



2020 ANNUAL REPORT



812 Coshocton Ave, PMB 168
Mount Vernon, OH 43050
mtvarts.com

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MTVarts is blessed to work with some exceptionally fine businesses and organizations serving as our advisors and donated services.

In-kind services are of great value and we sincerely appreciate these businesses who donated in 2020.

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Park National Bank Robert Boss, Monique Milligan

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Knox County Properties

2020 GRANTS

Heritage Ohio Grant \$1,916.70

Ohio Arts Council \$1,469

Donate \$500 and above

* donation made in 4th quarter of 2019
black ink - donation made in 2020
green ink - donation made for 2021

The Schnormeier Family Fund \$10,000*

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Friends of MTVarts

Donate up to \$499

Nancy Revenaugh in honor of Diane Dingler \$100

Barry Bowden and Jackie Johnson \$100

Specialty Outdoor Services in honor of Joe and Marty Bell \$400

Bryce Coffing \$250

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Kokosing Construction Company in honor of the Foreman Family \$200

Diane Dingler \$200

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The Bowden Family \$100

Kevin and Diana Burt \$100

Chris and Aaron Cook \$100

Courtney DeCosky and Jeff Williams \$100

Ruth Griffing \$100

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Susan Moreland \$100

Jill Plichta \$100

Beth Prince \$100

Steve Stone \$100

The Walker-Simpson Family \$100

Chase Eyster \$50

Kathleen Spohn \$30

Rhonda Rheinscheld \$25

Anonymous \$25

Sincere thanks to those who donated the cost of their tickets purchased for canceled shows.

Memorial Donations

In memory of Chuck Ransom

Facebook Campaign \$3,020*

The Laslo Family \$25

In memory of Ronald Fraser

Jeremy Redfield \$50

In memory of Barbara Perkins

The Perkins/Gipple Family in memory of "mom" \$500

Anonymous \$500

Andrew Carlson \$500

Leslie Seibert \$100

Annette Himmelmann \$100

Barbara Barry \$50

Carol Navin \$60

In memory of Richard Murray Esq

Chase Eyster \$50



THANK YOU

On behalf of our Board of Directors, volunteers, actors, and crew, we extend our sincere gratitude to you for your generous contribution and for becoming a very important part of the MTVarts family.

Our survival through the unprecedented 2020 year was made possible through your generosity. Your philanthropic donation will support high-quality and entertaining productions throughout the remaining 2021 season!

Your donation will help sponsor our annual summer musical performance, artsIQ youth education program that gives students a chance to delve into the thrills of live theatre, and our American Classics Series with access to private talk-back sessions with our high school audience members.

Thank you again for your support! We look forward to seeing you soon!

Bruce Jacklin, Artistic Director



Susan Moreland, President
Carrie Haver, Vice President
Leah Miller, Secretary
Janis Stone, Business Director/Treasurer

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Please consider this letter as your official receipt for your 2020 cash contribution to MTVarts Inc.
No goods or services were provided in exchange for your contribution.

As that old year has ended and this new year has begun, my thoughts are of what has transpired and what this new year has in store for me, my family, friends, and of course our MTVarts family.

I know I will not be alone when I say, good riddance to 2020! The pandemic has cost us in many ways, our good health, our ability to be together, and the loss of community theatre that we have loved for so many years. As the vaccine rolls out, MTVarts will be looking into ways of getting back on the boards safely. What a fantastic time that will be...In the meantime stay well.

Grandmother and Granddaughter loving theater painted by Luna Moreland

With much love
"Break a Leg"
Susan Moreland



2020 was a dark year for many, for our stages, our country, and our spirits. But one fact remains-- we were together, even though separate, through it all. Every one of us experienced loss, isolation, anxiety of the unknown, balanced by unexpected joy brought by small gestures, simple pleasures, and a quieter schedule. We found compassion, support, and new creative outlets. We reconnected with the outdoors, while connecting with friends and family virtually. We heard familiar voices telling us it would be ok. We would get through this-- and we will. We saw an outpouring of love and financial support during this unprecedented time. We might not have been on a stage singing or dancing, but YOU FOUND US, all over again. For your words of encouragement and donations that will bring us singing and dancing into the future, we cannot thank you enough. ...Carrie A. Haver



From "Dear Evan Hansen"

Even when the dark comes crashin' through
When you need someone to carry you
When you're broken on the ground
You will be found

So when the sun comes streaming in
'Cause you'll reach up and you'll rise again
If you only look around
You will be found

My favorite meme from 2020 was a picture of Arnold Schwarzenegger as the Terminator, with his robot arm exposed, and the caption read "Me after washing my hands 10,000 times a day." Throughout the past, extraordinarily challenging year, we have all found humor and positivity in the chaos. 2020 could have been the end of MTVarts but because of our amazing donor base and our volunteers we are able to continue into 2021. Who knows what this new year will bring, but knowing that we have each other to bring laughter and positivity into it makes me feel like anything is possible.

... Leah Miller





Long ago our MTVarts logo was designed to appeal to artistic sensibilities. The swirling graphic represented movement, fluidity, the beautiful chaos of artistic expression; a highly stylized version of the fingerprint which every artist leaves on their work. Enjoy a few of our passionate folk sharing about **2020**.

2020 certainly was strange and sad, but people continued to donate possible costumes from their closets, so Deb Reidmiller and I were occasionally busy sorting it and putting it away. I had begun to put together costumes for All My Sons, On Golden Pond, Thoroughly Modern Milly Jr, and Wally's Cafe, so all of those costumes are still waiting to see what will happen in 2021. We were able to provide some costumes and Ruth Frady provided a wig for the Halloween celebration at the park. I wait with baited breath to hear what this year will bring and a fervent hope that we will actually be able to get back onstage.



... Susan S. B. Brown, Lead Costumer

2020 saw Jim Frady brought on board to help with Facilities Management. More known for playing in the MTVarts show pits or Alcove Dinner Theater musical offerings, this spring found him in a pit of a different sort. Warehouse storage always being at a premium, he began reclaiming the 41' x 10' x 7' basement area, first by hauling away 40 years' worth of old auto parts, apartment renovation scraps, conduit, and gas pipe and etc., and secondly with the help of Woodshop master Joe Bell built a false floor over a 16 ft sloped existing section, creating more storage area. A mostly dry storage space for those items which may have future use, which then created more space upstairs for those items that are used more frequently.



Other smaller cosmetic changes were carried out over the summer months, as well as spraying down the parking lot weeds. Jim noted that "all projects were easy to carry out without having to work around the production schedules and warehouse usage in a typical year, but with few activities occurring . . . that kind of defeats the purpose for the improvements!" He is confident that this coming summer's activities will benefit from the improvements of 2020 and is



eagerly looking forward to navigating facilities support needs with regards to a building full of singers and passionate theater geeks!"

Greetings from the MTVarts workshop! Though hobbled by the pandemic brought on by Covid-19, we find ourselves fresh with new and energizing ideas for upcoming presentations.



Creativity and imagination cannot be stopped or harnessed as there is always a constant flux of practical applications related to problem solving. We are excited to get the saws churning, the drills spinning, the paint flowing and the magical creation of places and things that only live theater can present.

... Joseph Bell, Scene Shop Manager/Master Carpenter
"To bring anything into being, imagine it already there."

If it's one thing that 2020 has taught us it is that we must be there for others! I personally enjoyed watching the HOPE of each day as we faced challenges in our lives that inspired us to continue moving forward in the most unique ways. The challenges of 2020 could have ended many things for MTVarts. There were so many cancellations that had to take place, and with each one came disappointment from actors, community members, and volunteers. But ... "in the middle of every difficulty lies opportunity" (Albert Einstein) ...we



had the opportunity, thanks to generous donors, to install HVAC air purifiers, an AED machine, and First Aid Stations at our warehouse. A just completed class trained 8 volunteers in CPR and general First Aid all for the safety of our volunteers and actors. This is something that we have discussed for a while, but 2020 was the year to make it happen. We might not be able to practice for shows or build sets at the warehouse, but when the time comes, safety will be a priority while working long days and nights to bring theater back!



And MTVarts will be back, stronger than ever and with more excitement! We will take hold of the struggle and develop strength to make for an even better tomorrow!

... Kristen Campbell, Education Curriculum Co-Director



"This past year I was fortunate enough to maintain my internship with MTVarts, and although it did not look like I had expected, I was still able to make an impact on the organization that will probably have an even longer lasting effect. In the summer of 2020, I was supposed to help with the productions, but when we had to cancel those because of the coronavirus, I was given a new task. I made a catalog of all the props and furniture that MTVarts has in our warehouse. In order to take inventory, I helped Bruce clean and reorganize the entire warehouse. Now we have a warehouse in which we can find props easily and an online inventory catalog we can use to find

the location of the prop or set piece and note whether or not it is being rented out to another theatre company. I am so thankful for the opportunities I have gotten to work with MTVarts both on stage and off."



... Mary Harris, MTVarts 2020 intern



Looking for a word to describe a year like 2020 and failing. It was disheartening canceling our season and comparing to 2019, losing 99.7 % of our ticket sales, 44% of our donations, 89% less in grants. But MTVarts adapted. We cleaned, organized, sang, played, read stories in the park, and lit our building. We cut costs wherever possible but chose to invest in signage at warehouse14. We applied for grants, brainstormed, planned, hosted acting classes, changed plans, and planned again. Looking at the bottom line, reality would have been much different if not for you. **You** believed. **You** hoped with us. **You** knew that some costs are fixed and checks still had to be written. The reality of \$50,000 for general management was met thanks to retained earnings and your cash donations. **You made it possible for us to survive 2020.**

Rededicated to our mission to provide quality, innovative, affordable live theatre, we are wading in and testing the waters. We will now be partnering with MVAC (Mount Vernon Arts Consortium) for our online ticketing system and patron management. Although we considered a dinner theatre musical at the Woodward in May, we believe the reality will be opening The Sound of Music at the Memorial in July. We are cautiously planning artsIQ performance-based workshops and reaching out to production team members. We miss each other, our audiences, and you. My personal hope is that 2021 will be the year of the smile.

... Janis Stone, Treasurer/Business Director

MTVarts ... *Imagine more, together!*