

TECH INVESTMENTS CONTINUE

BY BRUCE GREENHILL, OPERATIONS MANGER

This year we've seen some great acts on our stage and outstanding local adult and youth performers. To present great shows, we have to provide great sound and lights, so the past couple of years we made significant investments in our technology – both in terms of equipment and volunteer personnel.

A new 32-channel digital console replaced our old 24-channel analog board. Recent tech acquisitions include cordless microphones, a new CD player, heavy duty microphone stands, and powered on-stage monitor speakers. Local audio guru Donny Osier conducted four audio training sessions. The first was all about stage sound in general and the remaining three provided lots of hands-on familiarization with the new mixer. The final session included setting up and mixing a live band – a truly great learning experience. Through these training sessions we recruited both adult and youth tech volunteers. Thank you, Donny!

Another recent acquisition was a high quality digital projector. The new unit offers improved brightness and built-in digital adjustments giving us greater flexibility as to where we place it, allowing for both downstage and rear projections. We've also invested significant time into the operation of our lighting system. NMU lighting professor Vic Holliday twice visited HIT. He conducted a detailed inventory of our system, developed and documented a lighting plot, wrote up "how-to" sheets to simplify programming the lighting console, and offered two lighting training sessions. Again, new volunteers were recruited through their participation in the workshops.

Some of the improvements were funded by special gifts while others were part of our annual operations budget. With your ongoing support we will continue to upgrade and improve our technology so that we can deliver on our promise of quality theatre experiences.

If you'd like to join our tech volunteers, contact Operations Manager Bruce Greenhill. 🐾

NEW BOARD BRINGS DIVERSE BACKGROUNDS AND EXPERIENCE TO HIT

- **Dan Tregembo** is a lifelong resident of Ironwood and brings his love of all things outdoors to the theatre.
- **Doug Muskett** is our newest member on the board and also new in the community. He is an attorney in Bessemer and is excited about becoming involved behind the scenes at HIT.
- **Zona Wick** is a lifelong resident, retired nurse and the current HIT board president.
- **Susie Filippo** is the HIT board secretary and although amazing at producing minutes in minutes, she is an

experienced back stage manager and makeup artist.

- **Cas Bordner** is a freshman at Hurley High School and is the student rep on the board. She is a member of ASDC and a previous HIT Idol winner.

- **Pam Iacullo** is a retired school teacher and is busier than ever



DAN TREGEMBO, DOUG MUSKETT, ZONA WICK, SUSIE FILIPPO, PAM IACULLO, CAS BORDNER, RICK SEMO, PAUL JAHNSON
Missing from photo: SANDY BENTLEY, NICOLE LAHTI

- serving on numerous community boards and involved in several organizations in the community.
- **Rick Semo** is the vice president on the HIT board. He also serves on the Ironwood City Commission. Since the city of Ironwood owns the theatre, Rick is the liaison for the board.
- **Paul Jahnsen** retired at a very young age and after traveling and living all over the USA has decided this is the perfect place to hang his hat permanently.
- **Nichole Lahti** has been involved at HIT since before she could walk. An arts entrepreneur and local radio personality, she is known as *Lahtida*.
- **Sandy Bentley** recently returned to the area after being gone for 16 years. Sandy was the HIT board president many years ago when she lived here and co-owned Bentley Furniture. 🐾

Fri. & Sat. Dec. 7 & 8 @ 7 PM
Sun. Dec 9 @ 2 PM



Once again the Claudettes are kicking off the holiday season with a Christmas Extravaganza. Singers, dancers, choirs and bands join the Claudettes for a celebration of holiday cheer. Santa and Mrs. Claus create some holiday magic which delights young and old alike. This show is a collaboration between Theatre North, The Historic Ironwood Theatre (HIT) and The Claudettes.

Sat. Jan 12 @ 7 PM



CONGA SE MENNE @ SISU SKI FEST

Finnish Reggae Holy Wah!

Reggae meets Finland, eh? Take a multicultural vacation with Conga Se Menne. Formed in 1994 by Derrell Syria, Conga Se Menne takes Syria's original compositions and songs, arranges them utilizing elements of both Finnish traditional music and Jamaican reggae, adds in comedy lyrics about "Yoopers" and other facets of U.P. life, and performs them on guitar, bass, keyboards and percussion instruments (and occasionally horns).

Kelly's Bar - Opens @ 6 PM

Sat. Feb 9 @ 7 PM

BIG HIT CABARET Beer & Wine Fest

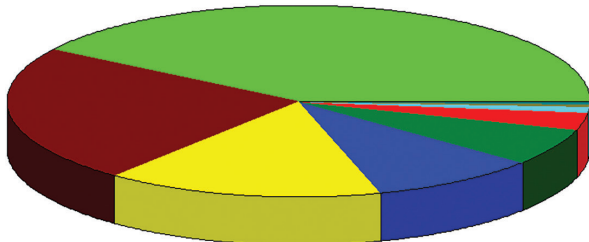


Join us for the 4th Annual BIG HIT Wine & Beer Fest fundraiser at the Ironwood Memorial Building Auditorium. Bid on some wonderful silent auction items, socialize with friends, sample fine wines and MI craft beers, enjoy gourmet hors d'oeuvres - and know that through your attendance, you are supporting our beloved Historic Ironwood Theatre and helping to meet a challenge match that will double the value of your contribution.

HIT FINANCIALS

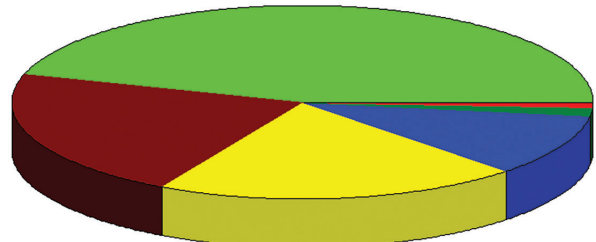
The Historic Ironwood Theatre is in a better financial position from which to launch the next chapter of the HIT story. With the generous and consistent support of our contributors, sponsors, and funders, HIT was able to operate this year without incurring any operating debt and in a position to rebuild our capital reserves. 🦋

EXPENSE SUMMARY
OCT 2017 THROUGH SEPT 2018



5100 - Performance/Event Expenses	41.00%
6700 - Payroll Expenses	23.27
6200 - Theater and Equipment	15.47
6500 - Office Operations	9.40
6565 - Marketing Fund Raising & Events	6.32
6100 - Business Expenses	3.07
6300 - Contract Services	1.07
6450 - ASDC - All expenses	0.33
6400 - Grant Expenses	0.08
Total	\$164,703.38

INCOME SUMMARY
OCT 2017 THROUGH SEPT 2018



4100 - Performance/Event	45.37%
4300 - Donations	21.74
4400 - Grants ~ Non Program	20.47
4900 - Fundraising/Special Events	10.45
4500 - Investments	1.54
4600 - Sales	0.42
Total	\$311,694.01



Operation of the Historic Ironwood Theatre is supported in part by a grant from the Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs and the National Endowment for the Arts.

GRIFFIN layout/design by SHARPGRAPHICDESIGN.COM

Sat. March 2 @ 7 PM



A nostalgic tribute to one of America's greatest performers: Frank Sinatra. And who better to bring the essence of Ol' Blue Eyes back to the stage but the exceptional Dave Halston, who will bring Sinatra to life and a vintage Vegas vibe to the Ironwood stage. Critics have raved about Halston's tribute to the iconic Sinatra, calling it "stunning" and "spot-on." Halston creates a brilliant interpretation of the beloved Chairman of the Board.

Sat. Aug 17 @ 7 PM

The Eagles Hotel California *Original Tribute*



The Original Tribute to THE EAGLES Hotel California prides itself on creating the illusion that you are listening to the actual Eagles. They've shared the stage with the Doobie Brothers, Lynyrd Skynyrd, Styx, REO Speedwagon, Gretchen Wilson and many more International Artists. They've performed in Dubai, Japan, India, Bermuda and all over North America.

FALL 2019

Arts WORLD FEST MIDWEST



Paulo Padilha & Group, from Brazil

Arts Midwest is bringing International music ensembles to smaller communities throughout the Midwest. Ironwood is the only community in Michigan chosen by Arts Midwest as a recommendation from Michigan Council for Arts & Cultural Affairs (MCACA) to participate in World Fest. Paulo Padilha is tentatively scheduled for Fall 2019.

DRAMA CLUB OPENS NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR AREA YOUTH

BY HANNAH CASTILLO AND HALEY AGEE, ASDC MEMBERS



Did you know that the Western Upper Peninsula area has an **Awkward Stage Drama Club (ASDC)**? The club takes part in creating plays directed by Mary Hansen and Gene Goss. The club brings joy to participating students and to the community.

The club performs for local grades, kindergarten through sixth, every year. This year the ASDC performed "The Enchanted Bookshop." This play was about a magical bookshop where the book characters came alive while jewel thieves stirred up trouble.

The cast had an amazing experience. They had fun learning their characters and parts. The cast had an exciting time performing on stage and a great time making new friends and creating a welcoming "Drama Family." The group can hardly wait until the next project.

The children who came to see the performance had a great deal of fun. Their laughs were lively during the performances. They loved meeting the cast, too. They brought their families to the public performance of the play. The younger kids loved the ASDC. It is something for them to look forward to as they get older and can perform.

The ASDC brings excitement and new opportunities to the community. Will you go to their next performance? They would love to have you! Look for our next show coming in Spring 2019. See you there. 🦋

A huge **THANK YOU** to Don and Abby Funk for their \$25,000 BIG HIT match this year. Their contribution was used to support the *Bee Gees Gold Tribute Band*, a professional long throw projector, and youth programming. Their goal is to make a difference in children's lives and they have succeeded in doing that here at HIT! 🦋



Abby & Don Funk with Bee Gees Gold Tribute Band - Aug 18, 2018

FOR TICKETS & OTHER INFO

THEATRE BOX OFFICE

Open: Wed - Friday Noon - 4:30 PM
906-932-0618

DAY OF SHOW

Available in the Concourse one hour before showtime

IRONWOOD THEATRE, INC.
PO Box 187
IRONWOOD MI 49938



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info@ironwoodtheatre.net



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*"The word 'theatre' comes from the Greeks. It means the seeing place.
It is the place people come to see the truth about life and the social situation."*

STELLA ADLER

OH MY GOSH! WHAT AN INCREDIBLE YEAR AT HIT!

BY ZONA WICK, HIT BOARD PRESIDENT

What an incredible year of entertainment at HIT! The Lettermen, Keweenaw Symphony Orchestra, Peter Yarrow, Aurora Nights, Charlie Berens, Bee Gees Gold, and Ethan Bortnick graced our stage. Children's programs included HIT Idol, Prairie Fire Children's Theatre, Awkward Stage Drama Club. Local dance companies, school choirs and bands, also performed on HIT's stage. There were 48 events this past fiscal year at HIT!

Thanks to your commitment, the theatre was able to ride out the recent years of financial storm. The combination of your generosity, successful grant writing, abundant show schedule, and with our internal prudence and resourcefulness, enabled HIT to end the year on September 30, 2018 well in the black.

The new year brings more challenges and needs, including a new boiler system estimated at \$75,000. This is a concern, as the theatre board needs to come back to our loyal donors, patrons, and grantors and again ask for support.

Let's focus on the positive and what the theatre brings to the community. There is nothing like the excitement, inspiration and joy on the faces of theatre-goers who experience the diverse arts at HIT. There is nothing like hearing a child actor come off stage and exclaim, "This was the best day of my life!" Making these special moments possible is the passion and mission of HIT. Please help us continue opening hearts, inspiring minds and igniting imaginations by coming to a show, volunteering, or writing a check.

Thank you Iron/Gogebic Range Community for keeping the crown jewel of downtown Ironwood alive and well for 90 years!

