

a magical journey thru

STAGES

2018-2019 ANNUAL REPORT

SETTING THE STAGE

A **non-profit youth theater** located in Rochester, NY, A Magical Journey Thru Stages offers over **700 students in grades 1-12** the opportunity to be part of an **inclusive, diverse community of performers**.

Cast members have the unique opportunity to perform through year long offerings of full **musical productions**, a **play**, **summer theater camps**, **improv troupe**, **technical training**, **open mic nights**, and specialized **workshops**.

Throughout the season, our dedicated staff, professional artistic teams and volunteers teach kids to **explore** their **creative talents** in front of over **8,000 supportive audience** members. Students are given a **professional experience** that allows them to **build self-confidence**, while learning and growing in all areas of theater arts.



SPOTLIGHT ON OUR YEAR

It is with great appreciation to our supporters that we present our annual report for our 2018-2019 year. Youth in our community love theater and the arts. Our all-encompassing focus at Stages is to provide **the most fun and highest quality theater** experiences available for students in Grades 1 - 12.

We accomplish this with your support. Thanks to our generous donors and supporters, we are able to consistently offer a supportive environment and a total immersion in theater for performers and behind-the-scenes roles.

- **Blockbuster season** with a **record-breaking** amount of talent onstage and backstage
- **Replaced** moveable theater seats
- **Filled** all Summer Camps with enthusiastic thespians

We are the place where they love to be, with people they enjoy, doing something they love. Our students describe Stages as their "second home" and where they "have found their people." Connections for a lifetime are created by the teamwork and striving to stretch their talents to perform spectacular shows! We are **so proud** of the maturity these students demonstrate during every show, and we thank everyone who supports our endeavors.

CREATING FUN, HIGH-QUALITY
YOUTH THEATER

LIGHTS UP! MORE THAN JUST ACTING



At Stages, not every child wants to be in the spotlight. Many shine and are an integral part of our shows behind the scenes.

Creating a unique opportunity unlike other Children's Theaters, we train students to work alongside talented professionals and get hands-on experience in skills that can last a lifetime - and have inspired students to go onto college to study the technical side of theater.



Each show finds students behind the scenes interning and shining in:

- Lighting/Sound Design
- Set Design & Building
- Costume Design & Construction
- Stage Crew/Tech Crew
- Student Director
- Student Choreographer
- Student Music Director

A MAGICAL JOURNEY THRU
STAGES - ROCHESTER, NY

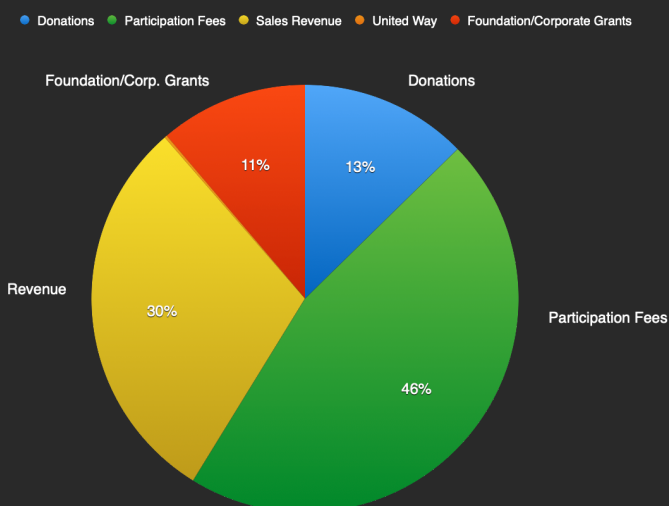
ACT I: TO CREATE & LEARN

We know that the lessons learned on our stage are immeasurable, but being part of a show means you are an integral part of a very large team. Our students and directors **work incredibly hard to stretch the resources we have** and to grow and learn. Due to our tight operating budget, **our theater relies on our incredible parent and student volunteers** to build sets, create props, and construct costumes for every show.

- Our limited equipment is crucial to creating professional-level productions but **it is a delicate balance to maintain** the expensive components - and we have little room for error or breakage.
- Choosing to support our organization means **your monetary gift impacts hundreds of children** and allows us to keep our theater and equipment running.



STAGES INCOME 2018-2019



Stages total income for the 2018-2019 season was \$349,873.

Show tickets and participation fees alone do not cover the full cost of producing our programs.

ACT II: BUILDING COMMUNITY

Whether you are on the stage or behind the scenes, working on a show makes you a member of our theater family. **The bonds of friendship that are made transcend the closing curtain**, and you will find our students supporting one another outside of our walls in the community.

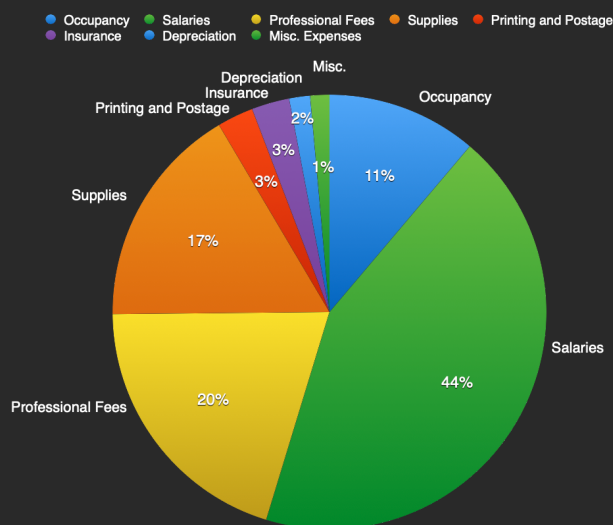
- This **connection boosts the emotional/social well-being** of our performers.
- Our **families form friendships**, just like our students, and provide support to one another as their children navigate life and the challenges and joys of the world.
- This positive energy creates powerful community.
- **Your donation will impact and enrich a child and community for life!**



STAGES EXPENSES 2018-2019

Our total expenses were \$345,905 with net earnings of \$3,968.

Our programs are robust. Our financial cushion is small. Donor support is critical to keep the lights on and grow our offerings for the students in our community.



RAVE REVIEWS



"We really love how stages is run and will definitely be coming back! Thanks for providing such a fun and positive, hospitable place!"

"We have been to many other theatre programs in Rochester and this program is the most organized, and family oriented. The education is excellent, the attitude and inclusion is awesome and permeates the whole experience. This is my daughters second home."

"I'm so grateful for the kindness, patience and willingness of the creative team to give ALL children opportunities to shine on stage."



"I am absolutely amazed at the professionalism of this company, and I am extremely satisfied with my training experience and overall experience at Stages."

**A MAGICAL JOURNEY THRU
STAGES - ROCHESTER, NY**

FINALE: STANDING OVATION FOR OUR DONORS

We are eternally grateful for the continual support of the many families and organizations that share our vision and support our endeavors.

THANK YOU!

DONATION SUPERSTARS

VIP PRODUCERS (\$25,000+)

Grandparents Anonymous

MEDIA SPONSOR

KidsOutAndAbout.com

GRANT SUPPORTERS

New York State Council on the Arts

The Max and Marian Farash

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The Guido and Ellen Palma Foundation

Rochester Area Community Foundation

Arts & Cultural Council

Feinbloom Supporting Foundation

Fred & Floy Willmott Foundation

PRODUCER DONORS (\$1,000 - \$2,499)

The Gibson Family

Masline Electronics, Inc.

CRITICAL NEED:

Following ten years of consistent growth, the programming we can provide in our current space is physically limited. Students are left on waiting lists or turned away. Additional facilities are a critical need to fully serve the children and teens in our community who are passionate about theater. Funding for more space will allow rehearsals, classes, and performances to be added to address this unmet need.

Please consider supporting our organization with a Grant or Donation to help us cover this need. No amount is too small; any amount supports our students! Thank you!

TO DONATE:

www.MJTStages.com/donate

CONNECT WITH US:



A Magical Journey Thru
Stages *Official Page*



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STAFF

Sherry Vile, **Executive Director**
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