



University of Illinois Springfield
**PERFORMING
ARTS CENTER**®

INSPIRING Our Community



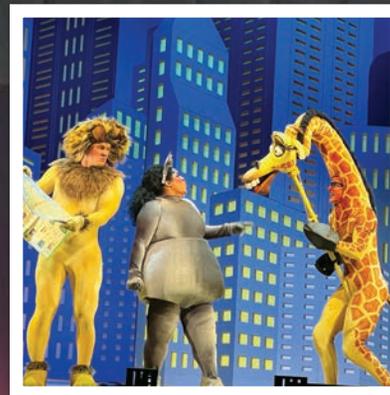
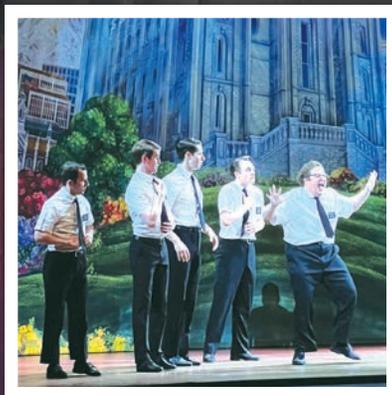
**Community Impact Report
2022–2023**



ARTS INSPIRE



Over **65,000**
Audience Members



From the Chancellor

Dear loyal patrons and supporters of the UIS Performing Arts Center,

Throughout the following pages, you will find interviews with a multitude of voices, including donors, performers, educators, students, patrons, and community members who have engaged with the UIS Performing Arts Center. As you explore the stories within this report, we hope you will be **INSPIRED** by the profound impact of the performing arts in our community. Please join me in celebrating all who have made our programs a resounding success.



Exceeded **\$830,000**
in Ticket Sales

1,000+
Donors



Thank you for your continued support, and we hope you enjoy this glimpse into the transformative power of the performing arts within our community.

— UIS Chancellor Janet L. Gooch

More than **\$300,000**
in Grants & Charitable
Contributions



From the Director



Dear cherished patrons, donors and FRIENDS,

I am delighted to share with you the extraordinary accomplishments of the UIS Performing Arts Center during the pivotal 2022–2023 season. As our first fully operational season following the COVID-19 shutdown, it has been a period of tremendous growth and success, all made possible thanks to your unwavering support. Our record-shattering results include the highest number of Broadway subscribers in 15 years, unprecedented FRIENDS membership, and numerous sold-out shows.

We also achieved a major milestone this year—the completion of a comprehensive master renovation plan with the aid of local architects and theatrical venue specialists from Chicago. This forward-thinking blueprint will drive transformative changes to our facility, all geared towards enhancing the experiences and accessibility for our diverse base of artists and audiences. Some immediate need items have already been completed including new stage curtains in Sangamon Auditorium and upgraded lighting in the UIS Studio Theatre... all realized thanks to your contributions!

As you explore this report, I hope it sparks inspiration. The triumphs of this season are as much yours as they are ours. Every curtain raised and every round of applause were made possible by your generosity and passion for the arts.

As we turn the page into a new season, we carry forward your support. Your role in shaping the UIS Performing Arts Center’s narrative is irreplaceable, and we anticipate our future accomplishments together.

Thank you for being an essential part of our community and believing in the power of the performing arts.

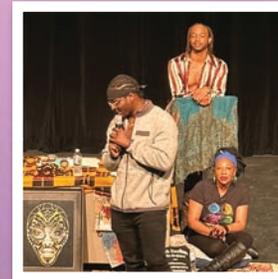
Bryan Rives, Director
UIS Performing Arts Center

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Report layout and design
by Lindsey Feger, UIS Graphics

Major Events

2022–2023



Weird Al Yankovic



Jerry Seinfeld



Nate Bargatze



Jackson Browne

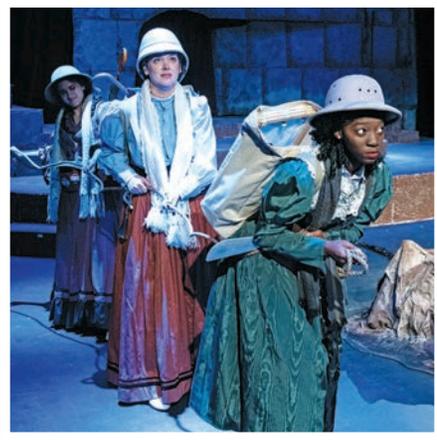


Chicago

Inspiring Laughter & Joy

- July 23 Don McLean
- Sept. 17 Leanne Morgan: *Big Panty Tour*
- Oct. 15 *Whose Live Anyway?*
- Oct. 19 World Ballet Series: *Swan Lake*
- Oct. 30 *Legally Blonde – The Musical*
- Nov. 3 Joe Bonamassa
- Nov. 11 *Baby Shark Live! The Christmas Show*
- Nov. 15 Mannheim Steamroller Christmas by Chip Davis
- Nov. 20 John Mulaney: *From Scratch*
- Nov. 22 *Tootsie*
- Nov. 23 Million Dollar Quartet Christmas
- Dec. 14 *The Prophecy Show: The Music of Trans-Siberian Orchestra*
- Feb. 4 “Weird Al” Yankovic: *2022 Return of the Vanity Tour*
- Feb. 17 Jerry Seinfeld
- Mar. 11 Million Dollar Time Machine
- Apr. 17 *Madagascar the Musical*
- Apr. 18, 19, 20 *The Book of Mormon*
- May 31, June 1 Nate Bargatze: *The Be Funny Tour*
- June 9 Jackson Browne
- June 17 Chicago

Campus & Community



The UIS Performing Arts Center is proud to work with amazing organizations both here on our campus and within the greater community.

Left: UIS Theatre's performance of *On the Verge or The Geography of Yearning*



Investiture of the seventh Chancellor of UIS, Janet L. Gooch



Inspiring Connections



UIS Music Black History Month concert

Campus Event Highlights

- Chancellor Gooch Investiture
- Seventeen UIS Music concerts
- Two UIS Theatre productions

Left: UIS Music program with students from the Illinois Symphony Youth Orchestra performing Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake* with dancers from the Springfield Youth Performance Group.



UIS Theatre's performance of Euripides' *Medea*



Illinois House of Representatives Inauguration



Meet Briana & Maddie

Two generations at UIS

Community Event Highlights

- Copper Coin Ballet Company: *Nutty Nutcracker*
- Illinois House of Representatives Inauguration
- Seven Illinois Symphony Orchestra concerts
- Seven Springfield Ballet Company performances
- Four Graduations
- Five Festivals, recitals and other community events



Illinois Symphony Orchestra



Copper Coin Ballet Company: *Nutty Nutcracker*

According to Madison (Maddie) Fugnitti, she and her mother “grew up together.” Briana Fulton had Maddie while in high school and although college was always her plan, as a young, single mother it became even more of a priority. She knew she needed to be relatively close to home, but her independence was also important, so UIS was the perfect fit.

In 2003, when Maddie was one year old, Briana started college and they moved into family housing on the UIS campus. Briana put Maddie in childcare from 8 a.m. to 5.p.m. each day and during that time she attended classes and was a student worker at Sangamon Auditorium. Briana says that it wasn’t easy, but she had good resources and support. “Maddie’s presence made me special, and I was connected to resources on campus from the start.” She shares that her first Christmas on campus was truly meaningful. Briana didn’t have the ability to give Maddie presents that year, but the staff of Sangamon Auditorium surprised her one afternoon with a pile of gifts for her to wrap and give to Maddie. Then on Christmas morning, the interim director of the auditorium knocked on her door, dressed as Santa and brought more gifts for both Maddie and Briana.

Briana remained a student worker at Sangamon Auditorium for four and a half years. After completing her Accounting degree in 2007, she transitioned into a full-time role, eventually becoming the Business Manager. She did leave and work elsewhere for two years, “because I had only been at one place and that’s what I thought I should do,” but she came right back and here she has stayed.

Maddie says she always intended to go to UIS. In 2020, she started as a Legal Studies major and a student worker at Cox Children’s Center. Being the oldest of seven siblings, she was a frequent babysitter growing up and has always loved children. That love of children and the amazing experiences she has had at Cox, led her to switching majors to Elementary Education. Madison will start her student teaching in the Fall of 2023 and can’t wait to get into the classroom. She speaks passionately about her professors, the small town vibe of campus, and all she has learned while working alongside the teachers at Cox Children’s Center. “And of course, it’s great because Mom is here too.”

Jared Bassi

Patrick Russell

Local Arts & Arts Education



Local Head Start students visit Sangamon Auditorium.

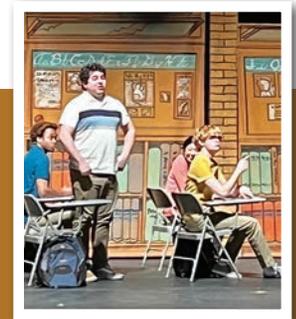
We are proud to serve our community across a diverse range of audiences through our Local Arts & Arts Education programs. These programs include: Staley Class Acts, the Arts Start program with Springfield Urban League's Head Start, Partners in Education with Springfield Public Schools, sensory-friendly events, Our Stage / Our Voices, and presentations of local artists.



Pete the Cat



Freedom Flight



Frindle



Experience Rockballet

Inspiring
Young minds

Nov. 10 Experience Songs of Illinois (Two performances)

Nov. 18 Black Futurez: Mixtape, Side 1

Jan. 23 *Frindle*

Jan. 28 Date Night with Fingerstyle Guitar

Feb. 2 *Freedom Flight* (Two performances)

Feb. 3 Black Futurez: Mixtape

Feb. 4 Black Futurez: Mixtape

Feb. 6 *Pete the Cat's Big Hollywood Adventure* (Two performances)

Feb. 9 Experience Rockballet (Two performances)

Feb. 18 *And Then They Came for Me* (Two performances)

Feb. 19 *And Then They Came for Me* (Two performances)

Feb. 21 *And Then They Came for Me* (Two performances)

Feb. 23 Date Night with Jazz

Feb. 24 *Tubman: Road to Freedom* (Two performances)

Mar. 3 *The Magic School Bus: Lost in the Solar System* (Two performances)

Mar. 3 Date Night with Classical Piano Improvisation

Mar. 17 *It's Okay to Be Different* (Two performances)

Apr. 14 Date Night with Spontaneous Music

Apr. 20 Date Night with Sondheim on Broadway

Apr. 22 Date Night with Spoken Word

Staley Class Acts

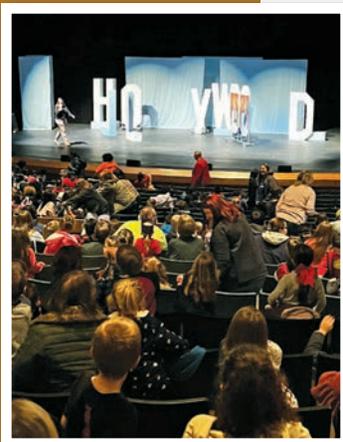
Our flagship education program for K–12 students and their teachers with performance events that address a wide range of curriculum topics.



Local school children eagerly await the start of the show.



Bob Staley and his daughter, Barbara, visited campus this spring to meet with Carly Shank, Artistic Programs Director, and see the impact of the Staley Class Acts Series. The series is supported by a generous endowment created by Bob's late wife, Elizabeth, with subsequent support from Bob.



Pete the Cat's Big Hollywood Adventure



Special t-shirts for the field trip to see *The Magic School Bus: Lost in the Solar System*.

Meet Glenda Terpstra

Former Teacher and Current Patron



Glenda grew up in Chicago, studied Elementary Education in college, and later moved to Springfield where she became a teacher in District 186. Over her career, she taught 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th grades. As a teacher, Glenda received information about the Class Acts Series and with the variety of offerings (plays, musicals, symphony, ballet, science shows, and puppet shows), she always found a Class Acts show that enhanced what she was teaching in the classroom. She said that SEL (Social-Emotional Learning) is a big piece of education and this is an area where the onstage performances truly excelled. For over 10 years, she brought classes to see these shows, now Staley Class Acts.

Glenda says that prior to coming to a show, she would read the script or book to her class, and they would discuss it. She shared that they also learned about "theatre manners" and what type of behavior is appropriate for a live performance. For many students, it was the first time they had seen live performing art, and of course, everyone was always amazed at the large size of Sangamon Auditorium. After the show, Glenda's students would spend time in class discussing what they had experienced. A key part of Staley Class Acts is curriculum guides that are sent to teachers, to assist in these classroom discussions. One of Glenda's favorite moments was listening to

older students who had read the script or book themselves and would argue after the show that "it wasn't at all how I saw it in my head."

The impact of the Staley Class Acts program extended beyond the classroom. Glenda says she was very blessed at her school to have two donors who would fund field trips during times of "budget crunch," allowing students to have access to educational and cultural experiences that they might not have had otherwise.

Glenda loves theatre, her daughter was involved in theatre, and she has even performed onstage herself. Even though she no longer brings classes of students, she still continues to come to see Staley Class Acts shows. "I enjoy watching the audience and remembering those days when I was a teacher in the audience with my students. I love how the performances are geared towards school-age children." Glenda encourages parents and teachers to experience Staley Class Acts. "Try at least one, and you'll keep coming back. It's worth the time and will lead to amazing discussions and even possible career paths."

For more information about Staley Class Acts, visit uispac.com/education/class-acts. To learn about sponsoring a class or school to attend Staley Class Acts, contact Sarah Brewer at sbrew5@uis.edu.

Arts Start Program

Through Arts Start, funded by PNC Grow Up Great, students in the Springfield Urban League Head Start program receive arts education experiences.



"Since 2004, PNC has helped prepare children from birth through age 5 for success in school and life. PNC Grow Up Great is more than a corporate initiative, it is a holistic commitment. We encourage our employees in Springfield to play a part and provide them with the time to volunteer and resources to do just that."

—Brian Ray, PNC Regional President for Central Illinois



Meet Deb Lahey
Education Coordinator for Head Start



Deb Lahey is the Education Coordinator for the Head Start program at Springfield Urban League, which offers free preschool education for low-income children aged 3–5. In 2011, PNC Bank approached Deb looking for opportunities to support high quality early education for local children. Deb wanted to introduce arts education to her preschool students, so PNC reached out to Sangamon Auditorium, and Carly Shank, Artistic Programs Director, contacted Deb shortly after.

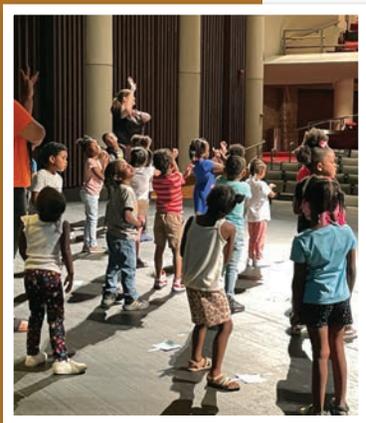
Due to COVID-19, creative solutions were necessary. During the quarantine period, the grant provided cameras and projectors to directly send stories to the children and hold online training for the teachers. Even after the quarantine was lifted, Head Start classrooms couldn't gather in large groups. In response, UIS Performing Arts Center staff invited classrooms to visit Sangamon Auditorium when it was empty, allowing the children to become the performers. In the week leading up to the visit, staff members taught the students phrases and gestures related to a children's book. Head Start students visited the auditorium in groups of two classes. While one class sat in the audience, the other class performed on stage and then they would switch. This experience allowed the children to experience both being performers and audience members. Despite the removal of size restrictions, this successful experience has become a permanent part of the Head Start program.

Deb discussed her goals for Head Start with Carly, providing information about the children served. Carly then wrote a grant application to the PNC Foundation. They were awarded the grant that year and for over a decade, the PNC Foundation and the resources offered through the PNC Grow Up Great program has been supporting Head Start students, teachers, and families each year.

The annual grant enables Head Start students to attend two Staley Class Acts productions, participate in a family night event, receive professional training for their teachers, and have staff from the UIS Performing Arts Center visit their classrooms a week before the production to prepare them. The chosen productions are specifically designed for preschool audiences and are connected to a children's book. As part of the classroom visit, staff read the book to the students and give a copy to their teacher.



Carly Shank, Artist Programs Director (left), and Justine Moser, Education Connections Program Coordinator (above) visit local Head Start classrooms prior to the students' visits to the UIS Performing Arts Center.



Our Stage / Our Voices

A program by the UIS Performing Arts Center in which underrepresented communities address the issues of inequality in performing arts.

Lizette Roethlis Creative Studio & Photography



2022–2023 Artist in Residence, Reggie Guyton



Local musicians accompany performances of song and spoken word in *Black Futurez: Mixtape*.



Black Futurez: Mixtape was the culminating project of the 2022-2023 Our Stage / Our Voices artist-in-residency.



Weaving together mythical lore, parable, and personal experience, a variety of local artists performed in the November 2022 preview event and the final performance in February 2023.



Meet Tim Crawford
2023–2024 Artist in Residence

Raised in Chicago, Timothy Crawford studied theatre at Minnesota State University, Moorhead (MSUM), where he was a multiple-year member of the Straw Hat Players Summer Theatre. He credits the university and his summers in Straw Hat Players as what awakened his lifelong passion for theatre. In college, he studied all aspects of theatre, including directing and house management, but it was getting access to the Weld Hall Auditorium to stage the first play he wrote that truly sparked something in Tim. After graduation, Tim attended George Washington University Law School and while studying for the Washington, D.C. bar, he wrote the one-act play *What You Mean We, White Man?*, which was performed at three different venues in D.C. From there, playwriting was moved to a back burner as stage directing became the main community-theatre focus taking up his evenings throughout his career.

Tim's career path took him from practicing law (briefly) to legal publishing, which led him to a long stint working at the National Education Association, first as a manager in the publishing department and culminating in managing legal services programs for the Association's 3 million members. On his birthday in 2009, Tim came

to Springfield on loan to the Illinois Education Association as Interim Director of Program Development. After nine months, the "Interim" was dropped from his title, and Springfield has been his home ever since.

Although Tim retired in 2017, he hasn't slowed down. He's an actor, director, board member, and the newest artist-in-residence for the UIS Performing Arts Center Our Stage / Our Voices program. During his year-long residency, Tim will research and write an hour-long play about the 1908 Springfield Race Riot. "I'm starting with the framework of the so-called 'Race Riot' as the backdrop for a family drama that culminates in both a White Mob attack and a stunning revelation. My project also aspires to increase diversity and inclusivity in the voices that get heard in the region's performing arts stages." That is why, in conjunction with his own work, Tim will also lead a multi-session playwriting workshop and he especially welcomes participants who feel their voice has been underrepresented. A preview of Tim's work will be held in November 2023, and as part of that event, he intends to highlight a selection of the plays that developed through the playwriting workshop.

Sensory-Friendly

Events designed specifically to be enjoyed by neurodivergent individuals.



Experience *Rockballet* by Copper Coin Ballet Company



Experience *Songs of Illinois* by Chris Vallillo

Meet Chris Vallillo

Local Singer and Songwriter



Chris Vallillo, a singer and songwriter, has been living in the Midwest for over 30 years, focusing on folk music and historic instruments. In April 2022, the UIS Performing Arts Center approached Chris for a sensory-friendly performance collaboration. He has extensive experience performing for audiences of school children, which would include neurodivergent students, but this particular production was specifically tailored for a neurodivergent audience. To prepare, he extensively researched sensory-friendly performances, met with other artists who perform for neurodivergent audiences, and collaborated with a professor at WIU specializing in this field.

Chris designed a show featuring common folk music played on historic instruments, unique not only in sound, but also in appearance. He also created a social story video for individuals to watch before the performance, introducing himself and the musical instruments. This practice of providing a social story is important in preparing neurodivergent individuals for new experiences and reducing anxiety. The UIS Performing Arts Center has a social story available on their website to prepare audiences specifically for this purpose. During the show, Chris played instruments such as the jaw harp, a 1930s dobro, a 142-year-old hammered dulcimer, and a 1890s skin head banjo.

He focused on visual elements and encouraged audience interaction, ensuring that nothing was loud or abrupt. "It's about bringing them in and getting them involved rather than me as the star of the performance—the music is the star." Chris began the show by welcoming the audience and setting a relaxed tone, inviting them to interact as they felt comfortable. He anticipated audible outbursts and various physical movements from the audience, as these were common ways for them to engage. "The ability to interact and connect is very powerful. Music is a language that connects people from completely different backgrounds."

The UIS Performing Arts Center hosted two sensory-friendly events during the 2022-2023 season: Chris Vallillo's *Experience Songs of Illinois* and *Experience Rockballet* with Copper Coin Ballet Company. Both events had two performances and while neurodivergent individuals were the target audience, the general public was also invited and welcome to attend. Chris shared that this was a "very, very positive experience. The ability to work with an organization that is putting the effort into developing and encouraging these types of performances is critical. Having the staff at UIS put time into focusing on the details made this entire package a success."

And Then They Came For Me

First play produced by the UIS Performing Arts Center.



"I've never done a show like this where every person mattered. It was a true ensemble."
—Emma Shafer



"Carly Shank, our director, is so patient and such a true leader. Her superpower is making anyone who works with her feel capable."
—Meredith Vogel-Thomas



"This role was so impactful for me because I am personally tied to the communities that my onstage character lists as needing to be wiped out."
—Avi McDaniel

Meet the Cast and Crew

Local Professional Artists



Top row, left to right: Tim Conner, Connor McCloud, Joe Hardy.
Bottom row, left to right: Elisa Marti, Emma Shafer,* Sarah Reisch, Avi McDaniel

And Then They Came for Me: Remembering the World of Anne Frank marked a unique milestone for the UIS Performing Arts Center. Unlike other shows, which are either brought in by the center or rentals of the venue, this show was entirely produced by the UIS Performing Arts Center.

Carly Shank, Artistic Programs Director, selected and directed the play in response to requests from schoolteachers for historical productions related to WWII, Anne Frank, or the Holocaust. This multimedia play tells the stories of two friends of Anne Frank who survived the Holocaust, with the actors performing alongside sound recordings and video clips of historical footage. Carly was thrilled to bring this play to Springfield. "No other organization in Springfield has ever really produced Theater for Young Audiences (TYA), which typically involves adults performing in plays written for younger audiences. I find this work immensely satisfying, and local actors deserve the chance to try out this experience and be paid for their work."

Carly approached Meredith Vogel-Thomas to be the stage manager. In addition to overseeing all technical and logistical aspects, managing props and sets, and maintaining the overall integrity of the performance, Meredith found herself facing challenges due to the multimedia elements. She described it as a grassroots effort to make the media work, which was a crucial part of the production, accounting for 50% of the storytelling.

Many of the actors had personal relationships with the material. Elisa Marti and Avi McDaniel had grandparents deeply affected by WWII, while Emma Shafer had previously played Anne Frank in a different production. They all spoke about the impact of seeing actual footage of the people they were portraying. For Avi, who played a Nazi youth, the sound was very powerful. "I spent three years learning German, and I understood every word being said during the recordings of the Nazi soldiers."

The multimedia component was not the only distinctive aspect of the production. The rehearsal process was brief and focused. The actors learned their lines individually, and then Carly brought everyone together for intense rehearsals where all the pieces had to come together quickly, fully immersing themselves in the subject matter.

Despite the reactions and the difficult subject matter, Emma stressed the importance. "This is the type of show that we as a community and as a performing arts center should invest in. It's a show the audiences needed to see."

***The UIS Performing Arts Center family is saddened by the passing of Emma Shafer who was a shining star in our production. Our hearts go out to her family and friends.**

Donors Behind the Scenes



Donors of UIS Performing Arts Center can receive exclusive privileges like invitations to backstage events, access to the member's lounge, and a host of extraordinary behind the scenes experiences.

Left: FRIENDS enjoy a drink in the member's lounge prior to the show.



Director Bryan Rives explains the process of booking a show during the sneak peek of the load-in for *The Book of Mormon*.

FRIENDS get a sneak peek backstage with Production Manager David Hecht during the load-in of *Legally Blonde – The Musical*.



Left: Donors were invited to the sound check before Joe Bonamassa's concert.

Inspiring Support



Meet Mike & Beth Beasley

Patrons and Donors

Before they ever met, Mike and Beth Beasley fell in love with the performing arts. Beth saw Yul Brynner in *The King and I* when she was in 5th grade and while he was in high school, Mike frequently went to Washington University to see plays. They met while in college at SIU Edwardsville and saw more theatre while there. Both worked during the summer at the Mississippi River Festival, where Mike was a supervisor, and they enjoyed the opportunities to see every big name that came through from The Who to Chicago. Beth speaks highly of when she met Arlo Guthrie.

After graduation, Mike took a job with International Harvester. In 1982 (one year after Sangamon Auditorium opened), the opportunity to buy a failing factory branch brought the couple to Springfield. Beth says that from the very beginning they kept four Broadway season tickets at Sangamon Auditorium because it was such a great experience to share with clients. Even after retirement, the couple kept the four seats because they enjoy taking friends and welcome the opportunity to expose others to their love of musicals. "We're lucky to have this quality of entertainment that is so conveniently located.

It's the same caliber as St. Louis or Chicago and just a short drive away."

The couple raised two daughters, who were taught to enjoy the performing arts just like their parents. These days find Mike and Beth traveling back and forth between Chicago and St. Louis to visit their daughters and babysit grandbabies. They are self-professed "helicopter parents," but when they are not hovering you can find them at the UIS Performing Arts Center indulging their love of comedians, concerts, and of course Broadway. Beth also volunteers as a chaperone for Christ the King School when their classes attend Staley Class Acts performances.

When asked to share why they believe in supporting the UIS Performing Arts Center, Beth states "when you don't donate, these things go away." Mike believes the opportunity for professional entertainment "raises the level of our community. We don't need reasons for people to leave Springfield. We need strong reasons for them to stay." Beth agrees. "The quality of life in our community is important and we are so glad to have the UIS Performing Arts Center here."

LIFETIME GIVING to the UIS Performing Arts Center

Heritage Society

Donors who have included
UIS Performing Arts Center in
their estate plans

- Keith D.* & Shirley H. Baer
- John Dale & Ronée Kennedy
- Sharron LaFollette
- Marcus Schnetz in memory of Sherri Schnetz*

Lifetime Gifts of \$1,000,000 or more

- Elizabeth* & Robert Staley

Lifetime Gifts of \$250,000 or more

- Helen S. Hamilton*

Lifetime Gifts of \$50,000 or more

- Clark & Carol Esarey
- Charles* & Kathleen Hoogland
- Margaret "Peggy" Madden*
- Priscilla M. Reyhan
- William R. Schnirring*
- Julius* & Dorothy* Weiss

*Deceased

Lifetime Gifts of \$10,000 or more

In Loving Memory of Keith Baer

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- United Community Bank

Lifetime Gifts of \$5,000 or more

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- Ron & Gloria Mizer
- Saul Morse & Anne Morgan
- Parashar Nanavati & Grace Nanavati
- Robert & Marsha Narmont
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- Donald & Brenda Peck
- George & Lynda Preckwinkle
- Prime Panels
- Rich & Carolyn Ringeisen
- Bryan Rives
- Diane & Dennis Rumme
- Sangamon Schools Credit Union
- Barbara & Charles Schweighauser
- Mark & Mary Selvaggio
- Robert & Natalie Silverman
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- George & Diane Stone
- Evelyn Thomas
- Bob & Veda Vaughn
- Watts Copy Systems
- Florance & Harry Wellons
- Roger & Vicky Whitaker
- Sandra Yakel & Donald Yakel

FRIENDS

Honoring those who made gifts
from July 1, 2022–June 30, 2023.

FRIENDS of UIS Performing Arts Center are donors who play a pivotal role in fostering opportunities within our local community. FRIENDS provide vital support for performances by renowned artists, essential enhancements to our facilities, and enriching experiences for local children. Donations to FRIENDS are recognized through a membership program that provides unique benefits based on level of giving.



Friends of UIS PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Investor Members (\$1,000+)

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Dan & Lynn Brown
Kathleen Corrigan
June Novak-Bock & Stephanie Elder
Clark & Carol Esarey
Jeff & Kim Franks
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James Kappel
Steven & Jodie Koch
Jeff & Sandy Lorber
Bryan Rives
George & Diane Stone
Norma Van Valkenburg
Robert & Dixie Williamson

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Diane & Dennis Rumme

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Pat Wisniewski
Holly Woodhall
Thomas Yemm

Meet Evelyn Beenenga

Volunteer for 40 years



When Evelyn Beenenga was told she would be the volunteer highlighted in this report, her first question was, “Do I need a fancy dress?” She laughingly explained that when she was a teacher she “won” a contest where students voted on which teacher would kiss a pig at the football game. She wore a prom dress, fur cape, and said she was “royalty for the evening.” In our books, Evelyn is royalty. The 2022–2023 season marked Evelyn’s 40th year as a volunteer at the UIS Performing Arts Center.

Originally, Evelyn joined the volunteer corps to help a neighbor whose husband had passed. Evelyn remembers they would walk every day and she was always looking for additional opportunities to get the neighbor out of her house and interacting with others. Volunteering at Sangamon Auditorium was a perfect solution and even though, after several years, the neighbor stopped volunteering, Evelyn kept with it. Evelyn said her favorite thing

about volunteering is when former students will come to a show and she has a chance to see them all grown up. She also enjoys getting to know the other volunteers she works with and of course the musicals. “I just love the musicals,” she says.

From the first, Evelyn has encouraged others to join the volunteer corps. She lives outside of Springfield and this “provides me a way to be a part of the Springfield community and build up that community. The shows couldn’t happen the way they do with the ticket prices as low as they are without the work of the volunteers. I started doing this to help a friend and ended up enjoying it for myself.” Evelyn’s daughter Christy remarks, “she truly has loved the exposure to music and shows she would not typically attend, and building bonds with others who enjoy the arts brought to the Springfield area, thanks to UIS. Her volunteering is a source of pride for her, and one she speaks of quite often.”

Staff

Administrative Staff

Sarah Brewer
Director of Development

Shannon Brown
Ticket Sales Specialist

Erin Cowger
Assembly Hall Stagehand

Jeannine G. Davis
Office Support Specialist
(Parking)

Rudolph Deiss
Office Support Specialist
(Operations)

Briana J. Fulton
Business Manager

Sarah Haasis
Ticket Sales Specialist

David K. Hecht
Production Manager

Justine Moser
Education Connections
Program Coordinator

William Newton
Ticket Sales Specialist

Linda Nixon
Office Manager

Elizabeth O'Brien
Guest Services Manager

Bryan Rives
Director

Carlyn Shank
Artistic Programs Director

Shannon D. Smith
Ticket Office Manager

Robert J. Taylor
Stage Foreman

Jen Tibbs-Berle
Marketing Manager

These lists include all who contributed to the success of the 2022–2023 season at the UIS Performing Arts Center between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023.

UIS Student Employees

Rishika Badamoni
Niranjan Reddy Barla
Trace Boyd
Kaitlin Coultas
Elizabeth Emery
Abigail Gallagher
Grace Henry
Subha Krishna Kuppam
Ally Lisnek
Adrianna Mendez
Mauro Montalvo Torres
Emmanuelle Mossi Yakana
McKenna Schmitt
Nishal Vujini
Justin Wheeler

Event Attendants, Part-Time, and Extra Help Staff

Brian Aarup
Georgia Aarup
Wesley Abbott
Sarah Adams
Eric Applegate
Candee Arvin
Julie Atalla
Mario Austin
Matthew Ballentine
Ryan Barham
Steven Barteau
Rebecca Bettis
Jennifer Bilyard
Kevin Blankenberger
Antonio Bolar
Alexander Borisov
Janet Butler
Patricia Caley
Ace Cannon
Roger Carr
Daniel Cavanaugh
Kaila Chambliss
Chancy Chestnut
Chelsea Coates

Mark Cole
Justin Costello
Holly Dahlquist
Dennis Darling
David Darneille
Alexander Davis
Elijah Davis
Michael Davis
Noah Davis
Zachary Davis
Missy Dean
Alexander Demeroukas
Megan Diffenderfer
Ann Dunn
Michael Dunn
Roger Ellegood
Brea Elston
Michael Elston
Alaine Ewing
Nancy Ferguson
Tracy Fields
Teri Fink
Sherry Foote
Kevin Ford
Dominick Garrison
Leeann Gathard
William J. Geiger
William T. Geiger
Patrick Gilbert
Kiev Glasscock
Shamerah Grant
Drew Greene
Christopher Griffith
Jacob Gulso
Lindy Hall
Thomas Harvill
Mark Hayes
Patricia Headman
Kevin Henson
Christopher Higgins
Jill Hiler
Kalyin Hinshaw
Joseph Hodges
Donald Honigman
Jennifer Hopper
Jeremy Hostetler

Kari Hostetler
Ang Hu
Shannon Hughes
Daniel Iams
Nancy Iberg
Miracle Ivy
Grant Johnson
Victoria Johnson
Kathy Johnston
DeCarlos Jones
Glenn Jones
Melody Jones
Ruth Jorgensen
Casey Julseth
Nicole Kane
Alexander Kasper
Jacqueline Keysear
Antonio King
Virginia Klemm
Stacy Kolaz
Jerry Krumme
Joshua Krumme
Jerry Kuchar
Kevin Kulavic
Richard Kuschel
Paul Lamantia
Ryan Lamantia
Frank Lane
Johanna Lang
Justin Law
Rachel Law
Dennis Leach
Rebecca Logerquist
Dominic LoGrasso
John McAdams
Stephen McCaffrey
Tyler McKay
Robert McKeown
Joan McMillan
Devin McQuinn
Luke Molen
Rebecca Moler-Billo
Robert Morgan
Craig Morris
Rahul Nandru
Timothy Nielsen
Patricia Noonan
John Nussbaum
Godwin Ofurum
Mary Oseland
Jacob Pahde
Joe Palumbo

Stephen Parhowski
Jonathan Parra
Gerard Pelich
Lawrence Perko
Tamara Pettit
Michelle Pulce-Flynn
James Rapps
Christine Reineke
Katherine Risse
Deidre Rosenberger
Dora Rotello
Ryan Ruettiger
Tracy Rusnak
Abigail Schafer
James Schafer
Hayden Schillinger
Lydia Schillinger
Adam Schneider
Chet Schneider
Sarah Schneider
Katie Schumacher
Keith Schumacher
Megan Schumacher
Matthew Scrivano
Edward Seelbach
Katherine Seketa
Rochelle Shelton
Mark Sims
Jacob Smith
Zachary Specht
Juliann Spradlin
Robert Stockwell
Jason Stuebs
Alex Taft
Stephen Tankersley
Jennifer Taylor
Paul Thelen
Molly Vasconcelles
Elizabeth Verzo
Shravya Vuppala
Sharon Warren
Carol Weitekamp
Garrett West
Courtney Wick
Anthony Williams
DeWayne Williams
Janet Williams
Matthew Williams
Ashley Wise
Donald Wisniewski
John Woodruff



Meet Steve McCaffrey
Concessions Lead and Patron

Steve McCaffrey spent part of his childhood in Springfield and eventually moved back to be closer to family. In 2010, he started volunteering at Sangamon Auditorium and in time was promoted to a manager position. Steve thoroughly loved being a volunteer, but when a job in concessions opened, he applied. “It was a good opportunity and a chance to further grow my skills in customer service.”

Steve started working in concessions during COVID restrictions, which made the role challenging. He loves the work, though, and has now moved into a supervisory role where his main focus is keeping everything running smoothly. “We have a great crew that is truly focused on giving great service.”

Steve is not just to be found behind the concession stand, though. He has worked backstage, in parking, as a ticket scanner, and doing weapons screening. It’s also not uncommon to find him back in the volunteer corps when they need someone to step in as a manager.

“What I like best about my job at the UIS Performing Arts Center is the flexibility! They have a variety of available shifts in multiple areas, including weeknight and weekend opportunities, plus the occasional daytime need. This is a great position for someone who is just wanting a few extra hours of work on an as-needed basis.” Steve McCaffrey is a true advocate for the UIS Performing Arts Center and a welcoming face. “I love making customers smile and enjoy my work very much!”

INCOME STATEMENT

INCOME		EXPENSE	
Revenue retained from prior fiscal years	\$448,092	Salaries & Wages	\$1,276,546
Ticket Sales	\$687,066	Artist Fees	\$380,794
Facility Rentals	\$524,995	Capital Projects/Maintenance	\$311,240
State Support	\$391,702	Event Expenses	\$246,905
Ticketing Fees	\$164,289	Marketing Expenses	\$196,274
Earnings on Endowment & Special Funds	\$160,000	Equipment	\$152,147
Other Earned Revenue	\$106,239	Administrative Expenses	\$73,153
Concession Stand	\$102,362	Materials & Supplies	48,223
FRIENDS Annual Fund	\$95,528	Concession Stand Cost of Goods Sold	\$31,504
Other Grants & Gifts	\$67,050	Fundraising Expenses	\$12,392
Total FY22 Revenue	\$2,299,229	TOTAL EXPENSE	\$2,729,178
TOTAL INCOME	\$2,747,322	Net Income Carried Forward to FY24	\$18,144

OPERATING FUNDS

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS FOUNDATION (UIF)	6/30/2022	6/30/2023
ENDOWMENTS BALANCES		
UIS Helen Hamilton Performing Arts Endowment for Youth Fund		
UIS Auditorium Endowment Fund	\$268,300	\$268,300
UIS James L. Lundquist Endowment Fund	\$266,247	\$266,247
UIS Chapman-Staley Sangamon Auditorium Endowment Fund	\$224,578	\$224,578
UIS Sangamon Auditorium Maintenance Endowment	\$222,860	\$222,860
UIS Gloria Calovini Endowment Fund	–	\$44,161
QUASI ENDOWMENTS BALANCES		
UIS Staley Class Acts Sangamon Auditorium	\$762,326	\$762,326
UIS Auditorium Fund	\$318,663	\$257,221
UIS James L. Lundquist Endowment Fund	–	\$12,500
OTHER MISCELLANEOUS UIF FUNDS		
	–	\$30
TOTAL FUNDS AT UIF	\$2,167,434	\$2,162,683
UIS PERFORMING ARTS CENTER FUNDS		
Operating / Maintenance Reserves	–	\$9,849
Sangamon Auditorium Special Projects—Piano Maintenance Fund	\$5,770	\$5,852
Sangamon Auditorium Special Projects—Partners in Education Fund	\$1,030	–
Our Stage / Our Voices Program Fund	\$536	–
Endowment Earnings Unspent	\$127,714	\$2,442
Other Annual Gifts	\$45,145	–
Youth Outreach Program Fund	–	\$374
Sangamon Auditorium Angel Tickets Fund	–	\$40
TOTAL OPERATING FUND BALANCES	\$180,195	\$18,557
TOTAL BALANCE ALL FUNDS	\$2,347,629	\$2,181,240

In Memoriam



Gloria Frances Calovini

Valued Patron and Donor
Sept. 11, 1926 – July 8, 2022

We celebrate a remarkable life that touched the hearts of many. Born on September 11, 1926, Gloria dedicated her career to education. She was a special education teacher and her passion for supporting parents, families, and individuals with special needs led her to the Illinois Office of Education where she eventually retired from her position as Director of the Direction Center. Gloria's vibrant spirit, quick wit, and unwavering kindness made her a cherished friend to all who knew her. She found joy in lifelong learning, international travel, and providing shelter and care for neighborhood stray cats. We honor Gloria's memory and her generosity to the UIS Performing Arts Center which includes a newly formed endowment that supports student access to performances in Sangamon Auditorium.

“After you pass away, I can't think of a better way for your money to be spent than to educate the next generation.”

—Gloria Calovini

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