Dear Friends –

The past year has been a triumphant one for Off Square Theatre Company, and we are so grateful to each of you for making it possible. From receiving the Governor’s Arts Award to celebrating ten years of Thin Air Shakespeare to launching our new student production company, 2022 has reminded us what Off Square Theatre is all about – catalyzing community connection.

Theatre has been part of the human experience for millennia, evolving alongside our societies and cultures around the globe. Oscar Wilde described the theatre as “the greatest of all art forms, the most immediate way in which a human being can share with another the sense of what it is to be a human being.” Theatre is about storytelling and transformation, it is about entertainment and laughter, it holds up the mirror and provides a vehicle for challenging – but necessary – conversations.

At Off Square Theatre we thrive on collaboration and creative exchange, bringing together many voices, crafts, and artistic disciplines to create unique experiences that reveal the complex layers of humanity. All of this past year’s success is shared with you. We could not do this invigorating work without your support.

As we look ahead, we remain focused on supporting the next generation – not only by training in the artistic disciplines that make the magic of performing arts possible, but by providing youth the tangible skills needed to navigate our complex world.

2023 will also bring the rollout of our new strategic plan, and we look forward to sharing that with you as we celebrate 25 years of excellence in theatre arts with a fantastic upcoming season.

In gratitude,

Natalia Duncan Macker
Producing Artistic Director

Amy Unfried
Co-President

Ed Small
Co-President

Board of Directors

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Natalia Duncan Macker
Producing Artistic Director

Sadie Frank
Associate Producer
Development Manager

Nanci Turner Steveson
Education Director
Company Manager

Elizabeth Taylor
Operations & Technical Director
WHERE YOUR SUPPORT GOES

**SOURCES OF FUNDS**

- Corporate Sponsors & Events: 18%
- Grants: 25%
- Individual Contributions: 42%

**USES OF FUNDS**

- Administration: 19%
- Development: 17%
- Facilities & Equipment: 28%
- Programs: 46%

*Includes one-time federal relief funding

**SCHOLARSHIPS**

Due to the generosity of our donors and the Madame X Society, Off Square Theatre offers scholarships to all programs, ensuring no student is ever turned away due to inability to pay. Off Square Theatre also collaborates with One22 for scholarships.
THEATRE ARTS EDUCATION

2022 THIEME YOUTH MUSICAL: MATILDA, JR.

Each year, Off Square Theatre produces the Thieme Youth Musical. Mike and Jean Louise Thieme were dedicated Off Square Theatre board members who believed it was imperative to offer high quality performing arts experiences for youth. Their passion, perseverance, and support ensured that our community’s youth would have opportunities in the performing arts usually only found in larger cities. Each year, we honor their legacy by sharing the creative energy of youth on-stage and by giving hundreds of area students the opportunity to experience live theater performed by their peers on the mainstage at the Center for the Arts.

PROGAMS

- Thieme Youth Musical
- Missoula Children’s Theatre Summer Camps
- Guest Artist Workshops
- Professional Internships
- Off Square Players

Student-run production company

PROGRAMS

Scan this QR code for a behind-the-scenes glimpse at Matilda, Jr. and hear directly from students and Parents.

RISING STAR SOIRÉE

In February, the Madame X Society hosted the Rising Star Soirée in support of Off Square Theatre. The evening included a preview performance of Matilda, Jr. and participants heard directly from alumni of Off Square Theatre’s education programs.

We are grateful to attendees and sponsors for making it a dazzling evening!

PARENT TESTIMONIAL

"Off Square is so much more than a theatre. It is a supportive home where kids can take risks, develop leadership skills, and push themselves. They build confidence by working together and they find their voice – literally and figuratively – with the supportive guidance of Off Square’s teaching artists. Dillon left for college this year, and we know that his time with Off Square, from the youth musical to performing alongside professionals in Thin Air Shakespeare, helped prepare him for the next phase of his life."

– TODD AND MARI ALLAN HANNA

2022 THIEME YOUTH MUSICAL: MATILDA, JR.
2022 marked the tenth anniversary of Thin Air Shakespeare! This beloved community event has grown from its launch in 2013 with two performances to two weeks, now reaching an average of 2,300 audience members each year. Over the last decade, investments in key infrastructure, including an outdoor deck and state-of-the-art technical equipment, have been guided by Off Square Theatre and its designers, creating a world-class venue for outdoor performances. Thin Air Shakespeare is supported in part by the Center for the Arts, and Off Square Theatre provides its outdoor stage for other activities on the Center campus, further activating this important community hub.

The tenth anniversary production of A Midsummer Night’s Dream directed by Edgar Landa was a crowd-pleaser. With original music composed by Melissa Elliott and a spectacular cast of guest artists and local performers, audiences laughed, cried, and picnicked!

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT’S PICNIC
The Madame X Society hosted A Midsummer Night’s Picnic, which included the final dress rehearsal, a pre-show conversation with director Edgar Landa, and special edition Farmstead Cider.

FOREVER FREE
Off Square Theatre is committed to keeping Thin Air Shakespeare Forever Free. In honor of this, a group of anonymous donors provided a challenge: a 2-to-1 match of donations from the audience, up to $10,000.

Audience donation: $28,719
Match: $20,000
Total raised: $48,719
Thank you to all who donated at Thin Air Shakespeare!
ARTISTIC EXCELLENCE

CONTEMPORARY THEATRE

Each season Off Square Theatre produces contemporary theatre, often with hosted talkbacks, to spark community conversations. As part of the 2022 Fall Arts Festival, Off Square Theatre produced a staged reading of The Revolutionists by Lauren Gunderson. In fall of 2021, Off Square Theatre produced Larissa FastHorse’s The Thanksgiving Play in the Center Theater. This production included a talkback with artist Robert Martinez and scholar Dr. Ashley Reis hosted by the Wyoming Humanities Council as well as a screening of the film Home From School: The Children of Carlisle. Off Square Theatre operates under contracts with the Actors’ Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers, and the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society.

ARTIST SPOTLIGHT

Allison Watrous - Director of The Revolutionists
is the Executive Director of Education and Community Engagement at the Denver Center for the Performing Arts, which has been her artistic home for more than 25 years as an educator, actor and director. The Revolutionists was Allison’s fourth production directing with Off Square Theatre. Previously, she directed Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike, Chekhov Unchecked and Annapurna. She'll be returning to Off Square Theatre in May 2023 to direct What the Constitution Means to Me.

Jeffrey Scott Stevens - Actor and Teaching Artist
is a native of Wyoming (and now a full-time local) who has lived/worked in New York, Japan and China. Most recently, Jeffrey made his Off Square Theatre debut in A Midsummer Night’s Dream as Snout. Jeffrey also played the Taxi Driver & Ivan in Riot Act’s Women on the Verge. NY/Regional: [title of show] - Hunter (Off Broadway), Spamalot - Patsy (Ogunquit Playhouse), SHREK, the Musical - Lord Farquaad (Tuacahn Amphitheater), Les Miserables (NCT & Pioneer Theatre Company), Funny Girl (Riverside) & A Chorus Line (STAGES, St. Louis).

Josette Canilao - Actor and Teaching Artist
is a Filipino American actor based out of Los Angeles. She trained in New York City and received her MFA in Acting from Columbia University. Her TV credits include ABC’s “The Crossing,” CBS’s “FBI’S Most Wanted” and FOX’s “The Cleaning Lady.” At Off Square Theatre, Josette played Helena in A Midsummer Night’s Dream and also appeared in the 2021 Thin Air Shakespeare production.

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Established in 1982, the Governor’s Arts Awards recognize excellence in the arts and outstanding service to the arts in Wyoming. Off Square Theatre was honored as a 2021 winner, and Producing Artistic Director Natalia Macker traveled to Cheyenne in February to accept the award from Governor Mark Gordon, bringing students to perform at the awards ceremony.

Scan the code to watch the Governor’s Arts Awards ceremony, including Off Square Theatre’s youth performers, on Wyoming PBS.

“As we look ahead, Off Square Theatre is focusing on accessibility, on continuing to bring underrepresented voices, artists and stories to the stage, and on expanding our collaborations. Congratulations to all of tonight’s honorees. It is invigorating to be in this room with you tonight, and I have no doubt that there isn’t a problem a group of artists can’t solve. Governor Gordon – if you need us, you know where to find us. We look forward to writing the next chapter in our state’s creative life with you.”

– Natalia Duncan Macker, February 4, 2022
THANK YOU DONORS!  

Support from our donors enables OST to advance our mission of producing theatre of the highest professional standards and enhancing the quality of life for all in our community.

We are grateful for the gifts we received from the following donors between September 1, 2021-August 31, 2022. We sincerely apologize for any errors or omissions.

Louise Adams  
Nathan Adams  
Emily & Jim Ambler  
Jean Anderson  
Anonymous (multiple)  
The Anvil Hotel  
Gerald and Barbara Aronowitz  
Lisa K. Attendorn  
Sallie & DuBose Ausley  
Aspens & Pearl Street Market  
Mickey Babcock  
Rebecca Backman  
Don Baker & Valerie Brown  
Steve Grossman & Jill Baldauf  
Nathan Adams  
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Aspens & Pearl Street Market  
Mickey Babcock  
Rebecca Backman  
Don Baker & Valerie Brown  
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Leah Duke  
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Pauline & Paul Edelman  
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Kendall Fellows  
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Brian Lenz  
Rhea Lewis  
James Little  

DONOR SPOTLIGHT

“I’ve been supporting Off Square Theatre for more than a decade because storytelling is a powerful and necessary part of being human. Off Square does this with excellence and integrity, creating shared experiences for our entire community and connecting us to each other. Bravo!”

– Mel Orchard / Spence Law Firm

* We are honored to recognize donors who are no longer with us but have made a permanent impact through years of generosity.
Madame X is a secret society of powerful, artistic, and visionary women who ensure excellence in theatre and the performing arts through annual support of Off Square Theatre. Thank you Madames for a wonderful 2022 season!

Off Square Theatre received an American Rescue Plan grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, a program designed to help the arts and cultural sector recover from the pandemic. The grant is supporting key staff and facilities in 2022 and 2023.

Off Square Theatre was 1 of only 5 grantees in the state of Wyoming.
2023 SEASON

The Second City
January 14, co-presentation with THE CENTER

Leonardo! A Wonderful Show About A Terrible Monster
January 20, co-presentation with THE CENTER

The Sound of Music
February 23-25

Missoula Children’s Theater
April 10-15

What the Constitution Means to Me
May 11-21

Thin Air Shakespeare: Richard III
July 6-16

Celebrating 25 Years of Off Square Theatre
October 13-14

Off Square Players in Performance
November 10-12