

THE GRIFFIN

NEWSLETTER OF THE HISTORIC IRONWOOD THEATRE

WINTER 2019-2020

NEW SOUND SYSTEM

BY BRUCE GREENHILL
OPERATIONS MANAGER

Continuing the program of technology upgrades, your theatre will soon see the installation of a new speaker system. The speakers will be manufactured by Danley SoundLabs® and installed by Soundworks Systems of Stevens Point, Wisconsin. Designed specifically for our auditorium following extensive computer modeling, the system will result in a theatre-going experience that is second to none. The new system will include main left and right speakers, a multi-directional ceiling cluster, sub-woofers, and small lip speakers along the front of the stage floor.

Sound quality is largely a function of the angle from which sound is heard, so acoustical properties of rooms and concert halls are determined in part by the echo from the reflection and absorption of sound by the walls. Careful placement and angle of speakers and calculation of sound dispersion are key factors in determining sound quality. The computer modeling completed earlier in the project will result in even volume disbursement and eliminate the current problem of loud "hot-spots" ensuring the highest possible sound quality to every seat in the house.



Preliminary work including electrical supply and cabling will be completed during November and the installation will be completed by late December-early January. The speakers project is supported in part by a Capital Improvements grant from the Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs (MCACA). Check the latest news section of our website for more information. 🐾



DONNY OSIER AND DAUGHTER NINA (LEFT) WITH PAULO PAHDILA BANDO FROM BRAZIL (CENTER), MARK SILVER (RIGHT).

HIT RECEIVES GRANT FROM VOLUNTEER'S EMPLOYER

Thanks to the continuing volunteer efforts of Donny Osier, HIT recently received a grant from his employer Verisk. As he presented the check, Donny said "It is great to work for a company that supports volunteerism and the causes their employees believe in."



HIT PRESIDENT, ZONA WICK, DON OSIER AND OPS MANAGER, BRUCE GREENHILL

Verisk provides advanced tools and analytics for the property/casualty insurance industry. Verisk employees worldwide submit grant nominations, and winners are determined by a panel representing a cross section of Verisk's operating units. The panel considers the extent and duration of the volunteer's service, along with the applicant organization's charitable status and good standing.

An audio engineer and owner/operator of recording studio, Creation Collective, Donny has a lifetime of audio and technical expertise to share. Donny first volunteered at HIT more than 20 years ago. He has set up and mixed sound for hundreds of acts and provided training and support for other tech volunteers. He also offers advice to theatre management on tech equipment acquisitions. He has appeared on the HIT stage as a member of Chamber singers.

Volunteering at HIT is a family affair for the Osiers – Donny's son Jake, now an independent sound engineer with a couple of touring bands, has been called into service on many occasions to help Dad. Recently daughter Nina joined the crew of tech volunteers. 🐾

VOLUNTEERS AT WORK



God's Work Our Hands cleaning crew
September 8, 2019



Mercer School student volunteers,
Jessica and Zoe

Sat. Dec 14 @ 7 PM
Sun. Dec 15 @ 2 PM



HIT Christmas

Starring Local Singers, Dancers & Musicians, *The Claudettes* & Santa Dancers

Produced in collaboration with



Sun. Dec 22 @ 4 PM
LAKE SUPERIOR
BIG TOP CHAUTAUQUA



The name may be blue, but Blue Canvas Christmas is anything but! Bring on the holiday season with a musical performance by the Blue Canvas Orchestra. Blue Canvas Christmas features songs old and new, holiday classics, instrumentals, and an audience sing-a-long. It's a seasonal musical performance that's bound to fill your hearts with holiday cheer.

Thurs. Jan 30 @ 7 PM



ABBA MANIA grips the world with countless tributes on television, radio and of course with the hugely popular stage hit *Mamma Mia* and there are no signs that this popularity is slowing down!

ABBA MANIA The Tribute takes you back in time by recreating one of the world's finest pop groups in a live stage performance.



STRATEGIC PLANNING DECISIONS MADE AT HIT


BY ZONA WICK, PRESIDENT,
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

This past summer board members, volunteers, City of Ironwood leaders and community members met under the guidance of Amy Quinn, CEO of *Grow & Lead: Community and Youth Development* to prepare a strategic plan for HIT.

Five meetings later a 5-year document was completed that the HIT board will use to guide future planning.

The three goals are:

1. Community Awareness and Engagement
2. Fiscal Stability and Sustainability
3. Capital Improvement Plan.

The document also provides guidelines for grant writing, programming, finance and building/maintenance committees. 


Adios, Au Revoir, Auf Wiedersehen



PAM IACULLO & RIC OLSON

Volunteers extraordinaire Pam Iacullo and Ric Olson have packed their bags and moved south. Pam worked in the box office since 2011 and became a board member 2 years ago. She started Basic Funder, our donor database, and was a gracious Head of House host.

They both show up every Monday morning at 8 AM to clean the theatre after a show. Ric is a jack of all trades (master of all too) and was instrumental in building the new sound booth and has rewired, repaired and replaced everything! A computer geek also.

We are going to miss these two! We wish all the best to Pam and Ric as they settle in their new, beautiful home, closer to family. 



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, Feb 29 @ 7 PM

A TRIBUTE TO THE MUSIC OF JOHN DENVER: LAYNE YOST



The music of John Denver is timeless and well known. Layne Yost's "Tribute to John Denver" is a faithful tribute that pays homage to the music and the man. Yost, accompanied by Jon Shimoda on bass and Carol McDowall on fiddle, capture the simple soul of Denver's music.

Woven within the music are stories that give insight into Denver's life and legacy. A wonderful show that will take listeners back, reminding folks of simple things that remain.

Sat. Apr 18 @ 7 PM

Arts WORLD FEST MIDWEST



Traverse 2,500 years of musical tradition from the heart of Central Asia with **Hadar Maoz**, from Israel and her ensemble. Making use of traditional instruments like the tar and saz, Hadar's electrifying Bukharin sound finds inspiration everywhere, from ancient Persia to modern Israel, while discovering common ground with blues and rock along the way.

Sat. May 16 @ 7 PM

DENNY LAINE Songs & Stories



As a founding member of The Moody Blues and a founding member of Wings, Rock and Roll Hall of Fame® Inductee, Denny Laine, along with his new group The Moody Wing Band is touring America in 2020.

As a premier English songwriter and multi-instrumentalist, Denny is best known for his roles as the original guitarist and lead singer of The Moody Blues from 1964 - 1966 and as a co-founder of Wings with Paul McCartney. Denny was with Wings from 1971 - 1981. At the height of the British Invasion, Denny Laine was one of the most recognizable voices on the music scene.

Success with Arts WORLD FEST MIDWEST

September 22 - 28, 2019 was a week to remember, enjoying the music and company of Paulo and his band sharing the culture of Brazil.

The band arrived Sunday and was welcomed by Big Powderhorn Lodging Association and found themselves surrounded by beautiful autumn foliage in a 3 story ski lodge. They hoped to see a bear all week! On Monday the band headed to the Ironwood School and worked with the band, choir and Accent students. Tuesday the band traveled to Mercer where Teresa Schmidt of the Mercer Library and Community Center hosted the school kids and community. Ladies of the community served up Brazilian food and community members enjoyed dancing. Wednesday was spent at the Hurley school and Thursday the band had the day off. Friday the band went to Villa Maria Health and Rehab and BAHS for dancing and fun. Saturday was the community presentation by the band at HIT. 120 people enjoyed the music of Brazil with students and teachers joining them on stage. It was an amazing week of cultural exchanges, learning and laughs. Young and old got to experience the rhythms and sounds of Brazil without traveling. This is the goal of Arts Midwest and it worked!

April 12-18, 2020 will bring us Part 2 of World Fest and the music of Israel with Hadar Moaz. Traverse 2,500 years of musical tradition from the heart of Central Asia with Hadar Maoz and her ensemble. Making use of traditional instruments like the tar and saz, Hadar's electrifying Bukharin sound finds inspiration everywhere, from ancient Persia to modern Israel, while discovering common ground with blues and rock along the way. **Mark your calendar for April 18 @ 7 PM as you won't want to miss Hadar in concert.**

Save the Date

Sat. Jan 11 @ 7 PM



POST ENTERTAINMENT WITH



Fri. March 6, 2020



HIT celebrates Copper Peak turning 50 with First Friday movie *Eddie the Eagle*. Cut from the Olympic ski team, British athlete Michael "Eddie" Edwards travels to Germany to test his skills at ski jumping.

DECEMBER, JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH & APRIL

Visit our website for complete movie details.



Sat. Aug 15, 2020



A modern day live concert featuring the musical legacy of Sir Paul McCartney from Beatles, Wings and his solo career.

TICKETS & OTHER INFO



THEATRE BOX OFFICE

Open: Wed - Friday Noon - 4:30 PM

906-932-0618

TICKETS ON DAY OF SHOW - Available in the Concourse one hour before showtime

IRONWOOD THEATRE, INC.

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"Attending the theatre is one of the greatest magic acts I know. Sitting in a darkened auditorium watching stories about other people's lives being told on stage, an emotional reaction sparks our nervous system and we are moved.


We leave the theatre changed from when we arrived."

Miles Mykkanen, Tenor Soloist

ANOTHER FUNK CHALLENGE

Don and Abby Funk sponsored Hotel California in 2019. They will be sponsoring the *All McCartney Live* on August 15, 2020. If you love the music of Sir Paul McCartney, the Beatles, and Wings you won't want to miss this show.

Don and Abby have also offered us a new challenge. If we can raise \$10,000 for the new sound system, they will match our \$10,000! So give generously to the sound system as your money will be doubled! Thanks Don and Abby and thanks HIT donors.

In 2020 there won't be a BIG HIT as in the past few years. We will have more frequent, smaller fundraising events. The first fundraiser for the sound system will be during the January 30, 2020 ABBA MANIA show. When you purchase a \$70 VIP ticket, \$25 of it will go towards the new sound system. After the show, VIP ticket holders will be invited to the mezzanine for drinks, appetizers and drawings for prizes worth \$25 or more. 



THE EAGLES HOTEL CALIFORNIA TRIBUTE WITH DON & ABBY FUNK (4TH & 5TH FROM LEFT) AT HIT AUGUST 17, 2019.

Future Fundraisers

Valentine Gala
Fri. Feb. 14, 2020

Warm Hearts at Cold Iron
Sun. April 26, 2020