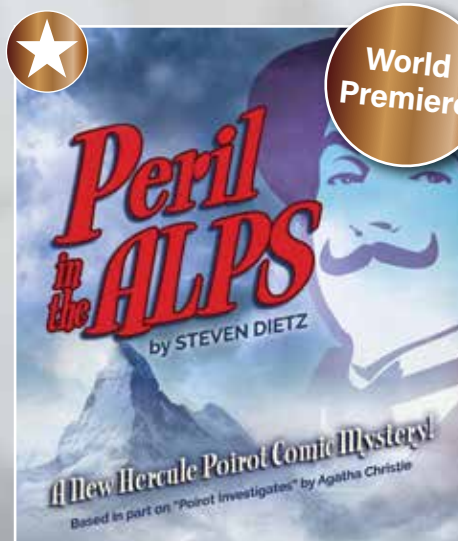


San Diego
Premiere

Jan 8 — Feb 2, 2025



Feb 26 — Mar 23, 2025



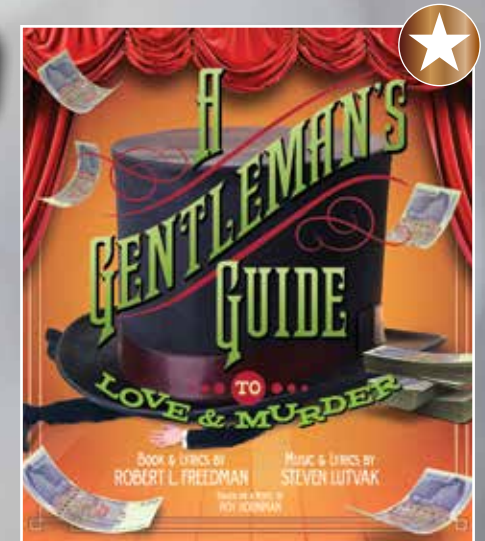
World
Premiere

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San Diego
Premiere

June 4 — Jun 29, 2025



Star icon

Jul 16 — Aug 10, 2025

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Cover Photo: *Back (from left): Jason Heil, Nick Apostolina, Scott Hurst, Jr., Elias Wygodny and Jacob Caltrider, Front: Lauren Weinberg. Show: Camelot*

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Performance days: Noon to curtain

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