



CHILDREN'S THEATRE

ALL-OF-US EXPRESS CHILDREN'S THEATRE

2018-2019 ANNUAL REPORT AECT SEASON 30



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.

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Numbers Served in Season 30

Total Show Attendance: 4,730 community members

Studio Class Performance Attendance: 85 community members

Drama Camp Attendance: 260 youth

Total Cast Participation: 157 youth

Crew Participation: 216 youth

First Time Participation With AECT: 152 youth

Memberships: 86 lifetime, family and supporting members

LETTERS FROM THE AECT NONPROFIT BOARD OF TRUSTEES CO-PRESIDENTS

As the 30th Anniversary Season comes to a close so does my four years of serving on the AECT Board of Trustees. Thanks to both the amazing board members and employees at the COEL for making my time here so memorable. I have truly enjoyed getting to know everyone and working collaboratively for this incredible children's theatre!

AECT continues to play an awe-inspiring positive role in many children's lives. The board has worked hard to make sure that this impact continues. This year the AECT Board has exceeded our grant goals, made huge strides in fundraising and completed the updated agreement with the COEL.

Thanks to all who gave me the opportunity to lead the board the past few years. I know that I leave the board in good hands. Those who serve on the board do so because they know the true positive impact AECT has on youth. May that impact continue as we move into the 31st season.

~Katie Brewer, Co-President, All-of-us Express Children's Theatre



Those who have been a part of All-of-us Express Children's Theatre over the past 30 years have left a part of themselves with it, as it is so easy to do when you find something so special. They have added a sparkle and flare that is recognizable to those who would see it.

I saw it a few years ago when my daughter decided she wanted to be on the AECT stage. Then I found out about the guild program and how students are leaders, putting on the show from props to costumes and lighting. My daughter spent her next show on the costume crew sewing a dress from a bolt of fabric and a pattern. That's when I realized just how special All-of-us Children's Theatre is, and why I am so honored to be a part of the Board.

While one season ends, a new one begins and the AECT Board of Trustees is excited to embark upon a new year, full of excitement, talent and discovery. We will continue the efforts started before us and hopefully add a little of ourselves to leave behind as well.

~Adrienne Yates, Co-President, All-of-us Express Children's Theatre

30th Anniversary Season

Ideally each season productions are chosen by a committee of board members, parents, and youth who read and discuss scripts and select potential shows meeting established criteria, including cast size; potential to attract larger, non-traditional audiences; subject matter suitability; and artistic challenge to participants. Collaborating artists become involved in project planning at pre-production meetings that articulate the director's vision, goals and projects for each production.

Unless noted otherwise, productions are staged at the East Lansing Hannah Community Center Alfred A. White Performing Arts Theater, which features a proscenium style stage. Cast and crew rehearsals also are held at Hannah Community Center.

Sherlock Holmes and the First Baker Street Irregular

November 2-4 and 9-11, 2018; Hannah Community Center, East Lansing
Directed by Elizabeth Cooke



My Name is Rumpelstiltskin/The Twelve Dancing Princesses

February 8-10 and 15-17, 2019; Hannah Community Center, East Lansing

Directed by Amelia Rogocka/Diane Cooke



The Wizard of Oz- Collaboration with Riverwalk Theatre
April 26-28 and May 3-5, 2018; Hannah Community Center, East Lansing
Directed by Tom Ferris



Mary Poppins Jr.-

July 26-28 and August 2-4, 2018; Hannah Community Center, East Lansing
Directed by Jocelyn France



Show photos courtesy Teriah Fleming (Teriah Nicole Artistry)

SCHOOL SHOWS

AECT offers one school show for each production to enhance field trip opportunities in the arts for local schools, daycares, preschools, and community groups. The AECT Artistic Director prepares and provides curriculum guides to the groups, to increase the learning potential. After each school show AECT also offers a “talk back” opportunity where the audience asks questions of the cast and crew. This season we had 601 in attendance at the school shows.

Studio Class

In May 2019, performed its second studio class Ray Bradbury’s Fahrenheit 451. The studio class was a program designed by Artistic Director Liz Cooke and Director Steven Neal as a means for participants to challenge themselves as actors. The studio class gave the young actors the platform to take risks and engage in powerful experiences in the theater.



Photos courtesy Zoe McClintic

GUILD PROGRAM

AECT's unique Guild program is rewarding for our youth participants while they are involved with the theatre and beyond. It 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. 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.

The Guild program has recently been updated and a new Guild book should be available soon.



CLASSES/WORKSHOPS/DRAMA CAMP/LESSONS

AECT continues to offer Drama Camps during the summer for ages 6 through 15. Drama Camp consists of 5 days of dramatic instruction and culminates in a performance for family and friends on the last day. AECT offers both one-week and two-week camps as options for parents/caregivers. The two-week camp is a more in-depth study of theater and may include musical content depending on the weekly theme.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The AECT Board continues to administer the scholarship program. Funds raised by the AECT Board allow us to provide scholarships for cast and crew fees to families who complete an application and claim need. Nineteen youth received cast/crew scholarships. Seven were board scholarships and twelve were from the ACGL Grant we received.

**AECT NONPROFIT STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR July 1, 2018 - JUNE 30, 2019**

Budget Description	Actual
Revenue	
Donations	\$ 3,459.06
Grants	20,400.00
Memberships	4,210.62
Sponsorships	500.00
Fundraising	7,948.75
Donations in Kind	11,500.00
Other	-
Total Revenue	\$ 48,018.43
Expenses	
Accounting Services	\$ 2,000.00
Billboard Advertising	2,500.00
Concessions Operator	1,500.00
Fundraising	3,509.44
Finance Charges	-
Grant Writing Services	2,000.00
Operations	5,874.52
Outreach	-
Printing	2,500.00
Production - City	35,897.00
Scholarships	1,999.50
Webmaster Services	1,000.00
Total Expenses	\$ 58,7800.46
Net Revenue (Loss)	\$ (10,762.03)

The AECT nonprofit board raises funds through grants, sponsorships, fundraising, donations, concessions, and memberships. This past year, the Board assumed Concessions responsibility for the summer production of Willy Wonka. Due to its great success as a revenue generating activity, the board has since continued to coordinate concessions for all of AECT's shows, and has generated a gross profit of \$2,208.55 for the fiscal year.

Last year, the nonprofit board and membership voted to align the fiscal year of the nonprofit with the City of East Lansing in order to coordinate the accounting practices, and to ensure that financial information was reported effectively and efficiently. The new fiscal year began July 1, 2018 and ended on June 30, 2019. As a result, the 2017 – 2018 fiscal year was shortened due to the new accounting practices. In July 2019, the board felt obligated to honor its 2017 – 2018 monetary commitment to the City and voted to contribute the additional \$15,147 to the City keeping the commitment to contribute \$32,000 for the 2017 – 2018 operation of the program

Additionally, the nonprofit contributed \$20,750 for the operation of the program to cover expenses including but not limited to: theater and rehearsal space fees at the Hannah Community Center, part of the artistic director and theater aide salaries, crew head stipends, printing costs, show supplies (costumes, props, sets, make-up, tech), publicity, play scripts and royalties, for the July 2018 – June 2019 fiscal year

At the end of our new fiscal year, June 30, 2019, the AECT nonprofit headed into fiscal year 2019-2020 with a bank account balance of \$20,210.43

2018-2019 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: Katie Brewer
Co-President: Adrienne Yates
Vice-President: Matt Treadwell
Secretary: Todd Vanderbur
Co-Secretary: Adam Denton
Treasurer: Cynthia Wright-Pratt
Co-Treasurer: Jeff D'Valentine

Trustees:

Sara Frank-Hepfer
Andy Bowen
Jen Ackerman
Jen VanDerHeide
Kym McDaniel
Paul Beczkiewicz
Peter VanZwoll
Audrey Tieman-- 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: Timothy McCaffrey
AECT Program Coordinator: Kathleen Miller
AECT Artistic Director: Elizabeth Cooke
AECT Theater Aide: Tristan Tanner

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
Capital Regional Community Foundation
Ingham County Hotel/Motel Fund
East Lansing Arts Commission
Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs
Jackson National Community Fund

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Sponsorships:

MSU Federal Credit Union

Donors:

Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund:

- Ellen A. Ives & Colleen Johnson

Network for Good (Facebook):

- Anonymous
- Michael D'Valentine
- Robert D'Valentine

The Charitable Giving Card Program of The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee:

- Anonymous
- Elizabeth Brown
- Courtney Riggins
- Joe Styka
- Mary Lawrence

Capital Area United Way – Jackson National Life:

- Elizabeth Brown
- Trevor McMinn
- Sarah Peterson
- Nikole Souza
- Jackson National Life Company Match

Capital Area United Way – Meijer Distribution Center:

- Cameron Jay Reed

MEMBERSHIP

Lifetime Members

The Bass-Pohl Family
The Brewer Family
The Campbell-Enger Family
Ainsley Coty
The Coy Family
The Darnell Family
The Dolan Family
The Downs Family
The Dreger-Sousa Family
Michael & Mian Fisher
The Fisk Family
The Fitschen-Brown Family
The Gisholt Family
The Hay Family
Paul & Judy Hershkowitz
The Ives-Johnson Family
The Lees Family
Neysa McGarrity
Tom Meyer & Susan Ahrens
The 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 Stamford Family
Will Tieman & Wendy Hart-Tieman Family
The Treadwell Family
Dorinda & Gary VanKempen
Eileen Walters
Evelyn Weymouth
The Yates Family

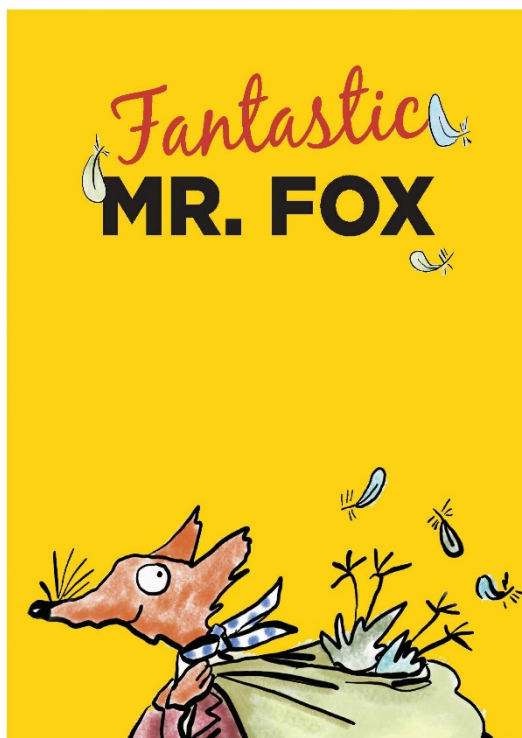
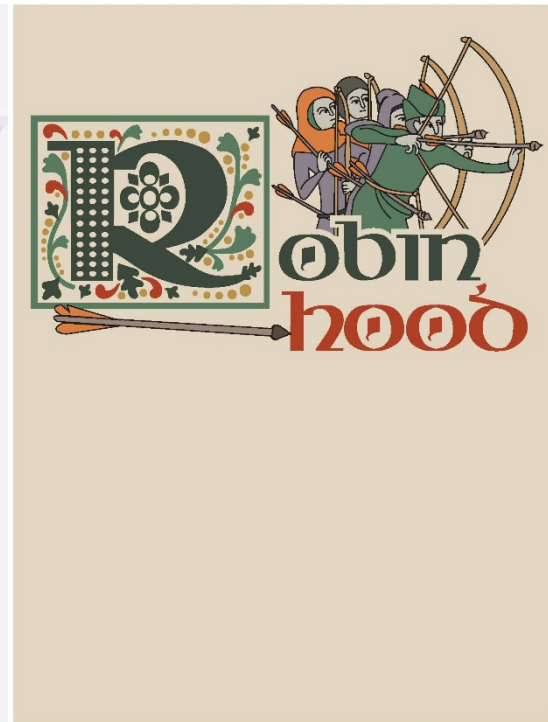
Family Members

The Ackerman Family
The Anderson/Duffeimerer Family
The Baer Family
The Bartlett/Jones Family
The Beczkiewicz Family
The Beeler Family
The Biddington Family
The Boyan Family
Bruce & Diane Cooke
The Cooper Family
The DeMuth Family
The DeRosia-Forman Family
Dunn-Betanzos Family
The Dymond Family
The Hoagland Family
The Hunt Family
Joe & Stephanie White
Julia Freije
Kanaby Family
LeFevre Family
McDaniel Family
Moon Family
Phelan Family
Repins Family
Riggins Family
Ringlever Family
Shangraw Family
Silbergleid Family
Straley Family
Toomey Family
Unruh Family
Vanderbur Family
VanDerHeide Family
Venegas-Romero Family
Washington Family
Wilson Family
Wyble Family
Yen Family
Zhao Family

Supporting Members

Adam Denton
John & Heidi McGarry

2019-2020 SEASON PRODUCTIONS: 31st Season



All-of-us Express Children's Theatre

Nonprofit:

P.O. Box 1871
East Lansing Michigan 48826
board@allofusexpress.org
www.allofusexpress.org

Facebook search All-of-us Express
Twitter @AllofusExpress
Instagram @AllofusExpress

City of East Lansing AECT Program:

Hannah Community Center
819 Abbott Road
East Lansing Michigan 48823
517-333-2580
www.cityofeastlansing.com/allofus