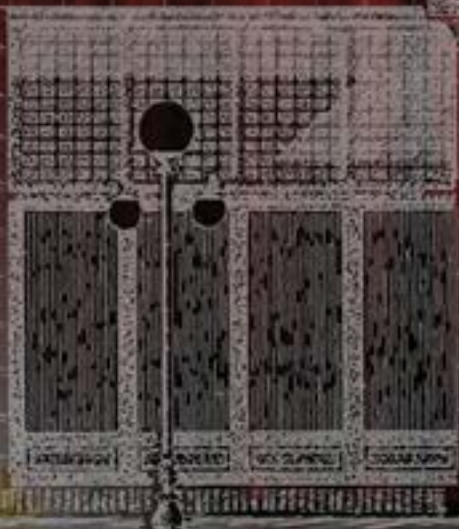




SPRINGFIELD LITTLE THEATRE

NEXT STAGE

*Preserving The Past
Ensuring The Future*



Sharing Our Vision

Dear Friend,

The **visionaries** responsible for providing us with our beautiful home, the historic Landers Theatre, had a "Little Theatre" in them, and they knew our community would be enriched by the discovery that there is, indeed, a "**Little Theatre**" in all of us. We are so grateful for the determination of those visionaries, and honored to be a part of their legacy. They had the foresight, with the purchase of the historic Landers Theatre in 1970, to lay the groundwork that enables us to now entertain, educate, and involve over **60,000** individuals each year in Downtown Springfield.



The Landers Theatre was built in 1909 and the responsibility of its ownership is costly. Caring for our **109-year-old landmark** is of paramount importance to our mission, and our beloved building needs **YOUR** help. While our theatre looks great from the seats, there are critical structural repairs that must be made to ensure the longevity of **Springfield's Crown Jewel**. Without these repairs, the theatre risks further damage which could then require an even more extensive and expensive rehabilitation.

The Springfield Little Theatre organization of today is not the one of yesteryear. Our historic site home now accommodates over **100 productions** a season, hundreds of volunteers, and an education program that serves thousands of young people each year. It is with the same determination of the visionaries before us that we are now moved to purchase a second space to address many of our organization's pressing needs and allow our robust education offerings to continue to flourish. We invite **YOU** to dream with us.

As we honor the past and embrace the present, we would be remiss not to lay groundwork for the caretakers and visionaries of the future. We are passionately committed to laying a financial foundation that will ensure the **future** of The Crown Jewel of the Ozarks, elevate our community through the finest in arts education, and secure a vibrant second century of live theatre!

It's time to act, and we are asking **YOU** to accept a leading role in Springfield Little Theatre's **NEXT STAGE**: Preserving The Past and Ensuring The Future!

Beth Domann

Beth Domann
Executive Director
Springfield Little Theatre



We need
YOU to
take center stage!

A PRODUCTION IN TWO ACTS

ACT ONE - The Landers Theatre

Ensure The Future of The Crown Jewel of The Ozarks

Safeguard Structural Integrity

Increase Building Efficiency and Security

Improve Building Accessibility for Programming

Preserve and Renovate

ACT TWO - An Education Facility

Elevate Our Community Through Arts Education

Purchase and renovate
a dedicated education building
to meet the immediate needs and serve
the future growth of our Education Program

ENCORE - Our Endowment

Secure A Vibrant Second Century of Live Theatre

Provide enduring support for our facilities and
operations by building our endowment fund



ACT ONE - The Landers Theatre

Ensure The Future of The Crown Jewel of The Ozarks

The Landers Theatre has been in continuous use either as a legitimate theatre or as a motion picture house since it opened in 1909. It is our privilege and our responsibility to serve as guardians for this extraordinary community treasure. We have identified 45 critical areas in immediate need of repair and restoration. Together, we can return our beloved jewel to splendor and ensure its viability for generations to come.

SAFEGUARD STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY

- Address critical issues of water and air infiltration
 - Tuckpointing, Waterproofing, Gutter Repair, Roofing
- Restore basement foundation
- Strengthen rehearsal studio weight support capabilities

INCREASE BUILDING EFFICIENCY AND SECURITY

- Install a new, energy efficient HVAC system
- Install an upgraded security system
- Improve office suites for optimum efficiency and potential staff growth
- Improve building accessibility for programming

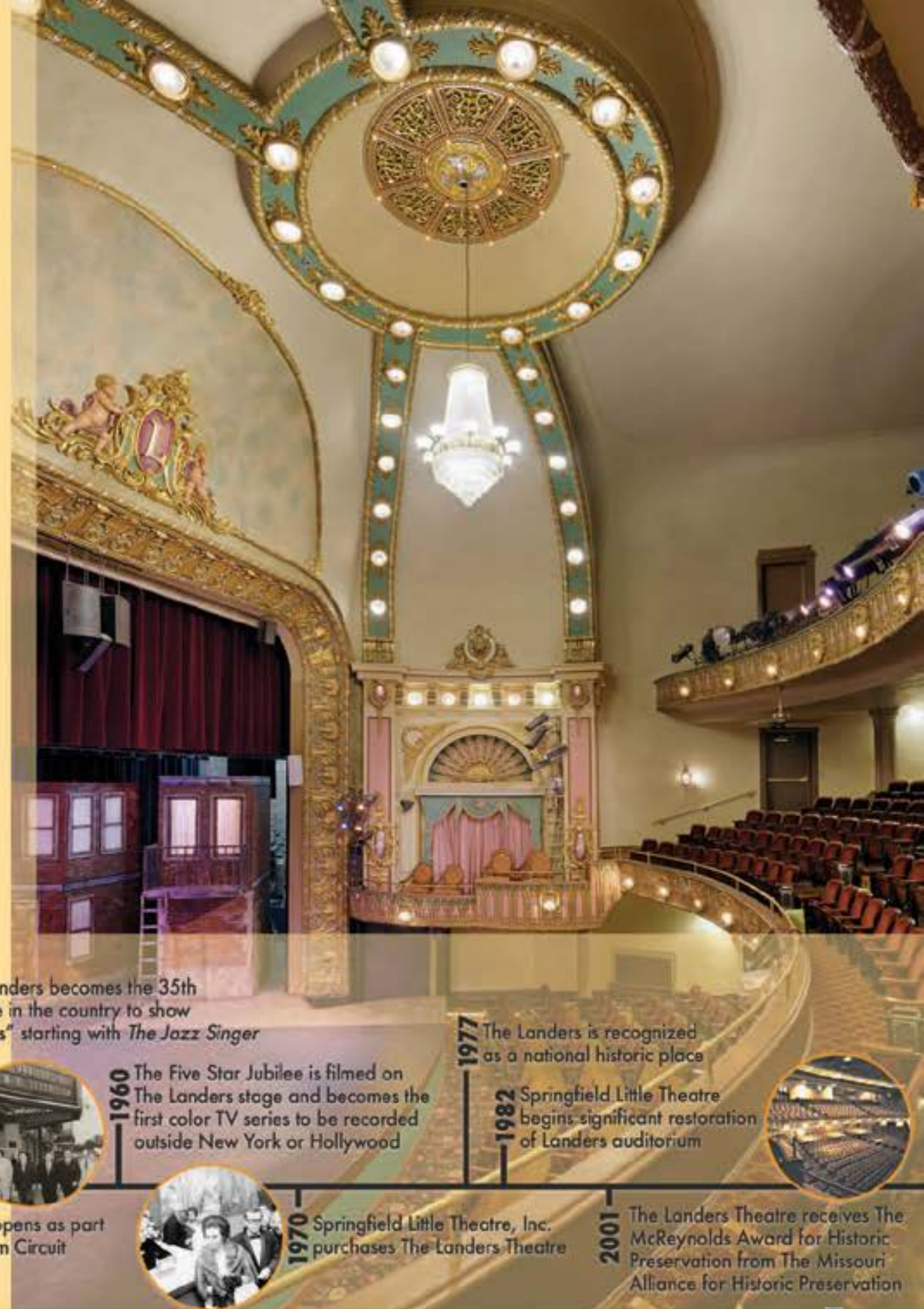
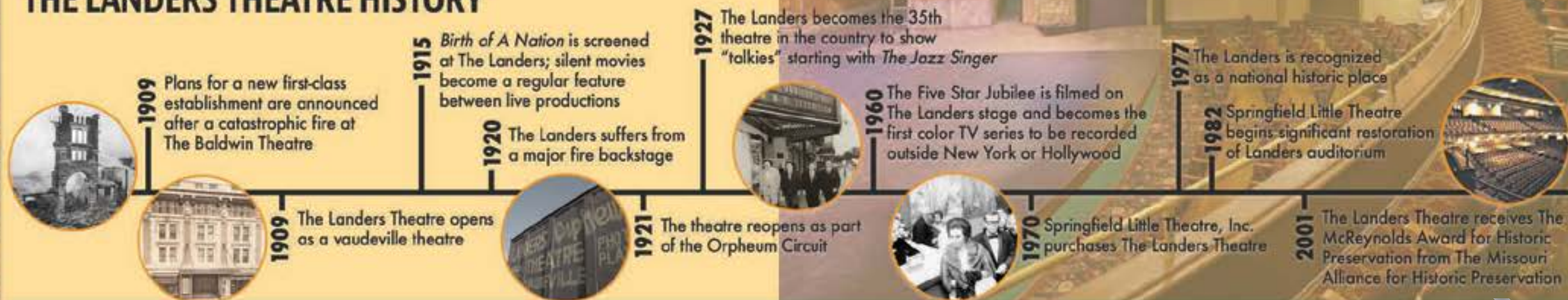
PRESERVE AND RENOVATE

- Maintain the historic grandeur of our beautiful auditorium
 - Painting, Plaster Repair, Draperies
- Updates to restrooms, lobby, dressing rooms, and rehearsal areas
- Revive the appearance of our marquee and facade

PRESSING NEED:

\$2.5 Million

THE LANDERS THEATRE HISTORY



Our Annual Impact

Over 30,000 served through Springfield Little Theatre Education efforts!

# SERVED	EFFORT
14,000	School Touring Program
7,000	Special Daytime Performances
4,000	Community Appearances
2,000	Literature to Life
1,400	Education Special Events
600	Springfield Public Schools Explore
439	School's Out Workshops
408	Audition Workshops
373	Summer Stages
312	Education Classes
275	Workshops
230	Summer Institutes
200	Education Series
200	Master Classes
200	Youth Performance Troupes
120	Arts Integration
100	Backstage Pass Experience Tours
41	Summer Conservatory
38	Pre-Professional Track
34	Youthfest Talent Showcase
30	Parents Night Out
28	Technical Theatre Camps
5	Arts Administration Camps

"Springfield Little Theatre is a unique gem in the theatre world. After traveling to New York City to train with other young performers from all over the country, I realized how good of a foundation I had and how many other aspiring actors and actresses would love to have had the training and opportunities that I received through SLT."

*-Amanda Carpenter,
Pre-Professional Track Graduate*

"Art has challenged me to see between the gaps. Through theatre an actor or an audience member can develop empathy for someone on the opposite side of the world."

*-Hannah Duff,
Y.E.S. Troupe Allieanna*

"The theatre is a place where I can be who I am. I can be goofy and crazy. It's a place where you won't be judged because of what you look like or what you wear, how you act or even how you feel. The theatre lets me be me."

*-Joseph Bartkowiak,
Former Youth Player*

ACT TWO - An Education Facility

Elevate Our Community Through Arts Education

Dear Dreamer,

It has been my honor to serve as Springfield Little Theatre's Education Director for 15 years. Our program has enjoyed tremendous growth as we have strived to bring the best in theatre education to Springfield and the surrounding area.

We proudly touch the lives of over 30,000 children every year through our performances and education initiatives. Our classes and education series of productions nurture every level of performer – from very young children exploring creative play, to students of all ages seeking a fun introductory or recreational experience, to adult learners, to our pre-professional youths and college level interns aspiring for a career in performance, technical theatre, or administration.

Our students learn the values of accountability, discipline, teamwork, kindness, hard work and play, attributes that will serve them in any of their future endeavors. Our graduates emerge as confident, creative, and caring community leaders, excelling in multi-facets of business, education, service, and the arts.

With so many educational opportunities, and so many productions throughout the year, it has become clear that we are in need of a dedicated education building and second performance space. Our theatre's NEXT STAGE Campaign will not only provide a laboratory for emerging artists and a launch site for expanded community outreach, but will also help us make our ultimate dream of a Performing Arts Academy a reality.

Please act now with a gift of support that will enrich the lives of our young and young at heart for generations to come. Be a part of this exciting era in the rich history of Springfield Little Theatre!

Lorianne Dunn

Lorianne Dunn
Education Director
Springfield Little Theatre



IMMEDIATE NEED:

\$1.5 Million

Grow with us!



This is what
COURAGE
looks like!

ENCORE - Our Endowment

Secure A Vibrant Second Century of Live Theatre

Provide enduring support for our facilities and operations by building our endowment fund.

IT'S A BALANCING ACT

Part of the reason Springfield Little Theatre has been able to serve our community for nearly a century is that fiscal responsibility is equally as important to our organization as artistic excellence. At present, the escalating costs of maintaining our historic site home coupled with the rising expenses of producing the best in live theatre could soon compromise our cardinal intentions: keeping tickets reasonably priced, providing free vouchers to social service agencies, offering discounted tickets to area schools, attracting and supporting quality personnel, and maintaining our commitment to providing inclusive arts education. To balance our ideals with our desire to remain fiscally healthy, we have established the Springfield Little Theatre Endowment Fund.

Now is the time to make an investment in the future of Springfield Little Theatre and its facilities with a gift to our endowment. Help ensure the perpetual needs of YOUR COMMUNITY THEATRE are met through its second century and beyond!

PRESENT GOAL:

\$1 Million

Our Objective

RAISE \$5 MILLION

The Most Ambitious Capital Fundraising Effort In Our History!

- **ACT ONE - The Landers Theatre**

Ensure The Future of The Crown Jewel of The Ozarks

Pressing Need: \$2.5 Million

- **ACT TWO - An Education Facility**

Elevate Our Community Through Arts Education

Immediate Need: \$1.5 Million

- **ENCORE - Our Endowment**

Secure A Vibrant Second Century of Live Theatre

Present Goal: \$1 Million

NEXT STAGE

*Preserving The Past
Ensuring The Future*

"The beauty and splendor of the historic Landers Theatre is matched by the talent and enthusiasm of the people, and the heart and professionalism of the productions that grace its stage. I am very proud to call Springfield Little Theatre my community theatre."

*-Betsy Stack,
Patron*

"There is a magic in the air on The Landers stage. I felt the rich heritage of those before me every time I walked in front of those golden lights. I felt the passion for this craft every time we rehearsed in the 4th floor studio. I felt the exhilaration of performing in the most gorgeous venue every time the curtain went up."

*-Dallas Maginn,
Actor*



Over The Past Fifteen Years...



2003 SLT introduces Literature-To-Life program and expands education class offerings

2005 SLT establishes costume shop as a sustaining revenue source and is nominated for W. Curtis Strube Small Business Award; SLT introduces Young Artists



2007 SLT introduces J.V. YES Troupe



2004 SLT awarded Springfield Regional Arts Council's Ozzie Award (Arts Organization); SLT introduces Youth Players

2006 SLT awarded Missouri Arts Award by Missouri Arts Council and replaces auditorium chairs; SLT costume and scenic design shops inhabit Creamery Arts Center; SLT offers first Summer Institute



2008 SLT students scouted for High School Musical television reality show; SLT introduces Troupers-In-Training and Showstoppers

2009 SPS sends SLT's Executive and Education Director to Florida to research fine arts magnet programs; SLT hosts Landers Theatre Centennial Celebration; SLT joins The John F. Kennedy Center for The Performing Arts Ensuring The Future for "Any Given Child" Program (Springfield is the first competitively named site in the program that now includes 25 sites across the nation committed to access and equity in arts education)

2010 SLT remodels 3rd and 4th floors of the Landers Theatre to house rehearsal studios and classrooms; SLT forms Education Angels and launches Education Series of performances

2012 SLT launches Summer Conservatory and Technical Theatre Camp



2013 SLT selected by American Association of Community Theatres to present world premiere of Exit Laughing; SLT resurfaces stage floor; SLT launches Pre-Professional Track

2014 SLT remodels balcony - reconfigures rise of seating, relocates sound booth, and installs new carpet; SLT is gifted new grand drape by SLT Guild; SLT Pre-Professional Students selected to attend Broadway Artists Alliance workshop and showcase in NYC; PBS produces Springfield Little Theatre documentary

2015 SLT serves as Missouri state representative for American Association of Community Theatres; SLT installs ADA compliant wheelchair platform in auditorium and replaces rigging ropes on fly system; Broadway Artists Alliance select The Landers Theatre as a site for its national audition tour; SLT creates Landers Flymen



2016 SLT awarded Individual and Education Ozzie Awards by SRAC; SLT implements Patron Manager, a ticketing and Customer Relationship Management platform; SLT begins kindergarten Arts Integration classroom visits

2017

SLT introduces Media Troupe and Arts Administration Camp; SLT begins first grade Arts Integration classroom visits; SLT awarded Volunteer Ozzie Award; SLT students perform at Broadway Sessions

2018

SLT begins partnership with Camp Barnabas to provide inclusive arts experiences; Film students receive SATO48 honors; SLT launches NEXT STAGE Campaign ...

"The one beacon through the early days of downtown revitalization was Springfield Little Theatre, bringing generations of Springfield families downtown to enjoy outstanding live performances."

-Rusty Worley,
Urban Districts Alliance

IT'S TIME TO ACT

We must address the structural issues of the 109 year-old Landers Theatre if it is to continue to serve as the premiere destination for quality live theatre in Southwest Missouri, and as a cultural and economic cornerstone of downtown Springfield. Countless volunteers consider Springfield Little Theatre not only their creative and recreational home, regularly sharing their talents on stage and behind the scenes, but also serve the community at large through SLT's numerous outreach initiatives. While hundreds of young people benefit from Springfield Little Theatre education offerings, which consistently operate at maximum capacity, hundreds more will be served with the purchase of a dedicated education facility and second performance space. Furthermore, a second space addresses many of our 84 year-old organization's current needs: additional office space for optimal function of the business operations of the theatre, increased production experiences for youth and adults, adequate space for volunteer activities, increased storage, access for the disabled and elderly, smaller troupe divisions to ensure quality program delivery, space to accommodate special events, an increase of both entry level and accelerated education offerings, and more opportunities to employ the educators and artists we are cultivating. Lastly, our responsibility to the next generation will be met with an investment in the Springfield Little Theatre Endowment Fund. Earnings from the endowment will help alleviate the financial strain to those who come after us, empowering them to confidently address their own pressing needs and promising opportunities during the next, **NEXT STAGE** of Springfield Little Theatre.

BE A PART OF THE ACT

Join us as we embark on the **NEXT STAGE** for **SPRINGFIELD LITTLE THEATRE**, setting the scene for the future of an organization that has entertained, educated, involved, and inspired generations of Southwest Missourians. Together we can ensure the future of The Crown Jewel of the Ozarks, elevate our community through the finest in arts education, and secure a vibrant second century of live theatre.

SpringfieldLittleTheatre.org/NextStage





SPRINGFIELD LITTLE THEATRE

Our Mission

Springfield Little Theatre is a nonprofit, volunteer-driven organization energized by the highest artistic ideals that strives to entertain, educate, and involve the community in live theatrical productions and in the preservation of the historic Landers Theatre.

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