



Ann Arbor Civic Theatre • 322 W. Ann Street • Ann Arbor, MI 48104 • 734/971.0605 • www.a2ct.org

75 Years Young

## History of Ann Arbor Civic Theatre

Ann Arbor Civic Theatre was founded in 1929 (a year after the first Academy Awards were presented!). After 4 years of organizing, the theatre presented its first drama, *The Late Christopher Bean*. The performance venues have changed, the offices and personnel have changed, but we are still here. Seventy-five years and over 450 shows later, we continue to provide theatre opportunities for all members of the community, as well as to provide quality entertainment for Southeast Michigan and Northeast Ohio.

A2CT is one of the few theatre companies in Ann Arbor that always casts its shows based on open auditions. That means everyone has a shot to get on the Civic Theatre stage. New volunteers are welcomed as well. In the average season, Ann Arbor Civic Theatre utilizes over 350 people both in front of the footlights and behind the scenes. A2CT is also proud to promote partnerships with the community.



### Ann Arbor Civic Theatre's Mission

Ann Arbor Civic Theatre is a community theatre group. We exist to provide opportunities for the members of the community to participate in theatre.

Ann Arbor Civic Theatre values and promotes creative excellence and personal artistic growth through:

- Presentation of quality theatre performances for the community
- Open invitation for participation in all aspects of theatrical production
- Development of talent through educational, apprenticeship, and performance opportunities



## Where does Ann Arbor Civic Theatre invest?

Between the years 1999 and 2003, all of Ann Arbor Civic Theatre's assets were invested in laddered Certificates of Deposit rather than volatile equity markets. Because of this prudent choice, no Civic Theatre funds were lost during the volatile years of stock decline and our location change.

In 2003, the A2CT Finance Committee decided that more stability had returned to the equity markets, and 25% of the funds were invested in a Transmarket Mutual Fund (because of the low fee structure and broad investment across the stock market). While this investment may not experience large rapid gains, the advantage is that it is relatively non-volatile. These investments are made over a period of several months so that we can take advantage of the dollar cost averaging strategy.

## Your Tax Deductible Donation

Ann Arbor Civic Theatre is incorporated and identified as a 501(c)(3) non-profit. For donors such as you, this means your contributions are fully tax-deductible to the amount allowed by law. Our Board of Directors and elected officers operate under member-approved bylaws.

A2CT can provide you with the necessary documentation to record your sponsorship donation for tax purposes.

## Affiliations

We are active participants in the Ann Arbor Chamber of Commerce, Community Theatre Association of Michigan, Michigan Association of Community Arts Agencies, and the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs.

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# Act

## '03-'04 Season

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The 2003-2004 A2CT Season

### Quality theatre in Ann Arbor

This season, we are celebrating 75 years of bringing theatre to Ann Arbor. This season also marks our departure from our temporary home and theatre at 408 W Washington. Our offices are now on Ann Street and our venues include UM's venerable Mendelssohn Theatre and WCC's contemporary Towsley Auditorium.

#### Chicago

*The trial of the century set to rollicking, ragtime music.*  
September 11-14, 2003, Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre

#### The Scarlet Pimpernel

*A thrilling, swashbuckling evening of fun.*  
November 13-16, 2003, WCC's Towsley Theatre

#### Fiddler on the Roof

*The beloved, epic American musical.*  
January 15-18, 2004, Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre

#### Dinner with Friends

*A Pulitzer Prize-winning exploration of modern marriage.*  
March 18-21, 2004, WCC's Towsley Theatre

#### Rebel without a Cause

*The quintessential 50's rebel is back and brooding on Civic's stage.*  
April 22-25, 2004, WCC's Towsley Theatre

#### 75 th Anniversary Gala

*A memorable evening of entertainment and refreshment to commemorate this landmark year.*  
May 6, 2004, WCC

#### My One and Only

*A tap dancing, Gershwin-filled musical confection.*  
June 3-6, 2004, Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre

#### Junior Theatre's *Pied Piper* and *The Odyssey*

*Performed by young people for young people. Always fun!*  
November 2003 & April 2004, WCC's College Theatre

Our venues include UM's venerable Mendelssohn Theatre and WCC's contemporary Towsley Auditorium.



Donate  
\$6,000 or more  
and get a **Season  
Sponsorship**: All  
of the top benefits  
and more for the  
entire 2003-2004  
Season!

## What do you get for your donation?

So, if you commit to sponsorship to Ann Arbor Civic Theatre, what can you expect to achieve for your company? Lots! Below is our listing of benefits for our sponsors:

### Season Sponsor \$6000

- 10 complimentary season tickets
- Full page ad in all our season programs
- Logo and sponsor name in all *Spotlight* newsletters
- Company logo on cover of entire season's show programs and on lobby display
- Company mentioned in pre-show announcement at all shows in the season
- Your company named in publicity for the entire season, including posters & display ads
- Company logo on A2CT website home page with link to your site
- Invitation to all opening night parties
- Pending director approval, 2 of your staff appear on stage
- Opportunity to have a post-show tour on stage after one of each season show
- Invitation to attend final Dress Rehearsal

### Major Sponsor of an Individual Show \$4000

- 12 complimentary tickets to the show
- Full page ad in show program
- Company Logo on cover of show program and on lobby display
- Your company Logo on A2CT website Show page with link to your site
- Invitation to attend final Dress Rehearsal
- An opportunity to introduce the show at the theatre
- Pending director approval, 2 of your staff appear on stage
- Opportunity to have a post-show tour on stage after a show
- Company named in all publicity for individual show, including poster & display ads

### Co-Sponsor of an Individual Show \$2000

- 8 complimentary tickets to the show
- Your company's ½ page ad in the show program
- Company mentioned in pre-show announcement
- Company logo on cover of show program and on lobby display
- Company logo on poster
- Company logo on A2CT website Show page
- Company named in all publicity for individual show, including poster & display ads

### Contributing Sponsor for an Individual Show \$1000

- 4 complimentary tickets to the show
- Company logo on inside cover of show program and on lobby display
- Your company Logo on A2CT website Show page
- Company named in all publicity for the show, including poster & display ads
- Your company's ½ page ad in show program

A2CT Benefits of Sponsorship





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We Depend on Companies Like Yours

## **N**on-Profits depend on companies like yours

When, during WWII, Winston Churchill was advised to cut arts funding, he answered, "Good God no! What do you think we're fighting for?" Well, the facts today are that arts funding in Michigan is lower than ever, and non-profit arts groups are feeling the crunch of the economy as much as everyone else.

### **Donating to Ann Arbor Civic Theatre**

Just as it was during the Renaissance, artists depend upon the patronage of sponsors like you in order to make their dreams a reality. Many people don't realize that a theatre cannot function based upon ticket sales alone. A2CT ticket sales account for only 60% of our operating budget. The remainder comes from sponsors, members, and participants. Also, ask A2CT about installment payment plans.

### **A2CT Activities**

Our theatre is involved in the following activities:

- Producing its own theatrical productions
- Performance, technology, and educational workshops
- Children's theatre through our A2CT Junior Theatre
- Space, costume and equipment rental to the community
- Partnerships with other theatres for space, marketing & production
- Participation in community events like the Dexter-Ann Arbor Run, Taste of Ann Arbor, Fourth of July Parade, etc.

### **Reasons for Donating**

- An opportunity to give back to the community that has given so much to you.
- An expression of your company's values.
- Recognition among thousands of our audience members as a patron of the arts.
- A practical commitment so that the oldest (75 years) community theatre in Michigan can continue.
- An expression of dedication to the education of our children (A2CT Junior Theatre).
- An opportunity to improve the quality of life in Ann Arbor.
- Gaining a tax write-off.

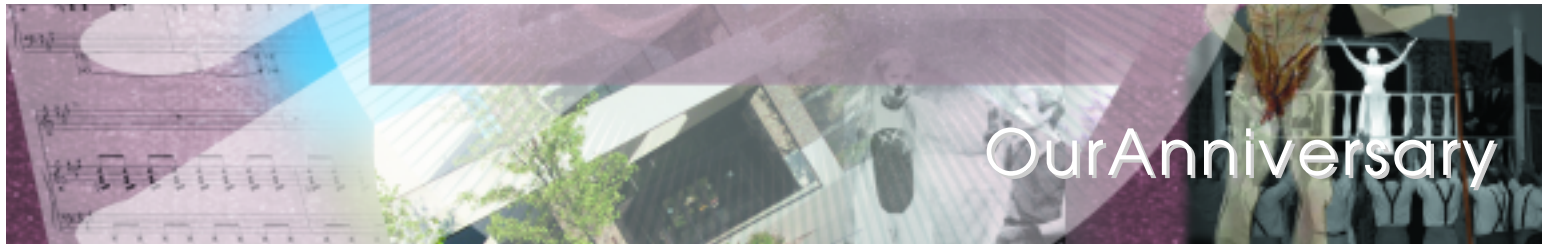
### **Legacy Gifts**

Bequests assure that a donor will leave a lasting legacy of support to the arts. You can designate Ann Arbor Civic Theatre as a beneficiary for all or a portion of your estate. Contact us at 734/971.0605!

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Fx: 734/971.2769  
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75th Anniversary Gala Sponsorships

# A Very Special Evening

The Ann Arbor Civic Theatre 75th Anniversary Gala  
May 6, 2004  
Towsley Auditorium, on the campus of Washtenaw Community College



The Ann Arbor Civic Theatre Gala will be an evening to honor and celebrate the theatre's 75 years of powerful performances by members of our local community. The event will include a show which will highlight favorite musical and dramatic performances from the past, an awards ceremony, and a dessert reception featuring photographs and other memorabilia from the past 75 years. This event will be a wonderful opportunity for theatre members, loyal audience, community members and local media to commemorate Ann Arbor Civic Theatre's first 75 years, and anticipate the next 75 years!

## Gala Sponsorship Benefits Packages

### Major Sponsor \$2,500

- Appear on banner over Main Street
- Reserved seating for 10 employees
- Full page ad in Gala program
- Logo and sponsor name on invitations, posters, commemorative photo and all other communications
- Logo and sponsor name on display ads in newspapers
- Company logo on Ann Arbor Civic Theatre's website with link to your website
- Opportunity to announce your company's sponsorship from the Gala stage
- Ten employees invited as VIP guests to pre-show champagne reception
- Company logo and name on lobby display and in reception area
- Post-show photo of employees in attendance

### Associate Sponsor \$1,000

- Reserved seating for 6 employees
- Half page ad in Gala program
- Logo and sponsor name on invitations, posters, and other communications
- Logo and sponsor name on display ads in newspapers
- Company logo on Ann Arbor Civic Theatre's website with link to your website
- Company logo and name on lobby display and in reception area

The Gala promises to be a night of nostalgia and anticipation for the over 1,500 guests invited.

