

2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINEES

KATE DRAMSTAD



Kate spends her days working as a software engineering manager for Stitch Fix. A Helena native, Kate jumped at the chance to move back to her hometown three years ago and start working remotely. A K-12 Theatre School alum, Kate's found her way back to the stage in Book of Will and Puffs, as well as in the costume shop for The Cake. She believes the sense of community that Grandstreet creates for young people as well as the young at heart is special and vital to the lives of so many in the greater Helena area.

JIM TUCKER, JR.



Jim is the General Manager of the Comfort Suites Hotel and a lifelong fan of Grandstreet Theatre. His first stage experience was with Don and Janet on the HMS stage in 7th grade and it only took 25 years to get him back on stage at Grandstreet! GST has become a family affair offering Jim's wife, Jennifer, and their kids, Matthias and Amelia, great opportunities to be creative, be community, and to create memories for themselves and others. Just a few reasons why the Tucker family supports Grandstreet. Jim looks forward to any chance to serve and help Grandstreet's mission. many in the greater Helena area.

MICHELLE EDMUNDS



Michelle Edmunds is a "feel good" HR guru who specializes in Montana employment law and best practices. She utilizes this through HR consulting and providing staffing services to small and large businesses state wide. Michelle is the President and Sr. HR Consultant for Westaff and Personnel Plus Consulting Services. Michelle believes in win-win solutions and enjoys coaching and learning from her clients and team. She is passionate about working hard and playing harder while providing strategic HR solutions to small business owners like herself.

THEATRE STAFF

Kal Poole

Managing Director

Jeff Downing

Artistic Director

Marianne Adams

Director Of Education

Paige O'Neill

Technical Director

Jackie Hason-Felber

Box Office Manager & Administrative Assistant

Karen Hicks

Finance Manager

Emily Forsman

Program Designer

Jerry Sorensen

Custodian/Carpenter

Melanie Shaffer

Wardrobe Mistress

THEATRE SCHOOL FACULTY

Retta Leaphart

Martha Sprague

Molly Somerville

Colleen 'Binky' Watson

Ryan Eggensperger

2020-21 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Perri May
President

Jennifer Davis
Vice President

Margaret Herriges
Past President

Karen Zackheim
Secretary

Linsay Carlson
Treasurer

Stan Kaleczyc
Legal Advisor

Bonnie Adee
Mike Brandt
Allison Dale-Riddle
Alvaro Freyre
Stephi Johnson
Dean Mack
Tom McGree
Hope Morrison
Tom Trebon

Tara and Elsie Harrington
Student Rep.

THANK YOU...

To our departing board members, thank you for all that you have done over the years. We truly appreciate you.

Bonnie Adee
Allison Dale-Riddle
Margaret Herriges
Stephi Johnson
Tom Trebon



ANNUAL MEETING Sept. 2020

MANAGING DIRECTOR REPORT

We have had a rough year. Prior to March we were on track for one of our best years of all time but this pandemic has been difficult. Jeff and Marianne have provided a good sense of our journey over the past year. I want to focus on the path forward now.

We are in a unique moment in history. Unique for our society and uniquely challenging for us in the theatre business. I used to teach theatre history and one of the ways that we can look at the history of our artform is by looking at conventions. The raked auditorium and raised stage, the fourth wall and proscenium picture frame, the idea of programs and intermissions, or clapping our hands together at the end- these were all new ideas at some point. All things that became habits and shifts that became the norm. We have not had a significant change in our theatrical conventions since the advent of electric lights and recorded sound. But right now we are in a moment of theatrical transition. Like 9/11 and the airline industry, I believe that historians will mark 2020 as a point of transition for live theatre. It will be felt on Broadway and the West End in London, and it will be felt in Helena. It's being felt right now - this is the first time in 45 years at Grandstreet Theatre that we have not had our annual meeting live in person. This year is unique and we will need to shift our conventions.

Over our coming season we anticipate cancelations and theatre online. We anticipate socially distanced seating and performers in masks. We have gone digital with our programs and have discontinued concessions and intermission. The hope of large cast musicals is one that we do not want to surrender, but the way forward there is challenging. We are dealing with multi-contingency planning as the new normal. Our contingency plans have contingency plans. This year will continue to be difficult, but there is one thing that I know for certain. We will be ok.

Theatres are closing down across the world right now and many of them will never reopen, but that won't be our story. We will be ok. Especially in Montana, especially in Helena, and especially at Grandstreet - we will make it. I know this because our state and county are being cautious. I know this because our staff and our board are teams of remarkable and resilient artists and professionals that can pivot on a dime. I know this because our community theatre is strong. Most of all, because of the tremendous love our community has for Grandstreet.

The path forward is one that requires each one of you. I know that many of you are not comfortable coming to the theatre yet - even with social distancing, but we still need your help. As our conventions change we need your trust and your buy-in. If you can't buy a ticket maybe you can help us with a donation.

How we do what we do is changing, it has always changed but the underlying truth is that what we are doing remains the same. We are and will continue to be storytellers. We are now and will continue to be a place where our community gathers. We all have a human need that we are feeling more strongly now than ever. We need each other. The stories that we tell about ourselves are a big part of what it means to be human. And Netflix is great, but it is not alive. Our phones are amazing tools but they are poor substitutes for actual community. The way we do theatre is changing but with your help, the heart of Grandstreet remains intact. Our mission is and will continue to be to brighten Helena and elevate the human spirit through live theatre and theatre education.

We will do that with your volunteered time and money. We will do that with your season pass purchases. As our industry reinvents itself, we will continue our mission with your help. It's too important not to. Thank you all for being members of Grandstreet Theatre. We have a really wonderful club. On behalf of the staff and board; thank you, we love you all so much.

MEETING AGENDA

Grandstreet Theatre Annual Membership Meeting Agenda

September 21, 2020

Welcome and introductions

By: Perri May
Current Board President

Staff Reports:

Marianne Adams:
Director of Education

Jeff Downing:
Artistic Director

Kal Poole:
Managing Director

Introduction of
Linsay Carlson:
Board Treasurer

Treasurer Report

Perri May introduces existing Board Members

Introduction of prospective Board Members

Vote for new board members

Closing remarks
By: Perri May

Meeting adjourned

Join our Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID:
891 4072 6049

One tap mobile
+13462487799,,89140726049#
US (Houston)

+16699006833,,89140726049#
US (San Jose)

THEATRE SCHOOL/EDUCATION

SEPTEMBER –

Our school year classes were very well attended all year. Even when we had to go all online in March we maintained about 70 percent of students. That was very challenging for both teachers and students but we did it!

DECEMBER –

Our annual Christmas show was Frozen Jr. In order to accommodate more people and have a shorter run we did the show at the Civic Center. The contract would only allow for 10 shows and a maximum of 750 people per show so it made more sense to do it in a bigger house. It was a challenge to rehearse, we were able to use the 7th Avenue Gym which we were grateful for but it presented many challenges, mostly with sound. Having two days of tech and rehearsal in a space (The Civic Center) that we had never performed in was also a challenge. The staff and young actors made it work. We also had an incredible amount of support from parents and other volunteers. In the end, we made the money we needed and the kids had a good time. The show was beautiful in that space.

FEBRUARY –

We attended the Junior Theatre Festival West in Sacramento California. Our cast and production of The Little Mermaid, Jr was awarded an outstanding ensemble award!

MAY –

The advanced 3rd & 4th graders “Words by Kids tour had to be canceled. We put together a zoom performance and sent a link to the schools instead.

The production of Seussical Kids that was being produced by the 48 Hours to Curtain class (advanced 5th & 6th) had to be postponed. It is currently scheduled for the end of October but that is starting to look doubtful.

We celebrated the graduation of fourteen seniors at the end of the year banquet. The banquet had to be moved online. We did it using a ZOOM webinar. Kev Hamm, Dora Trenbeath, Rayne O’Bryant and Danielle Wineman were instrumental in making this event happen. The Wib & Esther M. Harrer scholarship (1500) went to Emma Templeton and the Spirit of Grandstreet Scholarship (1000), chosen by the staff and faculty, went to Lauren Hanson. The Tom Cordingley Scholarship (1500.00) went to McLain Thornquist. This award is funded through the Tom Cordingley scholarship fund and a generous donation from the Cordingley family. Tom and Lisa Cordingley watched the auditions via recordings, read the scholarship paperwork and essays submitted and chose the recipient.

JUNE –

We did our ninth year of minicamps in June and August. The first one in June was canceled due to COVID 19 and the last one in June was limited to ten kids.

Our production of Junie B Jones in June had to be canceled due to COVID 19. In early June we collaborated

with 4 other theatre companies to form a Musical Theatre Mega Camp. It was all online and had 160 kids attend. 38 of those kids were from Grandstreet Theatre School. So that brought in some income for us.

JULY -

Summer School went well. We had a total of 311 kids involved including conservatory, beanies and 3-12th grade. That summer seems like a lifetime ago and I think it bears mentioning that this summer (20-21) was a whole different ballgame because of Covid 19 with outdoor venues, masks, harassment from some of the homeless and mentally ill population, etc. But that is next year’s report. However it should be mentioned that it was successful!

The July show (Freaky Friday) had to be canceled due to COVID 19.

AUGUST –

The August show was supposed to be The Sound of Music at Hill Park. Trace Turner was scheduled to direct. At the last minute the show had to be canceled due to the county restrictions on large gatherings. It was replaced by A Year With Frog and Toad (IYA) which had a much smaller cast (5) and allowed us to do it indoors with an audience limit of 40.

We joined forces with our colleagues in Texas, Alabama, Virginia and Illinois for another round of Musical Theatre Mega Camp – online. We had more amazing guest artists from various Broadway shows.

This was certainly a year of challenges to put it mildly. The arts and all of us who make our living as artists were reminded how important our jobs are for the mental health of all. I’m not sure that people realize just how much they have relied on the arts during these last six months. However, we are the most vulnerable of all the occupations. There are and will be many more theatres who will not re-open when this is over. I appreciate all the support that we have received from the Board of Directors, the State of Montana and the City of Helena to help us through.

We will carry on.

BY THE NUMBERS

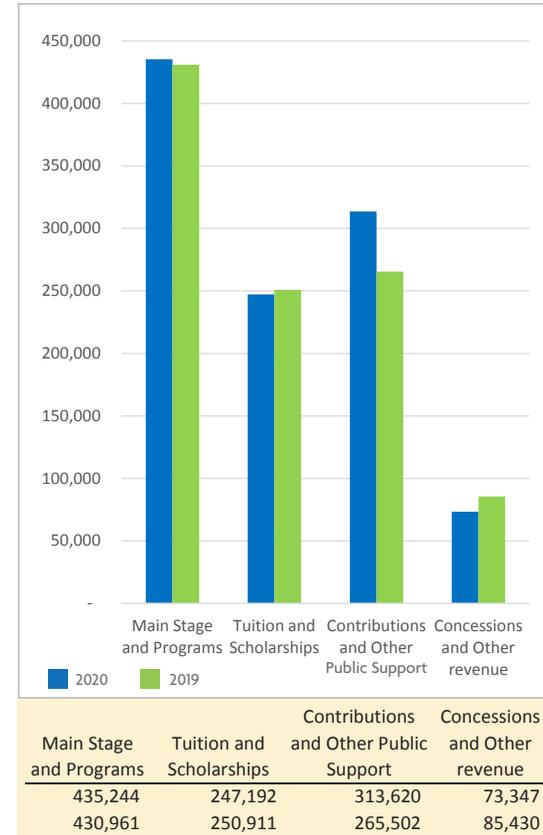
AVERAGE HOUSE COUNT 2019-20 SEASON

Footloose -	203
Sister Act -	201
The Cake -	132
Murder -	201
CBXMAS -	198
Frozen -	711
Puffs -	154

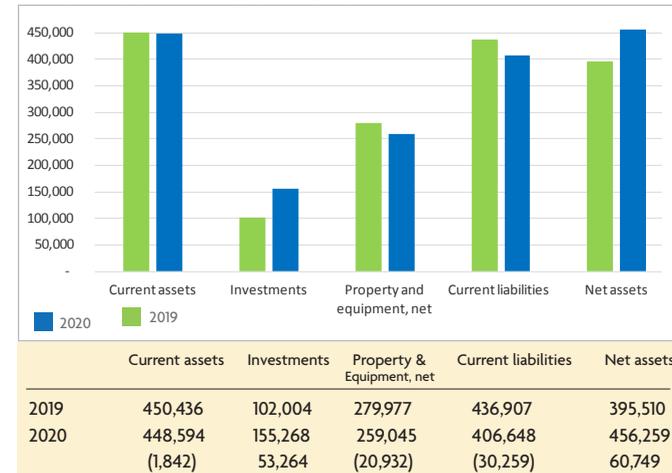
	2020	2019
Contributions and other Support	\$313,620	\$265,502
Fundraising Expense	\$44,103	\$61,982
Cost to raise \$1	\$0.14	\$0.23

FINANCE REPORT

GENERAL REVENUES



FINANCIAL POSITION



EXPENSE

