



History

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

Over 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. Over seventy-five years and 450 shows later, we continue to provide theatre opportunities for all members of the community, as well as providing quality entertainment for Southeast Michigan.

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 chance 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 more volatile equity markets. Because of this prudent choice, no Civic Theatre funds were lost during the active 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 full 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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A2ct

'05-'06 Season

ANN ARBOR CIVIC THEATRE

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Quality theatre in Ann Arbor

For over 75 years, Ann Arbor Civic Theatre has been impressing Ann Arbor audiences with its professional quality productions of the greatest shows of our time. In a lineup that takes you around the world and across the centuries, the 2004-05 season promises to attract large audiences. Our venues include UM's venerable Mendelssohn Theatre and WCC's contemporary Towsley Auditorium.

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West Side Story

Shakespeare's star-crossed lovers hit the mean streets of New York in this groundbreaking modern musical based on Romeo & Juliet.
September 15-18, 2005, Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre

All My Sons

A2CT pays tribute to the genius of Arthur Miller with his powerful drama of politics and family.
November 10-13, 2005, WCC's Towsley Auditorium

Guys & Dolls

Tough-guy gambler Nathan Detroit meets his match in beautiful missionary Sarah in this classic American musical.
January 12-15, 2006, Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre

A Thousand Clowns

A free-spirited writer tries to balance uncle-hood, romance and responsibility in this wacky comedy.
March 2-5, 2006, WCC's Towsley Auditorium

The Nerd

If you've ever had a guest you just couldn't get rid of, you'll root for the hapless hero in this side-splitting slapstick comedy.
April 6-9, 2006, WCC's Towsley Auditorium

The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas

Loveable ladies and randy cowboys mix it up with the mass media in this rollicking musical comedy.
June 8-11, 2006, Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre

Two Junior Theatre Productions TBA

Performed by young people for young people. Always fun!
Fall 2005 and Spring 2006, WCC's College Theatre



The 2005-2006 A2CT Season

Donate \$6,000 or more and get a **Season Sponsorship**: All of the top benefits and more for the entire Ann Arbor Civic 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 show's page on A2CT website 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 1/2 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 show's page on A2CT website
- 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 show's page on A2CT website
- Company named in all publicity for the show, including poster & display ads
- Your company's 1/2 page ad in show program

A2CT Benefits of Sponsorship

Non-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.

A2CT ticket sales account for only 60% of our operating budget. The remainder comes from sponsors, members, and participants.

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 A2CT's Junior Theatre
- Space, costume and equipment rental to the community
- Partnerships with other theatres for space, marketing & production
- Participation in community events



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 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 (through A2CT's Junior Theatre).
- An opportunity to improve the quality of life in Ann Arbor.
- Obtaining 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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