

ADIRONDACK LAKES CENTER FOR THE ARTS

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November 29, 2021

Dear Friends,

As we welcome fall and winter in the Adirondacks, the staff and Board of Trustees of the Adirondack Lakes Center for the Arts are celebrating the very productive year we've had. Even dealing with the pandemic, we managed to accomplish a busy, in-person 2021 season, presenting 12 theatre performances, seven concerts, nine gallery exhibits, and a successful virtual (non-attending) fundraiser, our Great Arts Benefit. These offerings benefited not only the residents of our regional communities, but our seasonal visitors, as well, in a format that kept people safe.

Besides being a time to reflect and celebrate, it's also that time of year when we reach out to you, our patrons and supporters, with our Annual Fund appeal. Having just completed our budgeting process, always a challenge in the best of times, we find that the impact of the pandemic continues to have a big financial effect on the Arts Center.

Know that your generosity in our Annual Fund helps us greatly with our future endeavors and plans. We are diligent in working to increase our membership, in applying for and receiving grant money, and in our annual fundraising efforts. Your Annual Fund donation assists us in programming for our exciting upcoming season, which is already in the works, and with the general-operating expenses needed to support a great line-up of music, theatre, visual arts, lectures, workshops, and special events. Our goal is to continue to provide a platform to foster artistic relationships between local and regional artists, artisans, and performers, our professional, creative staff, and you, our patrons.

The pandemic has provided the opportunity for fresh thinking, including doubling down on our already well-established efforts to partner with other area arts organizations. With our 2021 Adirondack Lakes Summer Theatre Festival, we collaborated with the Adirondack Stage Rats and toured indoor productions (safely) to Tannery Pond Center in North Creek, View Arts Center in Old Forge, and the Indian Lake Theater. We also took our fun Shakespeare production to Long Lake, Inlet, Newcomb, and Tupper Lake, resuming our already Covid-friendly format of safe, outdoor performance. As part of our Weekend Series, we again brought a touring production from Seagle Music Festival and created a tented outdoor space for performance adjacent to the Arts Center. Next season, we look forward to partnering with Pendragon Theatre and rebuilding the number communities we serve to pre-Covid levels.

When we bring our programming out to surrounding communities, we take the opportunity to reach out to those attending events, as well as surrounding businesses, to ask them to consider purchasing memberships and donating to our Annual Fund appeal. While we continue to work on developing relationships with potential new donors, we turn to you, our faithful, supportive donors, who are like us and strive to keep the arts alive in the Adirondacks.

As many of you know, we continue to take great pride in our responsibilities granted by the New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA). Since 2015, we've administered NYSCA Decentralization Funds to Clinton, Essex, Franklin, and Hamilton counties. Through this program, which has been rechristened the Statewide Community Regrant (SCR) program, we continue to regrant about \$90,000 annually to not-for-profit applicants and individual artists across this far-flung area of the North Country. NYSCA also has added a "mini-cycle" of regrants, and SCR Coordinator Fred Balzac is working hard to help applicants take advantage of this funding.

We also look ahead to 2022 to bring back our popular fundraisers as we work toward more "normal" programming, including our July Auction, our Great Arts Benefit, and, hopefully, our Winter Benefit, depending on how the Covid situation looks in the spring. Please be sure to be checking our website, <u>www.adirondackarts.org</u>, and watching for news and updates on all our upcoming activity.

On behalf of the Arts Center Board and staff, I appreciate your time and consideration and hope you are able to assist the Art Center as we look towards an exciting 2022 season and beyond!

Most Sincerely, Jeanna Pine

Joanna Pine, Board President

Please note: The Adirondack Lakes Center for the Arts is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. This letter serves as your receipt for tax purposes. Your membership renewal is fully tax deductible to the extent allowed by law, in accordance with IRS regulations.

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Please check on of the following	levels:	
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