# STAGEWORKS THEATRE ANNUAL REPORT

2022



A letter from the president of the board of directors.

# **OVERVIEW**



#### JULIE MONTGOMERY BOARD PRESIDENT



Through the efforts of our staff, volunteers, and supporters, Stageworks Theatre hit our goals in the fiscal year 2021-2022 to inspire our community through theatrical arts and to create more empathetic citizens. We are at a critical point in the theatre, from which we intend to strive toward our vision to become a destination semi-professional theatre.

Our three areas of focus for 2022-2027 include the following:

# Elevate the board practices and procedures of Stageworks to reflect nonprofit best practices.

This year we have launched two new committees, the financial and the fundraising committees. Committee members serve as a source of potential new board members. Additionally, we created an onboarding kit for new board members, so they can contribute more quickly.

# Improve community outreach and partner with diverse local organizations with the goal of increasing the number of patrons and students involved at the theatre.

We have expanded our relationship with a key community group, The Shining Stars Guild. This fundraising team of retirees came to us about three years ago. We have moved from being simply a beneficiary of their efforts, to becoming a partner, who provides entertainment for their events throughout the year, and assists them in planning their annual gala, the largest source of their fundraising. In coming quarters, we will continue to identify other corporations and community groups with whom we can partner.

# Diversify current streams of income with the goal of hiring and accruing more resources.

We engaged a grant writer to support our efforts. Prior to Covid, we have only received grants from the Texas Commission for the Arts and have started to apply for a broader funding pool. We are applying for more private grants.

Overall, we appear on the road to recovery from Covid. Audiences and participants are returning; however, not in the patterns we previously understood. Some parts of our business are less predictable than pre-pandemic, however, we see a rise in overall engagement with patrons and volunteers who have returned.

Overall, we are enthusiastic about where we are and are very optimistic about the new artists, teachers, and students we are attracting. We look forward to the new year!

Julie Montgomery Board President

# MAIN STAGE HIGHLIGHTS



#### MAIN STAGE PRODUCTIONS

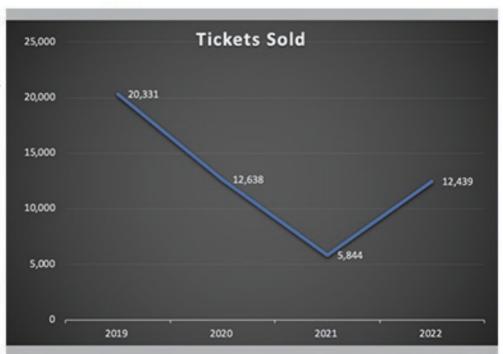
Stageworks Theatre produces original or established theatrical works (dramas, comedies, and musicals) each season which reflect high artistic quality and cultural diversity. We strive to inspire adults, teens, and children by providing a safe and encouraging environment that fosters creativity, respect, personal growth, and character development. We are dedicated to building long-term relationships with our actors, theatre artists, patrons and community by providing exceptional entertainment and professional education.

Stageworks Theatre produced eight shows for the main stage this year.

Monty Python's Spamalot Holiday Follies 2021 God of Carnage The Cake Puffs Dirty Rotten Scoundrels The Rocky Horror Show

#### **TICKETS SOLD**

Ticket sales for 2022, including student shows, were 12,439 tickets. This is an increase from the previous year.



Making the leaders of tomorrow.

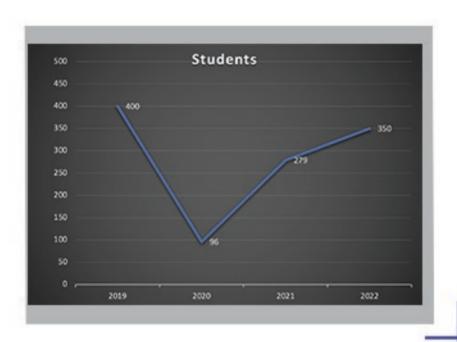
# ACADEMY HIGHLIGHTS

#### **Christine Edwards, Academy Parent**

Jack entered the summer with little confidence in his voice and not a lot of confidence in his acting ability. He was still feeling a little socially isolated after the setbacks of Covid. After two shows at Stageworks, he became confident in playing major parts with singing roles. More importantly, he became a leader and made some very close friends. It was exactly what he needed.

## STUDENTS SERVED

Our Acting Academy provides performance and skills classes for students ages 6-18. Since 2005, we have produced more than 120 shows for over 150,000 patrons and provided education programs to nearly 4,000 children.



After the shutdown of March 2020 for Covid, our student families were the first to start to return to the theatre. Those numbers have not quite restored to pre-pandemic levels, but are on the upswing.

93% of parents surveyed this year reported that their children were more confident as a result of attending Stageworks and 78% reported seeing more empathy, respect, or teamwork in their student.

#### **CLASS DIVERSIFICATION**

This year we were able to revive the offering of our skills-based classes. Since Covid, we have only held classes that ended in a production. These classes provide a unique opportunity for students to attend Stageworks without the commitment of two or three days per week in rehearsal classtime that production classes require, so we are able to reach a broader number of students.

We are proud to impact our community.

# WHAT PATRONS & PARTNERS SAY



#### MAIN STAGE

#### Jay Michaels, Patron

We had been subscribers to The Alley for many years and attendees at Stages, but we decided to see if we could branch out and find some quality stage entertainment in other parts of the city. We have been trying out different venues and were not overly impressed until we found your theater last night. We could not stop talking about it!



#### Matthew Jamison, Actor

Stageworks is unique among theatres in Houston because it provides the fun performance opportunities of a community theatre; a stipend comparable to small and mid-size semi-professional theatres that, while modest, helps offset travel expenses; and stellar productions that rival those at theatres in town across the professional spectrum. It's truly a gem of a theatre, and northwest Houston is lucky to have an organization like it. I will definitely come back to see and audition for shows, and friends who came to see me and who otherwise wouldn't have made it through the door have expressed interest in returning.



#### **ACTING ACADEMY**

#### **Amy Welch, Academy Parent**

Stageworks has been such a blessing for Adelaide! It's not only grown her love of theatre but she learned that she has a passion for being on stage. Everyone at Stageworks has been phenomenal - from the staff to the directors to the crew. She signs up for every class you offer and every show she can make. (To follow-up on the hours question - for classes, one night during the weekday is great. I loved how acting and dance was stacked on the same day this year). But for rehearsals for shows, we prefer 2 nights a week. But if I had to choose, I'd prefer more total



#### **COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

#### Diane Liption, President, The Shining Stars Guild

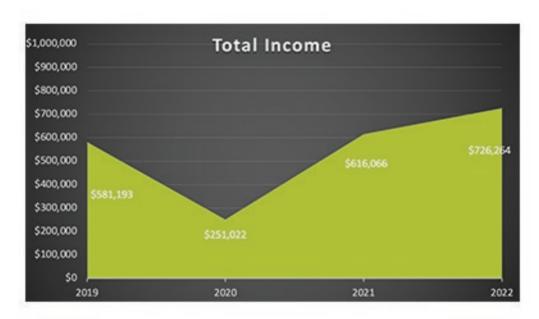
The Shining Stars Guild is a non-profit organization supporting Stageworks Theatre both monetarily and by group attendance. Our growing group of members is captivated by the Broadway quality musical, drama and comedy on their stage. The children and youth program at Stageworks is equally impressive, developing acting, singing and dancing skills in future stars. We are fortunate to have this gem of a theatre providing Broadway entertainment at home!

Revenue and contributions overview.

# THEATRE HEALTH

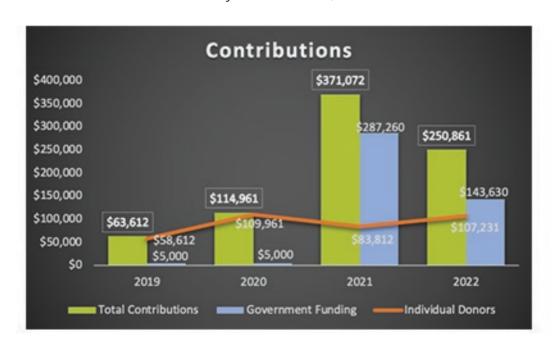
#### **REVENUE**

Total income for 2022 was \$726,264.



#### **CONTRIBUTIONS**

Indivudal contributions have risen and are comensurate to pre-Covid levels, while government grants provided for stong support, for the second year in a row. Totall contributions this year were \$250,861.



We can't do this without these contributors.

# **DONORS**

#### \$25,000 +

The Shining Stars Guild

#### \$15,000 +

Mario & Lisa Garza Raul Sepulveda Steeplechase Pediatrics

#### \$1,000 +

Jane & James Allen Megan & J. Blanchard Robert Clarke Sherrie Mattson Julie & Michael Montgomery Gwen & Burnell Russell Texas Commission for the Arts Paul & Shandra Wilkinson

#### \$500 +

Barbara Campbell Laura Carpenter Elizabeth Crownover John Deering Kelsey Heaton Celeste Walker Patricia Hendrickson Paul & Julie Herman Dave Humphreys Kenneth Kesselus Ellen & Will LeBlanc Ellen Michaels Judith Montgomery **Brandon Tanner** Toni Tanner Michael Terranova

#### \$250 +

Richele Bartkowiak Travis Bassett James & Linda Boehmke Paul Bristol Charmaine Fritchey Tracy Hammond

#### \$250 + cont.

Jeff Hirt
Stephanie Hull
Kathryn Koller
Andrea Luyties
Corrynn Newman
Kathy Reed
Cindy Schoeller
Kathleen & Charles Thomas
Robert Young

#### \$100 +

Ronald & Carol Ahles Susan Barbaro Patrick Barton Joshua Blattman Jan Bucy Mary Burke Chuck Canfield Maureen Clausen Rachel Connelly **lason Cox** Mary Ellen Cox Yadira De Jesus Dora Dean **Kevin Dicharry** Ryan Dineen Eric Dunlap & Michael Raabe Iana & Edward Ellsworth Patty Elms Tom & Karen Gaede Suzanne Gosselin Phylis Haralson Victoria Harkrider **Peggy Hasting** Andy Henderson David & Barbara Humphreys Scott Johnson Beth Kasper Mary Banks Lavender Nancy Lease Chryl Lowe

Laura Malcotti-Sanchez

John Matejka Naomi McElroy Mark Mendelsohn Kathy Michalski Pamela Miller Martha Moon Teonna Murphy **NCL Cypress Belles** Jeanne Nelson Copper Paradiso Jaime Pierce Megan Prout Ron Putterman Laura Renfroe Jennifer Salcich Elizabeth Schielein Pamela Schiller Peter Schulte Fabiola Seward Lindsay Scovil Paul Strack Linda Stultz Pamela Thome James & Kelly Thompson Jennifer Waggoner Iill Welmer Simon & Linda Wilson Dennis Willen

Dru Wiser

Ellen Zedler

Stageworks Theatre's mission is to enrich our community through a variety of theatre and arts education. We seek to entertain, inspire, challenge, and educate those we serve.

## MISSION

# **VISION**

Stageworks Theatre's vision by 2032 is to establish itself as a destination, semi-professional, equity-optional theatre in a state-of-the-art dedicated space. Stageworks Theatre will serve a base of over 1,000 students annually via our educational programs and have designated support from the county and state government, and at least 50% of the area's primary employers. We will be a beacon of inclusion; accurately reflecting the community we serve.

# **VALUES**

#### **FUN**

Theatre should be fun! We want kids, families, and our audiences to have fun. While we're serious about theatre, we will always have a great time.

#### **INTEGRITY**

We will be good stewards of the resources and finances entrusted to us.

#### **DIVERSITY**

We will be considered welcoming and inclusive, and reflective of the diversity in our community.

#### **EXCELLENCE**

Our performances will reflect our commitment to excellence in all areas of the performing arts, while also maintaining a professional and encouraging environment.

#### **RESPECT**

Cast and production team are expected to honor and be courteous to everyone, respond respectfully to all.

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**



Julie Montgomery, President
Michael Montgomery, Artistic Director
Celeste Walker, Treasurer
Kelsey Heaton, Secretary

J Blanchard
Shelby Brannan
Sherrie Mattson
Lisa Garza

J Blanchard Shelby Brannan Sherrie Mattson Lisa Garza Mario Garza Paul Wilkinson Shandra Wilkinson Stephanie Wisdom