

## **Ireland Travel Raffle nets NAC over \$21,000 for the restoration fund for the Norwalk Theater project.**

Three hundred tickets were sold and one lucky winner, Ashley Cunningham (pictured here with Julie Baker who sold her the ticket) is off to Ireland! Ticket sales kicked off the weekend of the Junior Theatre production of Matilda, JR. in November 2022 and ran all the way through to the night of the drawing – March 17th – St. Patrick's Day! About 50 people gathered at Bluto's Hometown Tavern to celebrate the successful fundraiser and also won some really fun consolation prizes! Plans are already in the works for another international travel raffle for 2024!



## **NAC's 2nd Annual Comedy Night was enjoyed by many, benefiting the restoration of the Norwalk Theater.**

Just under 100 people gathered to laugh the night away with comedians Nick Dlouhy and Steve Sabo for the 2nd year in a row. Over \$4,000 went to the restoration of the theater! People were also given a chance to win liquor bottles and a \$400 Fin, Feather, and Fur gift card. Special thanks to the Norwalk Jaycees for tending bar. We appreciate the many volunteers that helped out to make this event a great, successful evening!

## **2022-2023 Annual Appeal – has raised over \$83,000 to go toward the next phase of the restoration project.**

The Annual Appeal is still in motion as we inch closer to our \$100,000 goal for the 2022-2023 year. We have raised over \$83,000 in donations that will offset any costs remaining for the marquee restoration phase and also the next phase of restoration starting with the HVAC, plumbing, and electrical of the beautiful 1941 Norwalk Theater. Thank you so much for donating to this restoration. The community will benefit from this restoration for years to come with more memories to be made for you, your kids, and your families! Please consider donating if you haven't already at [Norwalkartscenter.org/donate](https://Norwalkartscenter.org/donate).



**Norwalk theater paintings surveyed.** This spring, NAC was selected to receive a 2022 subsidized survey by ICA Art Conservation. The Cleveland firm sent out a painting conservator to open areas of the mural, lobby ceiling and balcony lobby floor to determine color schemes and patterns that were original to the theater in 1941. "Through research we found during this period of Art Deco Streamline Moderne, Eberson used paint to embellish the interiors of his theaters. It was a departure from his very ornate atmospheric design, with gold gilding and ornate plaster work", said Vanessa Cook, NAC co-founder.

"It is very important to us to try and replicate what we are able, to really give this gem the attention it deserves." The survey which could cost upwards to \$4600.00 was completed for less than a ¼ of that cost with the subsidy. As part of their ongoing public service each year ICA-Art Conservation selects a few institutions annually to receive a subsidized survey. The goal of the program is to help the recipient institution identify its preservation needs and plan future conservation and stewardship initiatives. The information gained through the assessment helps the institution prioritize objectives and potentially raise funds to address those preservation needs.

### **First Annual Volunteer Appreciation Night**

On April 24, 2023, NAC held its First Annual Volunteer Appreciation Night. The purpose of the evening was to thank and recognize our volunteers for their involvement. Volunteers were treated to desserts and gifts. They also learned about the history of our non-profit, plans for the restoration of the historic Norwalk Theater, information about productions/education programming, and how NAC is funded.

There are several reasons that people volunteer; helping others to support a common cause, having an interest in the cause, to gain experience, seeing a need in the community, or having time available. Volunteers are important to any successful organization or non-profit. No matter your reason, NAC's accomplishments could not have been reached without our volunteers...thank you!

Discussed were three roadblocks as to why people do not volunteer. The top reason given was that there is not enough time. Everyone is given an equal amount of time in a day. There are many demands on time and NAC volunteers are not any different. "Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they just have the heart." (Elizabeth Andrew, Author). Another roadblock is that volunteers do not have enough information about the organization or volunteer opportunities. Information about NAC and a calendar of events can be found on our website at [norwalkartscenter.org](http://norwalkartscenter.org).

The NAC Newsletter keeps our supporters/volunteers up to date with information. Volunteer opportunities can be found on the NAC website as well as NAC Volunteers page on Facebook. The final reason given was that no one asked them to volunteer. NAC is asking! We need you! To sign up to volunteer please go to NAC's website and in the top right corner select the three lines located next to the shopping cart, next select Volunteer/Audition from the drop down. Complete and submit the form. NAC volunteer coordinator, Lisa Bleile, will contact you.

### **Arts Education Committee Launches Discover Your NAC Adult Programming**

The range of arts education programming offered by Norwalk Arts Center recently broadened with the introduction of Discover Your NAC in January of 2023. Every month since then, adults in our area have had the opportunity to participate in workshops taught by guest artists in a format that encourages creativity and community.



Guest artists have shared their passion and expertise in a wide variety of art forms, such as mixed media, journaling, macrame, and mandala rock painting. Held at local venues like Common Good Collective and Norwalk Area Chamber of Commerce, participants have enjoyed fun, fellowship, and favorite libations as they learned a new art form and made new friends.



Cassie Shella, chairperson of the Discover Your NAC subcommittee, says the goal is to offer some kind of adult arts education workshop once a month. "We want our workshops to be appealing and affordable," Shella added. "Everyone should have a chance to learn something new and be creative without breaking the bank."

The next Discover Your NAC workshop is May 18 and will feature flower arranging with guest artist Caitlyn Corrigan, owner of The Water Can Flowers. Look for registration on the NAC website. Space is limited.

With the introduction of Discover Your NAC, arts education programming now includes Arts Explorers for 1st through 4th graders, The A.I.M. (Artists-in-the-Making) Program for 5th through 8th graders, A.R.T. (Arts Resources for Teens) Club for 9th through 12th graders.

**Spend a Week with NAC at our Summer Theatre Camps!**

This week-long intensive camp is for students of all abilities and skill levels. Open to grades K -13 for the 2023/2024 school year. We are grateful to have the opportunity to partner with Missoula Children's Theatre (MCT)! MCT is the nation's largest touring children's theatre, has been touring extensively for more than 40 years now from Montana to Japan, and will visit nearly 1,200 communities this year with up to 44 teams of Tour Actor/Directors. MCT's tour team arrives in a given town with a set, lights, costumes, props and make-up, everything it takes to put on a play...except the cast.

*Cinderella* is rehearsed throughout the week and two public performances are presented on Friday and Saturday. All MCT shows are original adaptations of classic children's stories and fairytales . . . a twist on the classic stories that you know and love. Also included in the residency are three enrichment workshops presented by the Tour Actor/Directors and special sessions directed by NAC staff.

Creativity, social skills, goal achievement, communication skills and self-esteem are all characteristics that are attained through the participation in this unique, educational project. The goal of NAC and MCT is the development of life skills in children through participation in the performing arts.

Students will present a full-staged production at the end of the week for family and guests. Sign up today. Spots are limited. Students should bring a packed lunch. No experience needed and all supplies will be provided. The registration fee is \$95.00 per student. Scholarships are available, with a written request and subject to approval by the NAC board of directors Please email Norwalk ArtsCenter@gmail.com for more information regarding scholarships.

Camp will be held at 22 E Main St., Norwalk, OH June 19 through June 24, 2023. The daily schedule will be as follows Monday-Thursday 10:00am-3:30 pm, Friday noon- 6:00pm and Saturday noon to 2:00 pm. Registration is available on-line at [NorwalkArtsCenter.org](http://NorwalkArtsCenter.org).

***Cinderella* will be performed publicly on Friday, June 23, 2023 at 6:00 pm, and Saturday, June 24, 2023 at 1:00pm. All tickets are \$5.00 per person and will go on sale in June.**

**NAC Teen Theatre to present *The Drowsy Chaperone*.**

Teens from seven area high schools including; Norwalk HS, Western Reserve, Margaretta, EHOVE, Edison, Oberlin home schooling and Norwalk St Paul will present the full-length musical. The teens have come together to create the rousing five-time Tony award winning hilarious farce. *The Drowsy Chaperone* is a loving send-up of the Jazz Age musical, featuring one show-stopping song and dance number after another. NAC Teen Theatre is an audition-based program and is free to participants. *The Drowsy Chaperone* is presented through special arrangement with Musical Theatre

International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI, New York, NY [www.MTIShows.com](http://www.MTIShows.com). Tickets are on sale NOW! Visit [NorwalkArtsCenter.org](http://NorwalkArtsCenter.org) to purchase your tickets today! This is one you won't want to miss! Tickets are \$15.00 per person. The show will be staged at 22 E. Main St. in Norwalk, Ohio.



Return Service Requested



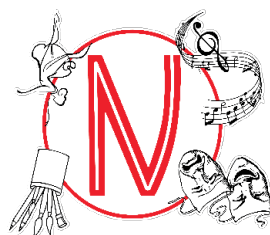
**Creating Art. Building Community.**

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**Save the Dates:**

**A.I.M. Club** (Gr 5-8) Art Pop Up's @Sheri's Coffeehouse

May 12, 3:00 – 4:15 pm

**A.R.T. Club Meetings** (Gr 9-12) May 13, 10 am-2 pm

**Discover Your NAC** (Adult Programming) Flower Arranging

May 18, 6-7:30 pm

**Arts Explorers** (Gr 1-4) "Recipe for Me" May 20, 10-2 pm

**Strawberry Festival:** Free family activities at NAC at 22 E

Main, Saturday May 27, 10-5 pm

**NACtors Adult Theatre Troupe** Open Auditions for 80's

Wedding from Hell, Murder Mystery May 30 -31, 6-8 pm

**NAC Teen Theatre** *The Drowsy Chaperone*, Performance dates

June 9-10, @2:30 pm, June 11 @ 2:30 pm

**NAC Summer Theatre Camp Grade K-13 (*Cinderella*)** June

19-23, 10-3:30 pm, June 23, 12-6 pm and June 24, 12-2 pm

***Cinderella*** Public Performance June 23 at 6:00 pm and June 24,

1:00pm, all tickets \$5.00

**Reach Our Youth Picnic** Free family activities July 15

**Thank you to our generous and continuous benefactors:**



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**NORWALK AREA UNITED FUND**

Thanks to our friends at CLI, Inc for folding and labeling our quarterly newsletters.



A.R.T. Club students prepare items  
for the Jaycees Strawberry Festival