

Supporting NAC While Building Community

When co-founders Theresa Barcus and Vanessa Cook founded NAC, they knew they would need the support of many to build the arts community and restore the Norwalk Theater. Since its inception, NAC has had the sponsorship of several local business. The first show NAC produced was *Elf Jr.*, and nearly 100 students participated in the program. It was able to be produced because of the generous support of Stine Dental, which kickstarted NAC's production cycle. To date, there have been three junior productions, two teen shows, and four NACtors shows. The 2024 season will include four more productions.

The goal is to continue to provide top-notch productions that are self-sustaining. To achieve this goal, MaryLisa Boose, NAC grant writer, has worked diligently to secure yearly funding for our productions. However, a gap remains between what grants cover and the cost to produce full-staged musicals. This is where the support of local businesses and clubs can help build the theater community. Theatre plays an important role in society, and we want to foster a community that recognizes its importance.

The beauty and appeal of theatre is its uniquely collaborative nature as an art form. Theatre comprises the mutual and interdependent working of the various arts in numerous forms, including acting, staging, directing, singing, dancing, music, set design, costume design, lighting, sound effects, visual effects, and props. Theatre gives new meaning to the notion of community. The actors on stage, the musicians, the director, the technical staff—all the theatre staff for a specific production—form a unique community for a certain period of time.

A brilliant theatre production can motivate us to want to make changes in our world. Self-empowerment can be the result of community theatre, which might give someone the boost they need in order to make a difference. By looking inward and gaining knowledge, we are given a new perspective of our environment which can spark creativity. With these new insights, we can create innovative solutions to societal issues and try to make the world a better place, one community at a time.

Your business or club can help build this invaluable community through program sponsorship. We are confident that a collaboration will not only be a sound investment in the arts but will also enhance your brand visibility and reputation within the community. We hope that you will consider your participation, if not in our 2024 season, perhaps in our future seasons. For more information, send us an email to NorwalkACProductions@gmail.com.

NAC Theatre Season Sponsorship Benefits

	Leader \$5,000	Supporter \$2,500	Partner \$1,500	Friend \$500
	4 Shows	2 Shows	1 Show	Partial Show
One full poster logo displayed in the lobby during main stage performances for each show sponsored	★	★	★	★
Mention in all production press releases and posters	★	★	★	★
Thank you post on NAC Facebook, Instagram and playbill	★	★	★	★
Logo on Junior Theatre show T-shirts (scaled to giving level)	★	★	★	★
Logo on front cover of playbill (scaled to giving level)	★	★	★	
Full page ad in the playbill	★			
Logo placement in one quarterly NAC newsletter announcing show	★			
Logo placement at yearly donor night event	★			
Logo placement on NAC website sponsor page	★			

Imagine: A Community Event

Celebrate the arts at Imagine: A Community Event, hosted by the Norwalk Arts Center on February 17th from 5-8 pm at 22 E. Main St., Norwalk, Ohio!

Curious about all things Norwalk Arts Center? From the renovation to the upcoming season, we'll be there to answer your questions! Come check out our numerous programs and learn more about us!

Admission? Your choice – just donate what feels right at the door, and all proceeds go straight to fueling NAC's mission to create art and community! No age limit!

Prepare to be entertained by incredible performances from local talents including Alex Dominish, Justin Ferstler, Hansen Risley, Natalie Stitak, and Last Call Trio. Trust us, you won't want to miss a beat!

Support local businesses before or after joining us. The Glass Bar's got you covered with signature cocktails that'll make your taste buds do a happy dance. And for those looking to munch while enjoying the show, Bluto's is bringing their A-game with delectable sub sandwiches and refreshing drinks.

Dive into a treasure trove of goodies from our small local businesses including Cool Beans Fresh Greenz, Ink It Apparel, Olive Branch Esthetics, Hair by Isabelle, Christina's Creations, and Wheelymom Creations – we've got something for everyone!

Grab your friends, bring your family, and let's make this night one for the books. See you there!



Norwalk Area United Fund Makes Theater Visit Possible for Area Families

Thanks to a generous grant from Norwalk Area United Fund, Norwalk Arts Center was able to offer free tickets to a production of "The Rainbow Fish" at Playhouse Square.

The classic story about a beautiful fish who learns to share his most prized possession was brought to life with the enchanting puppetry of The Mermaid Theatre of Nova Scotia. Ten families from the Norwalk area attended the event, including Rebecca and Cricket Brewer. Rebecca was grateful for the opportunity for her and her granddaughter, saying, "It was so nice to experience the innocence Cricket is still holding onto so tightly."



Emma Borders enjoys the theater atmosphere



Natalee Newland with balloons

Amy Borders attended with her daughter, Emma. "This was a great show, and we really enjoyed it. Thank you so much for the tickets!"

Hannah Daniel appreciated that the show was sensory-friendly, as her son is high-functioning autistic, and this was his first theater visit. "The whole experience was wonderful," Daniel said. "The colors were bright and engaging, not flashy and overwhelming. The storytelling was not too loud, and the movements of the puppets were calm and did not jump all over the place."

Greyson and Eden Wangler enjoyed the production with their parents. Greyson appreciated seeing what he had learned about theatre from a previous Arts Explorers program in practice in a professional setting, while Eden thought the puppets were "so cool."

Rebecca Newland and her family were thankful for the opportunity and added that her daughter Natalee thought the play was "amazing."



Brewers at Playhouse Square



Wangler children pose with lobby balloons

“Glam the Can” event open to local clubs

Norwalk Arts Center is partnering with Artists' Open Studio to promote both art and a clean community in ***Glam the Can***, our first public art project open to groups and clubs from across Huron County.

“Thanks to a grant from Arts Midwest, we invite groups to celebrate our community by designing and painting 55-gallon trash cans,” said Vanessa Cook, co-founder of NAC. “This is a great way to build community, have some fun with art and promote a clean environment.” The City of Norwalk is donating 50 metal barrels for the project.

Cook hopes a wide range of groups will take part – schools, teams, clubs, churches, organizations or even groups of friends who share interests.

Local artists Heidi Hovestadt and Summer Braddock will create individual designs for each group of up to eight members. They will also lead workshops to help the groups paint the cans, which will then be used anywhere in their community. Sign-up for the workshops - scheduled for April, May and June - will begin in March on NAC's website – www.norwalkartscenter.org.



Summer Braddock



Heidi Hovestadt



Groups will be able to choose from basic themes including music, sports, culture/heritage, patriotic, books, nature, floral, animals, sunshine, sweets/treats and abstract or geometric shapes. The artists can also include a group's logo or symbols to represent their interests.

“This project is an amazing opportunity to beautify and enhance the presence of art in our local area,” said Jackie Hug, AOS managing director.

Hovestadt said the project will bring all ages and backgrounds to the arts. “This project encourages beautiful creative expression and builds community, which will be something fun for all of us,” she said.

“Glam the Can is not just a project,” said Braddock. “It's a canvas of unity, where we are turning ordinary trash cans into a canvas of shared creativity and expression.”

Norwalk plans to use some of the cans in public parks. The Huron County Fairgrounds can use barrels painted by 4-H clubs. Groups from other areas in Huron County can use the barrels for any community function.

“We are very excited with this first community art project,” said Cook. “We hope it is just the first of many projects which celebrate the power of art in bringing people together.”

Save the Dates:

IMAGINE: A Community Event: *Live music event* Feb 17, 2024 @ 22 E Main St. 5- 8 pm

NAC Teen Theatre AUDITIONS: Wednesday, March 27 and Friday, March 29, 2024 from 6-8 pm @ 22 E Main St, Norwalk open to students grade 9-13 in 2024/25.

Discover Your NAC (Adult Programming): *Come Together: The Beatles, Booze, and Books.* Feb 22, 2024 @ 10 W Main St. 6:30-8:30 pm

Arts Explorers (Gr 1-4): *Bug Bonanza!* March 4, 2024 @ 22 E Main St. 10am-2pm

A.I.M. Club (Gr 5-8): Every second Friday of the school year from 3-4:15 pm at Sheri's Coffee House. Free!

Visit our webpage for more information about all of our programs and to register! NorwalkArtsCenter.org

It is the mission of Norwalk Arts Center to celebrate and increase advocacy for the Arts in North Central Ohio by providing education, experiences and environment for artistic growth.

Creating Art. Building Community.

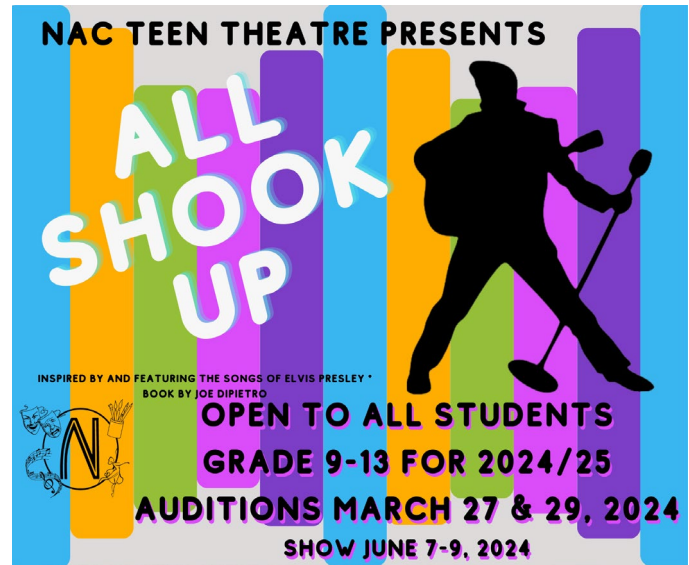
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