



BACKSTAGE AT THE

Valentine Theatre

FALL 2020

OUR MISSION

The Toledo Cultural Arts Center, a non profit organization, produces and provides cultural and performing arts experiences for diverse audiences of all ages, to enhance the quality of the cultural and economic life of the City of Toledo, Lucas County, Northwestern Ohio and Southeast Michigan.

OUR HISTORY

The historic Valentine Theatre opened its doors on Christmas Day in 1895 and is currently a 901-seat facility operated by the Toledo Cultural Arts Center, Inc. Following a 21-year effort by the Board of Trustees and the community, the newly renovated theatre was reopened on October 9, 1999. Since then, more than a million people have attended international, national and regional presentations, weddings and events.

CONTACT US

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ValentineTheatre.com

410 Adams Street
Toledo, Ohio 43604



STORYTIME, SESSIONS, AND SCHOOL DAYS KICK OFF VIRTUAL SEASON!

Since our last newsletter, there has been a flurry of activity at the Valentine. Thanks to generous grants from Buckeye Broadband, Marathon Classic, and The Greater Toledo Community Foundation, as well as returning sponsorships from PNC, The Andersons, Inc., Owens Corning, Owens-Illinois, and many more, we have been able to maintain operations at the Valentine and expand our virtual programming. Technical Director Tim Durham and Assistant Tech Director Joshua Smith have finished filming a dozen episodes of the newest addition to our educational outreach programming, *StoryTime at the Valentine*, featuring an impressive lineup of notable community members reading remarkable children's books from our Main Stage. Readers include Toledo Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz, former Mayor and State Fire Marshal, Mike Bell, City Councilwoman Dr. Cecilia Adams, local veterinarian John Dillon, former Valentine Theatre Board Chair, Jim White, to name just a few. Tim and Josh have also started filming *Sessions*, which highlights area artists performing in intimate ensemble groups on the Valentine's Main Stage. Filming of THE Modern Dance Company recently wrapped. Please watch our website and Facebook page to see when additional Sessions performances will be posted.



Chris Stack reading "Don't Worry Bee Happy"

Area educators and homeschool families will be happy to learn that *Valentine School Days* returns December 1 with virtual performances available for viewing via our website. Musical favorite, *The Chicken Dance*, presented by ArtsPower will start the season. Each performance is available for viewing for about 30 days, giving teachers and homeschool families the chance to watch performances at their convenience. *There is no charge to view any of the Valentine's virtual performances and that includes Valentine School Days, StoryTime, and Sessions. We hope you will tune in and enjoy!*

\$50,000 MATCHING GRANT

The Valentine Theatre gratefully acknowledges the Gorski and Kervin families for their generous support. The Gorski-Kervin Matching Grant will match all donations from individual donors dollar for dollar up to \$50,000 through December 31, 2021. Please help us raise the matching \$50,000 by giving today and doubling the impact of your tax-deductible gift!

A round of applause for our generous sponsors!



Valentine Theatre

Gretchen A. Zyndorf Education Series



VALENTINE SCHOOL DAYS—VIRTUAL SEASON 8

DECEMBER 1, 2020—MAY 31, 2021

VSD performances are available free of charge to public and private school educators and homeschool families to stream via a link to our website — valentinetheatre.com/schooldays. Past participants will automatically receive an email link to each performance which will be good for several weeks. If you would like more information or to be included in our email list, please contact Kelby Sodeman at ksodeman@valentinetheatre.com

VSD SHOW TITLE — ALL PERFORMANCES ARE FREE	GRADE LEVEL	DATES AVAILABLE
The Chicken Dance	PreK-3	Dec 1 – 31, 2020
The Monster Who Ate My Peas	PreK-3	Jan 1—31, 2021
Anne of Green Gables	2-6	Feb 1– 28, 2021
From the Mixed Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler	2-6	Mar 1—31, 2021
Shakespeare's As You Like It	6-12	Apr 1—30, 2021
And Then This Happened	2-8	May 1—31, 2021



STORYTIME AT THE VALENTINE

All Episodes of StoryTime are available free of charge anytime via our website www.valentinetheatre.com/storytime



BOOK TITLE — ALL EPISODES ARE FREE	GRADE LEVEL	READ BY
Hot Rod Hamster by Cynthia Lord	K-2	Jim White, former Valentine Board Chair
Don't Worry Bee Happy by Ross Burach	PreK-1	Chris Stack, local actor
A Bunny in the Ballet by Robert Beck	PreK-3	Traci Watkins, MD, Toledo Ballet Alum
Fly Guy Presents: Firefighters by T. Arnold	K-2	Mike Bell, Former Mayor & State Fire Marshal
Be an Expert: Rescue Vehicles by Erin Kelly	K-2	Mike Bell, Former Mayor & State Fire Marshal
When Marian Sang by Brian Selznick	1-5	Eboné Waweru of the Toledo Opera
Poppleton by Cynthia Rylant	K-2	Patrick Boyer, local actor
Zin! Zin! Zin! A Violin! By Lloyd Moss	PreK-3	Merwin Siu of the Toledo Symphony
Meema the Lemur Becomes a Ballerina by Nigel Burgoine	1-5	Nigel Burgoine, Ballet Theatre of Toledo
Red Sings from the Treetops by Joyce Sidman	PreK-2	Clare Gorski, Valentine Theatre Board member
If Kids Ran the World by Leo & Diane Dillon	PreK-5	Toledo Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz
Harlem by Walter Dean Myers	1-8	Dom Glover, Toledo Ballet Principal dancer
Ella Sets the Stage by Carmela D'Amico	PreK-5	Paul Causman, local actor
Wings by Christopher Myer	PreK-3	Cecilia Adams, PhD, Toledo City Council
A Visit to the Vet by Aubrey Andrus	K-2	John Dillon, DVM, local veterinarian



IN MEMORIAM JOHN "JODY" PALSA

It is with a heavy heart that we share the news that John "Jody" "Hacksaw" Palsa the Business Manager for the IATSE Local 24 passed away on June 16, 2020, at the age of 61. Jody held the office of President for 3 years and the office of Business Agent for 9 years. His service included contract negotiations and enforcement and securing stage crew members for all the local union houses. He also assisted as needed in Detroit, Findlay and other locales. Jody's life was spent in service to the entertainment industry. He worked with all the rock-and-roll greats who came through our area, as well as the professional Broadway touring companies and spent many a night working at the Huntington during hockey season.

Many years ago we sat down with Jody and his membership representatives from IATSE to share the plight of the local not for profits who were striving to maintain operations in financially difficult times. A stronger partnership was forged when it was announced that IATSE would relax some of their rules and regulations regarding the number of mandatory workers for the educational programming at the Valentine and would allow students (primarily high school) to work alongside the union workers and the Valentine tech staff to learn the art of theatre technology. This agreement allowed the Valentine the ability to increase its educational outreach significantly.

The not for profit relies on the strength of its partnerships and the Valentine is proud of the strong partnership it has with IATSE 24. Contract negotiations are always a challenge but every three years we sat down with Jody and his crew and created a contract that benefited all of those involved and that was fair and inclusive for all participants.


We mourn the loss of Jody and listening to the stories of his son, whom he loved to talk about! When the theatre finally opens again it will be without one of its shining stars.



**Join us for our next ZOOM-ING THROUGH BEER Virtual Tasting
Thursday - DECEMBER 17, 2020 @ 6:30—7:45 PM Tickets \$35**

The Valentine's first virtual beer tasting event was "Zoomed" from our Grand Lobby on October 29. Entertaining hosts Kari Gladney of New Belgium Brewing and Stevie Hossler of Heidelberg Distributors expertly guided virtual guests through a bevy of bewitching beers, including Fat Tire, Voodoo American Haze, Voodoo Atomic Pumpkin, to name a few. Over 40 guests participated in the virtual 90-minute event, which included lots of lively chats with the hosts.

The second in our Zoom-ing Through Beer Series will be Thursday, December 17, 6:30—7:45 PM. Ryan Bogdanski of Great Lakes Brewing will host the live event which will feature six beers, Dortmund Gold, Haze Craft IPA, Commodore Perry, Edmund Fitzgerald, Christmas Ale, and Tripel Dog Dare. Tickets are \$35 each at our website, valentinetheatre.com. You will receive a confirmation email with a date and time to pick up your beer sampling kit(s) from the Valentine Theatre. A link to the Zoom meeting will be sent the day of the event. There will be a special drawing at the end of the tasting. Cheers!

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SAVE THE DATE!

The Valentine Theatre's

125th *Virtual* Gala

SUNDAY ♥ FEBRUARY 14

Champagne & Sweets



Be our Valentine on Valentine's Day! We can't think of a better day to celebrate the Valentine's more than 125 years as downtown Toledo's most beloved theatrical venue. The one-hour virtual event will include a champagne toast, delectable desserts, guest stars, and more. Participants will receive a "party in a box" before the event. Stay tuned for more details! Tickets will be available for purchase from our website valentinetheatre.com.