



SEASON 32

2020-21



YOUTH CREATING QUALITY THEATER

Vision: The Vision of AECT is a community that values youth creating art for the benefit of all.

Mission: This vision is accomplished by offering young people of all backgrounds, cultures, and lifestyles the opportunity to produce professional quality plays, study many aspects of the dramatic arts, and develop valuable life skills while providing outstanding entertainment to the community.

Anti-Discrimination Policy: All-of-us Express Children Theatre is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation and an equal opportunity employer providing programs and services without regard to age, color, creed, gender identity, disability, height, membership in any labor organization, national origin, parental status, political identification, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or weight.



Letter from the AECT President

Keeping calm and carrying on seemed to be the name of the game for the 2020-21 Season. All-of-us Express Children's Theatre (AECT) learned a lot from the COVID-19 abbreviated season a year ago and made the decision to forge ahead for the 32nd Season with nearly all of our productions presented virtually instead of on stage in front of live audiences.

The fall show double bill of *Princess and the Pea/Snow White*, the winter show - *The Prince and the Pauper*, and the spring offering - *Charlotte's Web* were all rehearsed and performed online. These outstanding virtual performances were recognized by the Michigan Recreation and Parks Association (mParks) by awarding AECT the 2021 Innovative Programming Award. When we were able to have some live performances, AECT jumped at the chance to be in the theater again. Our studio class presentation of *War of the Worlds* and summer productions of *Alice in Wonderland* and *The Jungle Book*, as well as our Summer Camp program, were all able to be presented live and in person and earned well deserved praise from our enthusiastic audiences.

From a financial standpoint, AECT did very well as we were able to keep production costs down and continue our fundraising efforts throughout the season. Once again, I want to thank the dedicated AECT board, loyal membership, energetic youth, valued partnership with the City of East Lansing and our generous supporters for your continued support and hard work to ensure AECT could carry on through it all!

It is difficult to know what the 33rd season will look like. Whether it will be virtual or live, we will continue to fulfill AECT's mission of offering young people of all backgrounds, cultures, and lifestyles the opportunity to produce professional quality plays, study many aspects of the dramatic arts, and develop valuable life skills while providing outstanding entertainment to the community.

-Paul Beczkiewicz, President, All-of-us Express Children's Theatre



SEASON 32 NUMBERS

800

ALICE IN WONDERLAND
ATTENDANCE

86

TOTAL CAST
PARTICIPATION

100

TOTAL CREW
PARTICIPATION

66

AECT MEMBERSHIPS

182

DRAMA CAMP
PARTICIPATION

15

JUNGLE BOOK
PARTICIPATION

177

TOTAL VIRTUAL
HOUSEHOLD AND GROUP
TICKETS SOLD

13

WAR OF THE WORLDS
PARTICIPATION

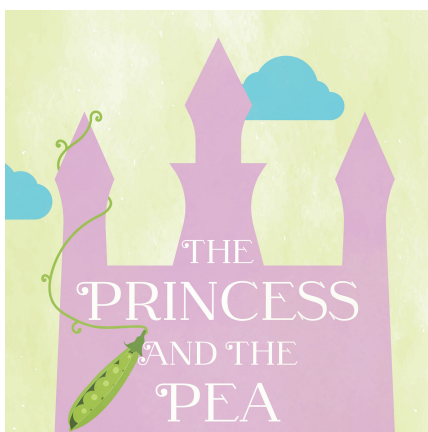


SEASON 32

Princess and the Pea and Snow White

November 6, 2020 (YouTube Opening Night)

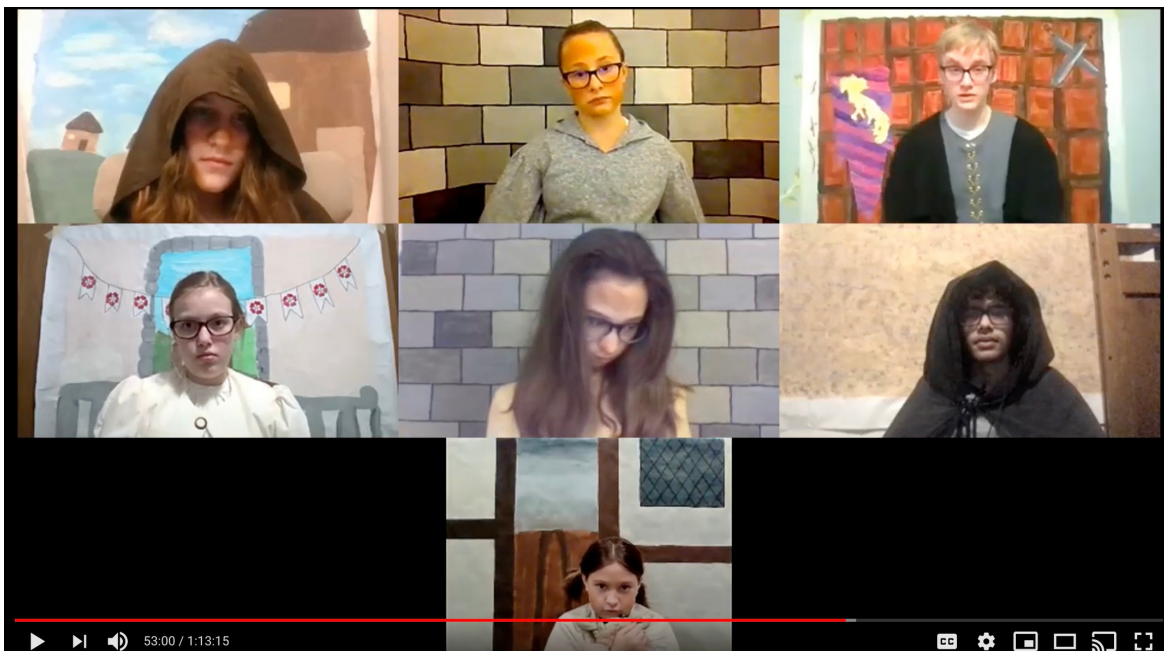
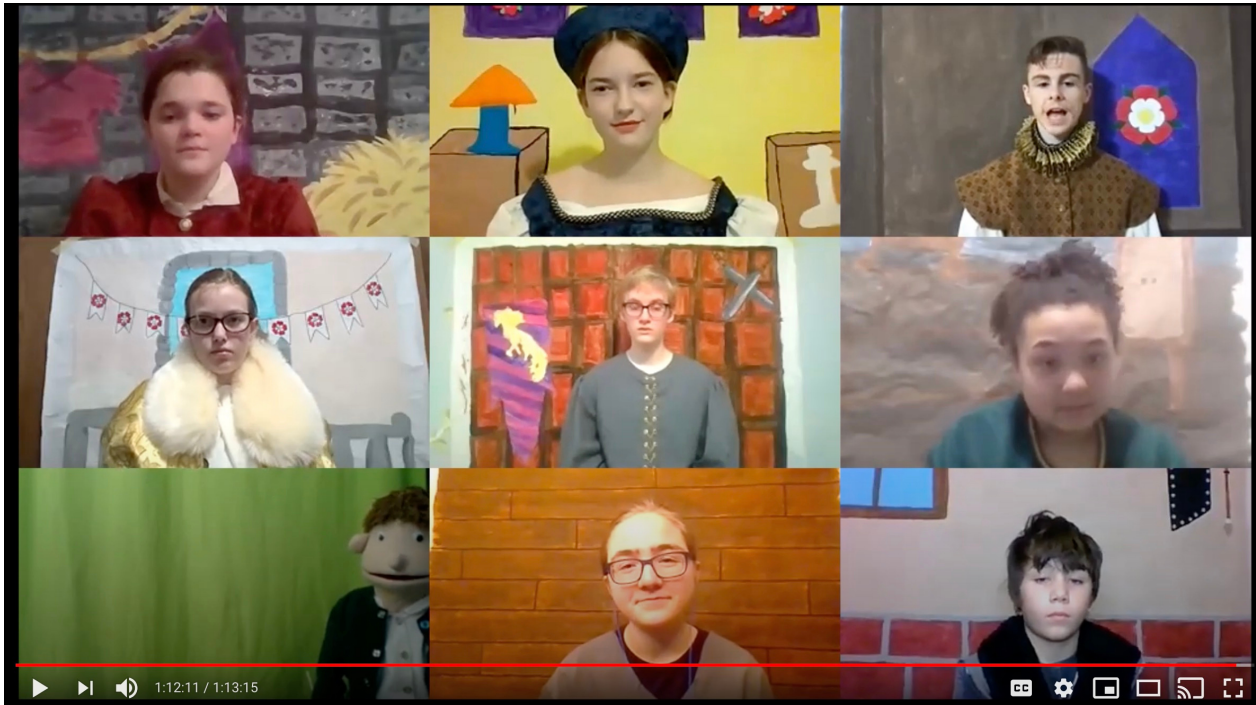
Directed by Liz Cooke and Diane Cooke



The Prince and the Pauper

February 12, 2020 (YouTube Opening Night)

Directed by Steve Neal



Charlotte's Web

April 23, 2021 (YouTube Opening Night)

Directed by Jen Shaw



Alice in Wonderland

July 30 -August 8, 2021

Directed by Jocelyn France



GUILD PROGRAM



AECT's unique Guild program affords youth the opportunity to learn and excel at backstage crafts. Adult Guild supervisors mentor young people through the sequential stages of learning each of the non-acting areas of stagecraft, including Director, Management, Set Construction, Props, Costumes, Makeup, and Tech (sound and lights) Guilds. This year was also the inaugural year for the Puppetry Crew. The new Youth Leadership Initiatives committee created a guild manual and met with participants to make the process of earning guild badges more transparent to youth and parents.

Youth that work and learn on the guild crews experience a sense of accomplishment, increased self-esteem and gain an appreciation for all aspects of theatre while having fun. Seeing what they helped to create on stage is very rewarding and many come to love the backstage work and want to be involved with it again. The real-life skills participants learn through this process have practical applications outside the world of theater also. Carpentry, sewing, project planning and management, teamwork, mentoring, design aesthetics, problem-solving, time management, and financial budgeting are some of the many skills they learn and practice on a guild crew.



ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS

War of the Worlds: Podcast Writing and Recording

January - May 2021

Led by Tristan Tanner and Audrey Tieman

From January through April, youth met weekly in a virtual writing room on Saturday mornings to write their own podcast version of *War of the Worlds*, setting it as a radio call-in show. After writing, revising, and editing, participants were cast as characters and recorded the podcast, with the radio hosts in a recording studio while other cast members called in over Zoom. The recorded podcast is available on Youtube. In May, participants performed a live reading in the Hannah Community Center auditorium, which was attended by an audience of 66 family members.



The Jungle Book Touring Production

June- August 2021

Led by Jen Shaw and Elena Forman

The Jungle Book is AECT's first touring production, performing in July and August in various venues across East Lansing: East Lansing Arts Festival, MSU's Circle Theatre, Valley Court Park, and the East Lansing Library. The production included live music, written and performed by two East Lansing High School students.

The idea for the touring show was developed by AECT's first Youth Leadership Initiatives (YLI) committee, and the script was written by youth board member Elena Forman, who also co-directed the play. Youth participants auditioned for the touring show and rehearsed on Saturdays throughout the summer. The touring nature of the production challenged the youth to quickly change blocking to accommodate different shapes and sizes of stages.

AECT NONPROFIT STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR July 1, 2020 - JUNE 30, 2021

Budget Description	Actual
Revenue	
Fundraising	31677.78
Grants	23,433.92
Memberships	3600.00
Sponsorship	1000.00
Other	96.59
Total Revenue	59,808.29
Expenses	
Fundraising	3,340.94
Other	90.86
Operations	2550.61
Production - City	27,820.00
Scholarships	1553.75
Total Expenses	35,356.16
Net Revenue (Loss)	24,452.13

The AECT nonprofit board raises funds through a variety of fundraising activities, including concessions at live performances, grants from private foundations and public entities, and donations and memberships from individuals.

The Greater Lansing community continued to give generously to our can drive, making up the majority of our donations.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, we were not able to fundraise in our typical ways. We held a virtual board table for two of our virtual productions, selling opening weekend concession kits and inviting online bidding for signed, framed posters. For the summer production, we were able to resume concessions and sell merchandise at the board table.

As it does every year, the nonprofit board of AECT voted on its commitment to the City of East Lansing for the continued operation of the program. The board contributed \$24,500 to the City of East Lansing for the 2020 – 2021 season.

On the expense side, all areas were under budget.

Thank You to our Season Grantors and Donors

The value of donors and grantors to the All-of-us Express Children's Theatre cannot be overstated. Their support is vital to the continued success of AECT, and we extend to them a heartfelt "thank you" for being our partners in providing quality theater to the community.

Grants Awarded

Arts Council of Greater Lansing Young Creatives
East Lansing Arts Commission
Ingham County Hotel/Motel Fund
Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs
MSU Federal Credit Union
R.E. Olds Foundation

July 1, 2020-June 30, 2021 Donors

Crown (\$1,000-\$1,500)

JNL Charitable Foundation
Microsoft Reward Donations

Top Hat (\$500-\$999)

Dorinda & Gary VanKempen
Joy Campbell & Kyle Enger
United Way Lansing

Stetson (\$250-\$499)

GlaxoSmithKline Foundation
Jennifer Dunn & Family

Derby (\$100-\$249)

Andrea & Vincent Tardino
Andy Boyan
Bruce & Diane Cooke
Cathy & Robert Wilson
Christopher Gillett
Clint & Andrea Hoagland
Family
Jason Moon
Lawrence & Mary Hennessey
Paul Beczkiewicz
Roy & Alice Erickson

Strawboater (\$25-\$99)

Amazon Smile Donations
April Hunt
David Lipsitz & Claudia
Holzman
Doug & Maureen Dykstra
Jamie Schriener & Family
Jen & Dan Shangraw
Jen VanDerHeide
JNL Donors
Joyce & Alan Lockwood
Katie & Todd Brewer
Kyle & Sarah Dymond
Mike & Paula Koppisch
Virginia Larson

Can & Bottle Donors

\$250-\$499

Anonymous Donors
Tom & Nancy Edmiston
Katie Hennessey

\$100-\$249

Alex Kincade
Alyssa Wethington

Amanda & Tim Darche
Amanda Groen
Andrea Besley
Andy Boyan
Chris Martin
Clint Schaefer
Clint & Andrea Hoagland
Colleen Keiper
Dee McKay
Donna Heiner
Dorinda & Gary VanKempen
Eric & Lori Schaefer
Erin Roberts
Gary Stacey
Heather & Kris Nicholoff
Jeff Anderson
Jeffrey D'Valentine
Jen & Dan Shangraw
Jen Bricarell
Jen Nelson
Jenn James
Joy Campbell
Katherine Cull
Kelli Careathers
Kit Carlson

Kyle & Sarah Dymond
Kyle Klein & Kasey Bey
Magelone Bollen
Michael & Kellee
Christensen
Michelle Hallan
Mike & Sue Leffler
Pamela Meadows
Paul Vance
Phillip & Kara Kurzeja
Richard Crittenden
Ross Fort
Timothy F. Hughes

\$25-\$99

Adrienne DeFord
Afsaneh Sedghi
Alice & Roy Erickson
Ally Affandy
Alyson Lokken Green
Amy Donnellan
Andrea Fulgencio
Angie Falzon
April Allison
Ariel Gallanosa
Ashild Thompson
Ashley VanDusen
Beth Prince
Bob & Nancy Metzger
Bryan Van Dorn
Carol Nicholson
Chad Wing
Cindy Wilhelm
Claire Margerison
Cody Skalmowski
Courtney Geisel
Cristian Meghea
Cynthia & Edgar Church

David Fraas
Denise Fuller
Diane Cortright
Eileen & Aaron Sturm
Eileen Kavanagh
Ellen Trecha
Ellie Darnell
Emily & William Haggerty
Erin Emerson
Frederic Svoboda
Jacqueline Rhodes
Jason Hatter
Jessica Flowers
Joan Nowinski

Jon Margules
Jon Martin
Keith Etheridge
Kevin & Georgia Ellis
Krista Gee
Kristin Clark
Kristina Beauchamp
Kyle & Bridget Melinn
Larry & Elizabeth Schneider
Libby Keenan
Lissy Goralnik
Liz Meyer
Lori Cunningham
Lynn Aguado
Lynne Swanson
Lysne Tait
Mary Spencer
Matt Preisser
Maureen Schmieder
Mehgan Wallace
Pam Terris
Pamela Harden
Peggy Tobin
Peter Ulrich

Sara Draper
Sarah Nussbaumer
Sharon Wood
Sonya Wardell
Stephanie Miller
Sue Snodgrass
Suporn Teng
Suzanne Wilson
Sylvia Morse
Todd Calder
Tom & Kay Sparks
Tracy Fleming

2020-21 (Season 32) AECT Nonprofit Board of Trustees

The AECT Nonprofit is governed by a volunteer Board of Trustees. All Board officers and members are elected at the annual membership meeting held each September. The Board also consists of voting and non-voting youth members whose input is highly valued, and which offers valuable experience. Every Board member also serves on at least one committee.

Officers

President: Paul Beczkiewicz

Vice-President: Jen VanDerHeide

Secretary: Andy Boyan

Treasurer: Jeff D'Valentine

Trustees

Joy Campbell

Chris Gillett

Courtney Riggins

Jen Shangraw

Jen Shaw

Cody Skalmowski

Peter VanZwoll

Elena Forman, Voting Youth Member*

Caitlin Shaw-- Voting Youth Member*

*The AECT Bylaws provide for voting youth members age 16 or 17, as well as an honorary non-voting youth member age 15

City of East Lansing Department of Parks, Recreation & Arts-AECT Program Staff

Department Director: Cathy DeShambo

Former Department Director: Timothy McCaffrey

AECT Program Coordinator: Kathleen Miller

AECT Artistic Director: Elizabeth Cooke

AECT Theater Aide: Tristan Tanner

All-of-us Express Children's Theatre Members

Lifetime Members

The Bass-Pohl Family
The Brewer Family
The Campbell-Enger Family
Ainsley Coty
The Coy Family
Craig & Duncan Darnell Family
Brent and Sara Dolan
The Downs Family
The Derosia-Forman Family
The Dreger-Sousa Family
The D'Valentine Family
The Dymond Family
Michael and Mian Fisher
The Fisk Family
The Fitschen-Brown Family
The Gisholt Family
The Hay Family
Paul & Judy Hershkowitz
The Hoagland Family
The Ives-Johnson Family
The Kavanagh Family
The Lees Family
Neysa McGarrity
Tom Meyer & Susan Ahrens
The Michael Moore Family
The Amy Moore Family
The Nash Family
Marsha Parrot-Boyle
The Polinovasteiner Family
The Prush Family
The Reed Family
Danielle Robinson
The Schlinger & Gerry Family
The Shaw Family
The Sigworth Family
The Ericka Smith Family
The Stamfords
Will Tieman and Wendy Hart Family
The Treadwell Family
Dorinda & Gary Vankempen
Peter and Mary VanZwoll
Eileen Walter

Evelyn Weymouth
The Woodrough Family
The Yates Family

Family Members

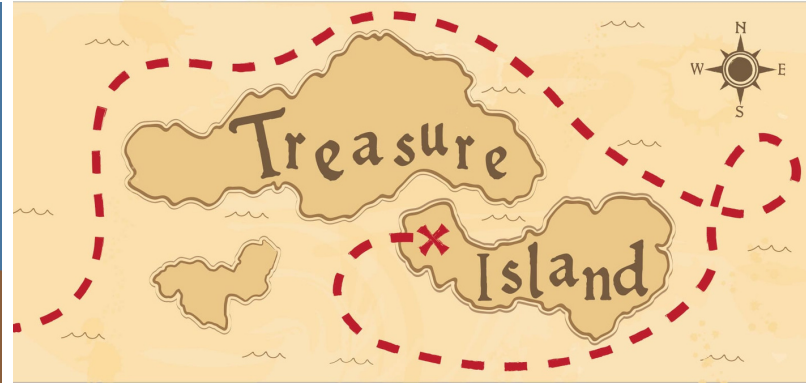
The Beczkiewicz Family
The Biddington Family
The Boyan Family
The Canfield Family
The Charest Family
The DeMuth Family
The Dunn Family
The Gillet Family
The Gorchow Family
The Hoogstraten Family
The Hunt Family
Libby Keenan
The Lapidus-Winnie Family
The Meghea Family
The Ogilvie-Howard Family
The Shangraw Family
The Tait Family
The Tardino Family
The Unruh Family
The VanDerHeide Family
The Wilson Family

SEASON 33

Mainstage Productions



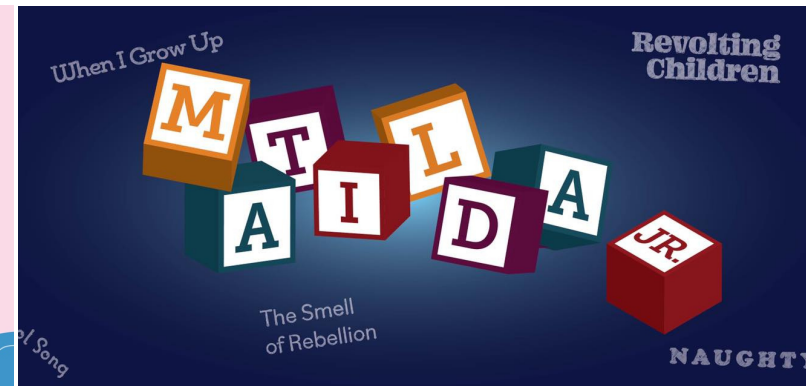
Fall 2021



Winter 2022



Spring 2022



Summer 2022



Studio Class
January-May 2022