



## 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.



It is safe to say that the 31st season of All-of-us Express Theatre had its ups and downs. We were able to put on two incredible shows in the fall and winter with *Poe – Dreams of Madness* and *Robin Hood*, but because of the COVID-19 pandemic we were forced to cancel both our spring and summer shows. Despite losing those live performances, we were able to offer exciting and well-received virtual summer camps, and we had an excellent fundraising year. We were able to exceed our financial goals primarily due to the wonderful outpouring of financial support from the community to ensure AECT could carry on!

As the new president of the AECT Nonprofit Board of Trustees, this has been a trying but hopeful year full of learning experiences, creative solutions and collaboration. I want to thank the dedicated AECT board, loyal membership, energetic youth, valued partnership with the City of East Lansing and our generous supporters.

I look forward to the 32nd season, which will feature our first-ever virtual production as we 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 31 NUMBERS



**1,340**

TOTAL SHOW  
ATTENDANCE

**54**

TOTAL CAST  
PARTICIPATION

**69**

TOTAL CREW  
PARTICIPATION

**70**

AECT MEMBERSHIPS

**81**

VIRTUAL DRAMA CAMP  
PARTICIPATION

**19**

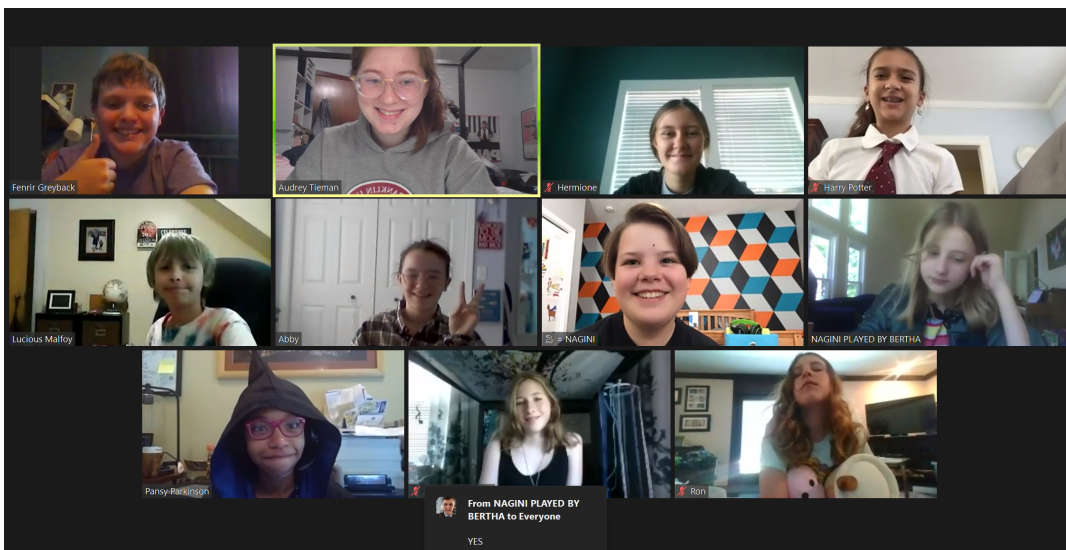
STUDIO CLASS  
PARTICIPATION

**54**

STUDIO CLASS  
PERFORMANCE  
ATTENDANCE

**12**

SHAKESPEARE CLASS  
PARTICIPATION



# SEASON 31

## *Poe: Dreams of Madness*

October 25 - November 5, 2019

Directed by Steven Neal



# *Robin Hood*

February 7-15, 2020

Directed by Jen Shaw



# 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.



# ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS

## *All the World's a Stage- A Shakespeare Intensive*

September 2019-January 2020

Led by Dale Williams

The Shakespeare intensive program was designed to give students in-depth instruction focused on Shakespeare's work and performing Shakespeare. The major areas that were covered throughout the course included Introductions to Shakespearean language and verse, sonnets, comedies, tragedies/histories, performing Shakespeare, and directing Shakespeare. The class ended with the students participating in a showcase of monologues and short scenes.



## Studio Class: *The Little Prince*

December 2019-  
August 2020

Led by Steve Neal  
and Audrey Tieman

The studio class is an in-depth study of theater with a focus on one piece of literature and the accompanying script version. Students in the class work together with their instructor to determine how to use acting blocks to form the necessary set, what costumes and props should be used, and how lights and sound will be used to enhance the production. In mid-March, the cast continued to meet via Zoom for Saturday rehearsals, transitioning to in-person, masked park rehearsals in July. In August, they presented their production to their families for two evening performances outside the Hannah Community Center.

## AECT NONPROFIT STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENSES FOR FISCAL YEAR July 1, 2019 - JUNE 30, 2020

Budget Description	Actual
Revenue	
Donations	\$ 4,305.50
Grants	31,675.00
Memberships	4,936.54
Sponsorships	0
Fundraising	8,633.15
Donations in Kind	9,000.00
Other	190.26
Total Revenue	\$ 58,740.45
Expenses	
Accounting Services	\$ 2,000.00
Concessions Operator	1,000.00
Fundraising	3,098.72
Finance Charges	-
Grant Writing Services	2,000.00
Operations	2,758.08
Outreach	-
Printing	2,500.00
Production - City	30,507.00
Scholarships	576.25
Webmaster Services	1,500.00
Advertising Grant Returned	794.15
Total Expenses	\$ 45,933.05
Net Revenue (Loss)	\$12,005.05

### Letter from the Treasurer:

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. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, our season was shortened after the winter show and forced us to cancel the spring production to be held at the Riverwalk Theater, our summer production and all in-person summer camps. Despite these obstacles, AECT had a strong year financially.



Here are some of the financial highlights for this season:

- **Membership and Donations:** As a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, cancelling two major productions and all in-person summer camps placed a significant strain on the AECT budget. However, the membership and donors increased their financial support to help AECT during the closures and cancelations giving generous gifts amounting to \$2,624.50 in April and May alone. Total donations exceeded the annual goal by \$1,805.50.
- **Other Fundraising:** AECT year-end giving appeal and participation in the nationwide Giving Tuesday generated an additional \$1,225.00 in support from individuals and families. AECT also hosted a 3-day Millionaire Party at The Poker Spot in December 2019 which generated \$2,301.00.
- **Concessions:** AECT continued the coordination of concessions for the live productions held at the Hannah Community Center and realized a gross profit of \$1,376.48 for the year.
- **Can and Bottle Return Drive:** A returnable can and bottle drive began in the middle of May as a result of the return centers not being available during the COVID-19 stay-at-home orders and closings. The overabundance of cans and bottles accumulating in family garages gave AECT a great opportunity to provide a useful community service while supporting the Theatre. This initiative generated donations of \$412.30 in May and \$1,076.10 in June, all of which are tax deductible donations. The can and bottle drive is now an ongoing service AECT provides as many families have asked us to continue picking up their returnables.
- **Grants:** Due to the diligence of our Grants Committee in renewing previous grants and securing new grants, AECT exceeded its Grants annual goal by \$6,175.00. This total was achieved despite having to return \$794.15 of an expired advertising grant as result from the cancelation of the spring production.
- **Contribution to the City of East Lansing:** 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 2019 – 2020 season. Because of the shortened season and loss of summer camp revenue, the City of East Lansing asked the Board for additional financial assistance to support virtual programming during the summer. As a result, the Board contributed an additional \$6,000 for virtual programming and other operational expenses.
- **Expenses:** On the expense side, all areas were under budget other than contributions to the City of East Lansing.

At the end of the fiscal year, June 30, 2020, the AECT nonprofit heads into our new fiscal year 2020-2021 with a bank account balance of \$25,235.81.

## 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  
R.E. Olds Foundation

### July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020 Donors

Anonymous Donors	April Hunt	Clint Schaefer
Pia Banzhaf	Jackson National Life	Shangraw Family
Magelone & Geog Bollen	Eileen Kavanagh	Paul & Lisa Speaker
Capital Region Community Foundation	Amanda Klein	Mary Spencer
Joy Campbell	Katie Loncarich	Amelia Swinton
Ann Carl	Michael & Megan Logan	Ashild Thompson
Emily Clark	Jon Margules	Edward Tardino
Amanda Darche	Jon Martin	Vincent Tardino
DeRosia-Forman Family	Marybeth McCreight	Kristen Taylor
Brent Dolan	Pamela Meadows	Pam Terris
Katherine Cull Donaldson	Christian Meghea	Cynthia Wright-Pratt
Jeff D'Valentine	Kyle & Bridget Melinn	Ellison Winterstein
Tom & Nancy Edmiston	Liz Meyer	Bob & Kathy Wilson
Bruce Edwards	Heather Nicholoff	Ashley VanDusen
Kevin & Georgia Ellis	Joan Nowinski	Alissa K. VanHoof
Amanda Groen	Patti Oates-Ulrich	Dorinda VanKempen
Emily & William Haggerty	Kim & Brandan Ringlever	Alyssa Wethington
Donna Heiner	Penny Rodriguez	Cindy Wilhelm
Margaret Holtschlag	Jarrod & Adrienne Rougeau	Suzanne Wilson
Timothy F. Hughes	Michael & Jan Ross	Sue Zegers

## **2019-2020 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: Todd Vanderbur  
Treasurer: Jeff D'Valentine

### Trustees

Andy Boyan  
Chris Gillett  
Courtney Riggins  
Jen Shangraw  
Peter VanZwoll  
Audrey Tieman-- Voting Youth Member\*  
Addy Vanderbur--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

## 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  
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  
Eileen Walters  
Evelyn Weymouth  
The Woodrough Family  
The Yates Family

### Family Members

The Ackerman Family  
The Beczkiewicz Family  
The Beeler Family  
The Biddington Family  
The Boyan Family  
The Charest Family  
The DeMuth Family  
The Dunn Family  
The Dymond Family  
Dianna, Ethan, Will & Nora Erickson  
The Gates Family  
The Gillet Family  
The Gorchow Family  
The Hunt Family  
The Johnson Family  
The Lapidus-Winnie Family  
The LeFevre Family  
Yanhong Luo  
The Moon Family  
The Ogilvie-Howard Family  
The Phelan Family  
The Shangraw Family  
The Shirin Kambin Timms Family  
The Silbergleid Family  
The Tait Family  
The Tardino Family  
The Unruh Family  
The Vanderbur Family  
The VanDerHeide Family  
The VanZwoll Family  
The Weissling Family  
The Wheeler Family  
The Wilcox Family  
The Wilson Family



Fall 2020



Winter 2021



Spring 2021



Summer 2021