



# 2023-24 ANNUAL REPORT

# A MESSAGE FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

The 76th Anniversary Season at Children's Theatre of Charlotte was an exciting mix of traditional and novel stories and styles. This year marked the first time in several seasons that we felt truly recovered as a community from the pandemic issues of the past few years. We chose to begin this chapter with the mythical story of *Narnia the Musical*. It's a story of the four Pevensie children fleeing a war torn London and searching for meaning and agency by choosing to step through the wardrobe and into a world of imagination. We then produced the world premiere of Maya Angelou's poem *Life Doesn't Frighten Me*. This was a project written by renowned playwright Paige Hernandez and developed and produced through a partnership between four children's theatres across the country. We once again shared the holidays with the Herdman's in our own musical adaptation of *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever: The Musical*. We reimagined the classic tale of *Pinocchio* and followed up the success of the previous season's *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!* with another Mo Willem's classic, *Elephant and Piggie's: "We Are in a Play!"* Finally, we premiered the next installment of The Kindness Project with the story of Marcenia Lyle as a child in the musical, *Catching the Moon: The Story of a Young Girl's Baseball Dream*. We also started working on our next piece in The Kindness Project and hosted a workshop of our one-woman show, *Tiara's Hat Parade*. This project builds on our success with *Life Doesn't Frighten Me* as we once again work with Paige Hernandez and are in partnership with five children's theatres across the country. And for the first time ever, we've commissioned a play for our celebrated educational program, Onstage.



*Catching the Moon: The Story of a Young Girl's Baseball Dream*

Adam Burke, Artistic Director

# REFLECTIONS ON THE PAST YEAR FROM THE BOARD



Dear Friends and Supporters of Children's Theatre of Charlotte,

We are already into our 77th season at CTC but I wanted to provide a brief overview of our 76th season. This past year, we were able to add three new Board members with diverse backgrounds that bring passion to the CTC Board. For the first time, we had an audition-only teen intensive Summer Camp which sparked a lot of interest and energy. In addition to this new camp, our Educational programs continue to be popular for families with children of all ages. We continue to be thankful for our partnerships with local schools. Due to the support from the Mecklenburg County Government, our talented creative team of artists developed a fantastic show called *Show of Hands*. *Show of Hands* was brought to almost 10,000 students at 100 elementary schools within CMS at no cost to the students.

Our Board of Directors has been busy with strategic planning. We are excited to start a new chapter for CTC with many exciting ideas and solid stewardship. As always, I am thankful for the CTC staff, the Board of Directors, our actors and students, and our many volunteers who all come together to create the magic of CTC.

Mitchell Kelling  
Chair, Board of Directors

# FINANCIAL STATEMENT



*Elephant & Piggie's: "We Are in a Play!"*

## TOTAL EARNED REVENUES

\$ 2,797,855

## TOTAL CONTRIBUTED SUPPORT

\$ 1,955,573

## TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE AND SUPPORT

\$ 5,668,427

## TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES

\$ 5,286,981

## SOURCES OF OPERATING REVENUE AND SUPPORT

% of Total

### EARNED REVENUES

Public and school show ticket sales	\$ 1,353,867	
Education programs	\$ 1,023,991	
Performance fees - Resident Touring Company	\$ 177,595	
Other earned revenue	\$ 242,402	
<b>TOTAL EARNED REVENUES</b>	<b>\$ 2,797,855</b>	<b>49%</b>

### CONTRIBUTED SUPPORT

Contributions	\$ 824,588	
Infusion Fund	\$ 501,420	
Government grants	\$ 286,539	
In-kind facility services	\$ 343,026	
<b>TOTAL CONTRIBUTED SUPPORT</b>	<b>\$ 1,955,573</b>	<b>34%</b>

Other revenue	\$ 915,000	16%
<b>TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE AND SUPPORT</b>	<b>\$ 5,668,427</b>	<b>100%</b>

## OPERATING EXPENSES

% of Total

Production/performance programs	\$ 2,606,533	49%
Education programs	\$ 1,064,946	20%
Marketing/public relations	\$ 709,810	13%
General/administrative	\$ 501,551	9%
Fundraising/development	\$ 404,141	8%
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 5,286,981</b>	<b>100%</b>

Capital project: McColl Family Theatre Seat Renovation	\$ 120,000	
Board designated for reserves	\$ 130,000	

<b>SURPLUS</b>	<b>\$ 131,447</b>	
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Pinocchio

Public performances

**33,601 individuals**  
purchased tickets to see a show

School performances

More than **50,000 students** students served

Touring performances



Danny, King of the Basement

The Resident Touring Company and PreK Tour engaged:

**193** performances

**28** counties

**58,000+** students

Children's Theatre of Charlotte, in partnership with Charlotte Mecklenburg School District, developed an experiential play for 3rd graders in the school district. *Show of Hands* had 96 performances for students. >



Show of Hands

Volunteers

**12,448.5**  
service hours

Ushering - 4,332 hrs

Board Functions - 166.5 hrs

Development Special Events - 4,114 hrs

Junior Interns - 3,886 hrs

THE YEAR  
IN REVIEW

Education programs

**2,234** registered for Summer Camps & Mini-Camps

**296** enrolled in Creative Drama classes

**489** enrolled in School of Theatre Training (including dance & supplemental programs)

**1,336** served by Community Involvement Programs

**2,058** served by In-school residencies & workshops



# MISSION STATEMENT

We create exceptional theatre experiences, inspiring generations to explore the wonder of their world.



*Narnia the Musical*



# THANKS TO ALL OF OUR DONORS AND SUPPORTERS.

## CORPORATE AND FOUNDATION PARTNERS

### EXECUTIVE PRODUCING PARTNERS (\$50,000 and more)

Bank of America  
North Carolina Arts Council  
PNC Foundation  
The Shubert Foundation  
The Infusion Fund and its generous donors

### PRODUCING PARTNERS (\$25,000 to \$49,999)

C.D. Spangler Foundation, Inc.  
First Horizon  
National Endowment for the Arts

### DIRECTING PARTNERS (\$10,000 to \$24,999)

Autism Strong Foundation  
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Cornwell Foundation  
Paige Johnston Thomas Giving Tree

SPX Corporation  
Triad Foundation

### STANDING OVATION PARTNERS (\$5,000 to \$9,999)

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The Daniel, Edward, Cora & Strickland  
Foundation  
The Dickson Foundation, Inc.  
LendingTree  
Offit Kurman  
Parker Poe  
Publix Super Markets Charities  
South Arts  
Wells Fargo

### CENTER STAGE PARTNERS (\$3,000 to \$4,999)

Deloitte & Touche LLP  
Gerrard Builders  
QRCA  
Social Venture Partners

### LEADING ROLE PARTNER (\$1,000 to \$2,999)

Blue Cross Blue Shield  
Dickens-Mitchener & Associates

# DONORS AND SUPPORTERS CONTINUED

## INDIVIDUAL AND FAMILY DONORS

*(Reflective of Donors in 2023-24 season through May 16, 2024)*

### **LEADING PLAYERS SOCIETY (\$10,000 - \$24,999)**

Dorlisa & Peter Flur  
Mitchell Kelling  
Linda Reynolds  
Tammy Stringer & Richard Viola

### **(\$5,000 - \$9,999)**

Omid & Julie Ahdieh  
Dr. Daniel Donner  
Andrew & Stephanie Fulford  
Travis & Lise Hain  
The Hensley Family  
David Holland  
Ben & Christy Hume  
Bruce & Anita LaRowe  
Brian Litwak  
Jennifer & Eric Madara  
Ann & Scott Manning  
Arrington Mixon  
Rosemary Morgan & Fielding Huseh  
Brian & Laura Murdock  
Jennifer & Jack Ross  
Sandy & Greg Vlahos  
April & Thomas Whitlock

### **(\$3,000 - \$4,999)**

Herb & Gina Clegg  
Rob & Caryn Craige  
Stephanie Couch  
Davant Family Charitable Trust  
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David & Marti Head  
LaKeisha & William Jefferson  
Pat Burgess & Joan Martin  
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Maddie & Brian Myers  
Stacia & Charlie Neugent  
Stephen & Stephanie Sorenson  
Erik & Amelia Peterson  
Kristin Tokić  
Rosa Maria Vega  
Lauren & William Voorhees

Nichelle & Sasha Weintraub  
Judith & Matthew Whelan

### **(\$1,000 - \$2,999)**

Stephen Allred & Carolyn Lugo-Allred  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard R. Babcock  
Cynthia Banks  
Sallie & Gary Beason  
Veronica Bell  
Robin & Bill Branstrom  
Susan & Richard Buckley  
Craig & Mary Bunzey  
Mike & Katie Burgess  
Julie & Stoke Caldwell  
Zoe & Lewis Chandry  
Spencer Clair & Chris Loyd  
Mary Coyle  
Amy & Alfred Dawson  
Elizabeth Devenney  
Tom & Julie Eiselt  
Dr. Gloria Ann Evans  
Christi Farr  
Bryan & Jami Farris  
Beth & Gaston Gage  
Mr. & Mrs. Greg Gonzalez  
Watts & Carol Hamrick  
Brad & Karen Harris  
Charlitta Hatch  
Lisa & Mark Hedrick  
Scott & Claire Helm  
Anne Henderson\*  
Lesley Herrera  
Leigh Hickman  
Ryan & Danielle Hutcheson  
Timothy James  
Tonya Jesso  
Laurie Johnston\*  
Ashley & Matthew Joseph  
Cole Kissam in memory of Talia Petoia  
Andrew Kott  
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald W. Lamberth  
Jeff & Deborah Long, In Honor of Miss Penelope Long  
Bruce & Michelle Long  
Michael & Leslie Marsicano  
Seah & Robert McCammon



# DONORS AND SUPPORTERS CONTINUED

## INDIVIDUAL AND FAMILY DONORS

Salem & Sean McMullan  
Gary Monie  
Mallory Navin & Joe Shreve  
Anna & Tom Nelson  
John & Suzy Nurkin  
Allison Rauch  
Ed & Tari Schutzman  
Janet & Joshua Smith  
Michael Tarwater  
Patrick & Elizabeth Vaughn  
Laura & Brian Walger  
Jodi Warner  
Katie & Jason Weeks  
John & Carrie Woolley

Allison & Thad Reece  
Benjamin & Rebecca Schultz  
Kindra Shah  
Nedra Tawwab  
Cindy & Rob Taylor  
Tanya Taylor  
Carrie & J.T. Teixeira  
Robert & Leslie Tesch  
Brandon Williams

\*Indicates those who support the Paige Johnston Thomas Directing Assistantship.

### **SUPPORTING PLAYERS SOCIETY (\$500 - \$999)**

Dora Abraham  
Sylvia Bartee  
The Staub Family  
Marian Clark  
Veruska & Julio Colmenares  
Rachel & Michael Coyne  
Dallas & Kathy Craven  
Ina Whitley-DeRochi  
Bryan & Jamie Gerrard  
John & Mara Gose  
Sally & Drew Harriss  
Soraja Helac  
Mr. Frank Hruby & Mrs. Tatyana Rector  
Steve & Mary Hunting  
Stepanie Isham  
Kate Land  
Cynthia & Dave Lank  
Catherine LeCompte  
Louis Leone  
Craig & Mitzi Lynch  
Michele & Steve Mangan  
Jennie McGuire  
Megan McKeever  
Renee Miller  
Elizabeth Murphy  
Eileen Manlove O'Brien  
Jerry & Cookie Parnell  
Christian & Denise Pineno

# DONORS AND SUPPORTERS CONTINUED

Children's Theatre of Charlotte receives support from the Infusion Fund, a partnership between the City of Charlotte, Foundation for The Carolinas and generous donors to support the arts and cultural sector.

Contributors to the fund include:

## **Multimillion Dollar Commitment**

City of Charlotte

## **\$1.5 million and above**

Bank of America

C.D. Spangler Foundation / National Gypsum Company

John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

Trane Technologies

## **\$600,000 - \$1 million**

Albemarle Foundation

Atrium Health

Barings

Duke Energy

Honeywell

JELD-WEN, Inc.

LendingTree Foundation

Lowe's Companies, Inc.

Novant Health

Red Ventures

Truist

## **\$300,000-\$600,000**

Ally Financial

The Centene Charitable Foundation

Childress Klein Properties

Coca-Cola Consolidated

Deloitte

EY

The Gambrell Foundation

Moore & Van Allen

PwC

Robinson, Bradshaw & Hinson, P.A.

Rodgers Builders

Wells Fargo

## **Up to \$300,000**

Fifth Third Bank

Foundation For The Carolinas

Deidre and Clay Grubb

Leslie and Michael Marsicano

Jane and Hugh McColl

Nucor Corporation

PNC Bank

Premier, Inc.

Jane and Nelson Schwab

## **Infusion Fund**

A Partnership for Arts + Culture





*Life Doesn't Frighten Me*



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*photos by John Merrick, Alex Aguillar and Adam Burke*