

# Director's Note

This season, as we celebrate the magic of both live performance and film, we are acutely aware that our success is a testament to the unwavering dedication of our incredible community. It is you, our donors, our patrons, and our neighbors, who breathe life into our venue, transforming it into a thriving hub of creativity and inspiration.

Our brand-new Stanley Sound Experience, generously provided by Alex Stanley, is just one shining example of what can be achieved when we come together as a community. It is through your support that we continue to evolve and enhance our offerings, ensuring that each year surpasses the last in terms of excellence and innovation.

As we showcase a diverse array of art spanning dance, music, theater and more, we invite you to not only enjoy the artistry on stage and onscreen, but also to take pride in your vital role in our success story. Your passion for the arts enriches the cultural fabric of this great community.

So, as we celebrate the unique successes and challenges of FY2023, let us remember that this beautiful organization continues to thrive because of you. Your commitment, your passion, and your support are the driving forces behind our continued success. Thank you for being the heart and soul of our vibrant arts community. Here's to another year filled with the extraordinary creativity that defines us.

Cheers to you!

Lindsay Bauer, Executive Director



## Reaching New Heights

#### **BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS**

We passed our 15th year of operations in FY2023. Happy Birthday to us! Fifteen years of memories and milestones means it's time to look at what needs to be refreshed, replaced, or reimagined as we enter another era of partnership with our patrons and neighbors.

#### **BUILDING A FUTURE FOR OUR YOUTH**

In the year ahead, we are investing more resources than ever into the true future of our community: our youth. The Sally & Steve Johnston Arts in Education Series will bring nearly 2000 area students to experience STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) learning opportunities with professional artists. From learning to interpret the language of dance to tracing the history of hip hop, students will experience the arts in ways that are relevant to their education — and their development as well rounded, engaged citizens.

#### **FRESH FACED**

We are in the preliminary stages of a design update in our meeting rooms, lobby, and Box Office areas, as well as full carpet replacement in the theatre. This project will ensure that our patron facing spaces remain inviting and comfortable as we continue to reach new audiences and serve new sectors of our community.

Additionally, focusing investment in these areas will bolster a major revenue stream, making the Center more attractive to event planners and corporate clients and strengthening the sustainability of our business model.

Stay tuned for more! We've contracted with a design firm that specializes in elegantly modern open spaces and invitingly cozy conversation nooks. We are excited to have renderings and photos to share with you soon.



#### \$500-\$1,999

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Arvin & Grace Bogaards Susan & Steve Booth

Samuel Boothby

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Andreya Schneider Bernd Schoel

Live Wire Electric

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John & Deb Martin

Dennis McNulty Michael Moore

Natel Broadband

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Sharon Norton Bev O'Brien Memorial

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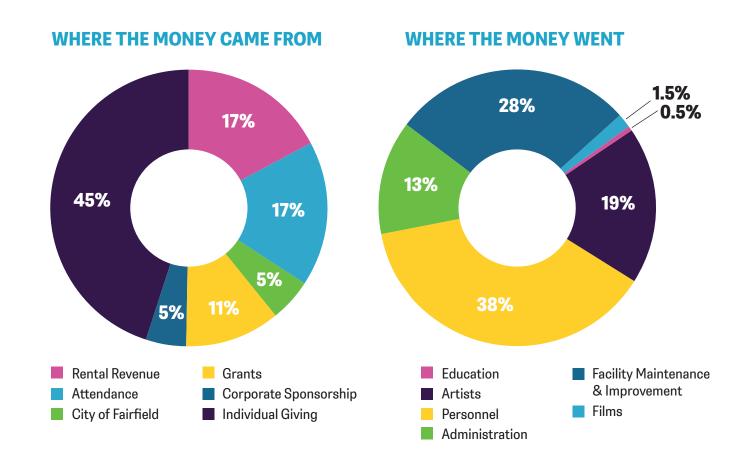
Frank & Margie Wintroub **Emily & Jerry Wohler** Kathy Wolfskill

Gail Young

## Numbers Narrative

#### THE HOUSE THAT YOU BUILT

We are privileged to work every day in a space whose every inch is a testament to the dedication and passion of community builders and cultural champions like you.



#### **COMMUNITY CENTERED**

Did you know that the average cost to present a live show in our season is at least \$27,000? That means that without donor and sponsor support, tickets would have to sell for at least \$90 each! Our new film program, Cinema Fairfield, offers regular film screenings whose cost would demand a movie ticket of \$37 or more. Can you imagine?

Instead, with low-cost tickets and free entertainment opportunities throughout the year, you've created a place where ALL people, regardless of circumstances, can benefit from an evening of joy shared with loved ones and neighbors.

### The New Fabulous



#### **FORGET "NEW NORMAL"**

This past year, your involvement in our mission made more of a difference than ever, as we emerged fully from the constraints of the pandemic and reached new heights in programming and audience development. Never before has your generosity made such an impact or reached more people.

#### STANLEY SOUND EXPERIENCE

This year we completed a 2-year project with the unveiling of the Stanley Sound Experience. Completely donor supported, this groundbreaking technology gave one patron a moving new story to share. Deaf in one ear, it was the first time she remembered genuinely enjoying a live performance, able to catch every word and revel in every note. The truth is clear: our donors change lives!

#### **CAN'T STOP THE BEAT**

The lights of our Center are never dark! Last year Cinema Fairfield presented a whopping 43 individual films, with 138 screenings, serving an entirely new sector of our community and delighting moviegoers across Southeast lowa. Add that to our slate of more than 30 live performances and the title "the beating heart of Fairfield" (as one of our supporters loves to call us) sounds just about right.

## Dream Makers & World Builders

## THANK YOU TO ALL WHO INVESTED IN ART, CONNECTION, CREATIVITY, AND COMMUNITY LAST YEAR!

\$50,000+	Wayne & Nan Kocourek	Alex Stanley
\$25,000- \$49,999	Dick & Judy Smith	
\$10,000- \$24,999	Iowa State Bank & Trust Steve & Sally Johnston Lisco	Ottumwa Radio Group Robert L. Tree Charitable
\$5,000- \$9,999	Aeron Lifestyle Technology Terry & Sarah Cochran Fairfield Art Association KILJ Radio	KTVO TrafFix Devices Inc. Dr. Robert Wiegert
	Alpha Media - KMCD / Classic 96 AmericInn & Suites	Libertyville Savings Bank Charlotte Lenhart

\$2,000-\$4,999 AmericInn & Suites
Foss, Kuiken, Cochran,
Helling & Willman
Cambridge Investment Research
Community 1st Credit Union
Monica Hadley
Geoff & Teresa Hunt
Jefferson County Health Center

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