



2019

ANNUAL REPORT



New Bern
Civic Theatre

Enrich, Empower, Include, Educate,
and Entertain

thank you!

The President, Board of Directors and Executive Director of New Bern Civic Theatre (NBCT) are pleased to present our 2019 Annual Report. We would like to take this opportunity to extend heartfelt thanks to everyone who enabled our nonprofit theatre to thrive over the past five decades. The Theatre has produced quality productions with thousands of performances that entertained multitudes of people of all ages in Eastern North Carolina. We could not have achieved this level of success without your support.

We are a premier nonprofit with a rich history as a performing arts center that is a source of pride to the entire NBCT theatre community. Our gratitude for your investment is boundless.

Angelina Doyle, Executive Director
Chad Sittig, President



From "Miss Evers' Boys"
Photography by Amanda Pumphrey



Photography by Bridgette Melton
Graphic design by Gayleforce Design

New Bern Civic Theatre 414 Pollock Street, New Bern, NC 28560
(252) 634-9057 <https://www.newberncivictheatre.org/>

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Judy Hills
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Keith Boyd

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Photography by River Bondurant
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Gayle Albertini, Gayleforce Design

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Tami Sadler

Playbill Editor

Kathy Morrison



Photography by Zach Cleland
Graphic design by Gayleforce Design

ENTERTAINING & COLLABORATING THROUGH THEATRE

During the past year, in spite of Hurricane Dorian, we produced 12 main stage plays and special event productions, 36 weeks of theatre. Over 17,000 patrons saw 91 performances. This was a 10% increase from 2018.

Community engagement and outreach is high on our list. Our collaboration with the downtown, community organizations and schools is strong as we continue partnering in off-site productions and special events. NBCT loans technical equipment and costumes to various community organizations including Tryon Palace, New Bern Historical Society, Temple Baptist Church, Craven Arts Council, RiverTowne Players, the African American Heritage and Cultural Center, and the Craven County School system.

NBCT collaborated with African American Heritage and Cultural Center in hosting Jaki Shelton-Green, NC's first African American Poet Laureate, on NBCT's stage. The award-winning poet has written/published eight books of poetry.

The NBCT staff's site visit to JT Barber Elementary School assessed their auditorium and provided advice on restarting the school's arts program. To continue to strengthen and support ties between education and the arts, NBCT shares equipment, props, costumes, and volunteers with the school systems and other organizations throughout ENC, such as lending NBCT's Audrey II Plants from *Little Shop of Horrors* to New Bern High School, Down East Dance, and to a community theatre in Cary. NBCT also provides period costumes, props, and actors for the New Bern Historical Society's annual fundraiser, Ghostwalk.

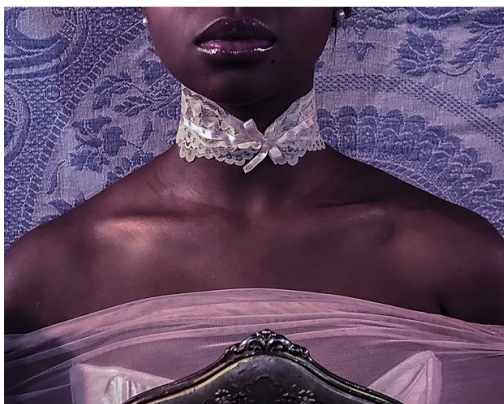
Walk-In Bathtub provided seven performances of laughter and fun with its unique style of improv comedy and weekend performance of Neil Simon's *London Suite* as a fundraiser for the theatre.



EDUCATING YOUTH THROUGH THEATRE

NBCT supported satellite space for The Center for the Performing Arts (Havelock) Drama Studio program. Designed to provide hands-on weekly drama lessons, eight students, in four different levels/age groups, learned everything there is to know about theatre, from acting to lighting, set design, script writing and theatre history. The group sizes, deliberately kept small, allows more “one-on-one” time to enhance a young actor’s skills.

The **Saax Bradbury Players** performance, *Marie Antoinette*, produced by area teens, “brought the house down!” This program, established in 2009, gives teens hands-on experience to direct, produce, market, perform and run a production, and teaches marketing skills, leadership, teamwork, budgeting and creative problem solving. It’s also an opportunity for the teens to serve as summer leaders for the Next Generation Workshop.



From “Marie Antoinette”

Photography by Braedon Oliver Welsh



Next Generation Workshop

Photography by MJ Krauss

The June **Next Generation Workshop** for students (eight through fifteen years) culminated with a public performance by the 41 students who attended this two-week summer workshop. The workshop helps students develop a positive self-image, learn the importance of teamwork, gain confidence, and expand their imagination and expression skills through theatre. Four Saax Bradbury

Players teens furthered their leadership skills serving as workshop leaders.

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

At the Annual Awards Gala in January, it was a joy to publicly thank and pay tribute to the 400+ volunteers who are “the backbone of our theatre’s success.” They keep the theatre running and productions on schedule. Kudos to the award recipients, whose commitment to the theatre went “above and beyond.”

Ja’Khari Bryant, Junior Stage Craft Award

Gabby Cruz, Pat Burton Award

Chameshia Coplon, Outstanding Performer of the Year

Jessica Cruz, Outstanding Musical Achievement

Amanda Pumphrey, President’s Award

**J.T. Baker and Rick Nelson, Tom Landen Award
for Technical Excellence**

Melissa Detwiler, Volunteer of the Year

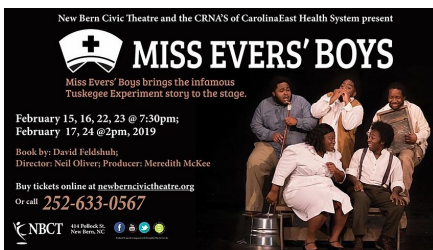
Sara Spalding, Artistic Director’s Award

Rina Nobles, Executive Director’s Award

Carter Ann Rollins, Rip Taggart Award

Jay Figueroa, Special Recognition for Service as Treasurer and Director on the NBCT Board

Special thanks to Bengel Hospitality and Baker's Kitchen, sponsors for the post awards Gala reception in the O. Marks Building.



*Photography by Amanda Pumphrey
Graphic design by Gayleforce Design*



*Photography by Amanda Pumphrey
Graphic design by Gayleforce Design*

SHOW SPONSORS

Hats off and heartfelt thanks to our 2019 show sponsors who make it possible to sustain NBCT's on-going theatre productions and operations.

Anonymous in honor of Merci Clinic
You're a Good Man Charlie Brown

CRNA's of CarolinaEast Health System
Miss Evers' Boys

Coastal Children's Clinic
Aladdin, Jr.

Carolina Creations
Mamma Mia!

Anonymous in honor of Colonial Capital Humane Society
Marie Antoinette

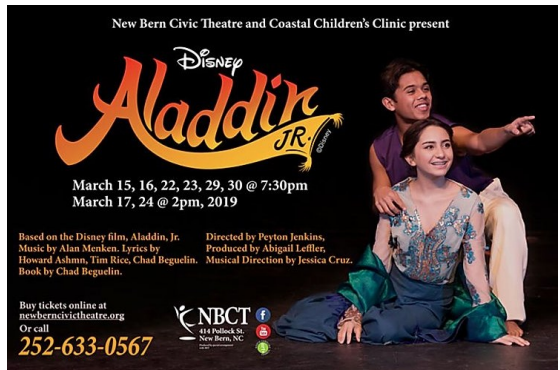
The Law Offices of Oliver and Cheek
I Hate Hamlet

Coles Chiropractic, Massage, Acupuncture, and Reflexology
The Hunchback of Notre Dame

The Law Offices of Oliver and Cheek
A Christmas Carol
(NBCT and Temple Church collaboration)



From "I Hate Hamlet"
Photography by Larry Taylor



Photography by Amanda Pumphrey
Graphic design by Gayleforce Design

BACKSTAGE PARTNERS & CONTRIBUTORS

Platinum—\$5,000 or more

Anonymous
In Honor of Colonial Capital Humane
Society & CarolinaEast Foundation
Al & Vickie Kindler

Benefactor—\$3,000 - \$4,999

Jim & Camille Hoffman
The Law Offices of Oliver & Cheek, PLLC
Sherril & James Miller
Joseph & Maryann Murphy
Anonymous
Gary M. & Rose Ann Stabile-Simon

Patron—\$2,000 - \$2,999

Knox & Stephanie Proctor

Designer - \$1,000—\$1,999

Coastal Children's Clinic
CRNAs of CarolinaEast Medical Center
Jacqueline E. Douglas
Dusty Dustin
Jay & Betsy Figueroa
Clay Milstead

Playwright—\$750 - \$999

John Bircher
Alan & Judith Hills
Ginny Mattern & Randy King
Dr. Walter Secosky

Producer—\$500 - \$749

Ashish Enterprises
Anonymous
Alan & Barbara Berger
Stephen Chambers
Maureen & Jim Comer
James Copland
CRNAs of CarolinaEast
In Memory of Joseph J. Stabile
Dee Dricks
Jack & Janet Faircloth
James & Kathryn Findley
Gayleforce Design
Anonymous
Zach & Heidi Hayden
J. Randal Hunter, Attorney at Law
Norm Kellum
Susan Moffat-Thomas
Vern & Linda Naden
George & Betty Orsega
Kathy & Charles Patton
Karen Pierson
Bill Price & Janie Kelly
Lou Price & Barbara Perkins
Deanie Singleton
Toussaint E. Summers Jr.

Director—\$250 - \$499

Keith Boyd
Fred & Nancy Hausman
Arnold & Penny Litteken
Anonymous
George Oliver
Neil Oliver
Rich & Michele Petri

Star—\$100 - \$249

Doug & Margaret Brewbaker
Betty Clarke
Ann Corby
Fraser Croft
Kathy Emerson
Kris Engelhaupt
Joseph & Susan Frangipane
Howard Furnas
Al Karalius
George & Jane Kramer
Nick Laurora
Joseph & Nancy Mansfield
Timothy McLear
Loretta Palko
Bob Robinson
Herman & Gail Schiller
Ceil Wasserman
Jack & Liz Watts

Performer—\$50 - \$99

Crystal Coast Productivity, Inc.
Charlie Dew
Donna Hulbert
Ginny Johnson
Katie Richardson
Helen Robinson
Shelia Weibert

Donor—\$35 - \$49

Garret Biss
Sally & Richard Rowe
Nanette Sanders-Cobb
Margaret Shields

Other

Anonymous
Donna Clayton
Carol Coddington
Susan & Marvin Cytron
David Graham
Elizabeth Griffin
Sharon Hopkins
Lynn C. Hutchens
Mary Jones
Von Lewis
Jane Powell
Astrid Schlegel
Keith Shore
Ruth Tomlinson
Gail Trunk

ABOUT THE BUILDING



A bit of history ...The doors of the Athens Theatre, designed by architect Herbert W. Simpson, opened in the heart of downtown New Bern on April 11, 1911. At first gala theatre for vaudeville, traveling theatre troupes, locally-produced live productions and silent movies, it became a “talkie theatre” in 1929.” It was renamed many times over the years (e.g., Show Shop, Kehoe Theatre, Tryon Theatre) and “remodeled.” NBCT recently renovated the exterior to return it to its original look.

In 1980, NBCT purchased the building and renamed it the Athens Theatre. A major renovation effort by members and volunteers, included recreating the stage, installing theatre seating, refurbishing bathrooms, replacing a major beam in the fly loft and the installing of a new heating and air conditioning system. Its first live production, *Star Spangled Girl*, a Neil Simon comedy, premiered September 1981.

The following year NBCT purchased the adjacent Athens Café building for use as administrative offices, the daytime box office, auditions, rehearsals, meetings, cast dressing rooms and housing lighting instruments, small technical equipment, costumes and stage props.



NEAR-TERM AND LONG-RANGE PLANS

Near-Term

Fast forward to 2020. Both the historic theatre and Athens administrative building require on-going maintenance and interior up-grades, however, with a limited source of revenue, upgrades and renovations that do not directly impact the ability to schedule, produce productions and generate ticket revenue are a low priority. Both our historic theatre and the Athens Café administrative building require on-going maintenance and need upgrades, but plans for renovations are a long-term need that will required long-term planning. Replacement of the HVAC Distribution System is NBCT's most immediate and most critical need. Your board is working with an engineering firm to plan for a new system. It may cost as much as \$100,000, and will require a significant capital raise. This will be a considerable challenge in the face of the recent issues with which all of us are dealing.

Long-Range

NBCT held a Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats (SWOT) analysis in mid-2019 to gather input from its patrons, volunteers, and other stakeholders on issues with NBCT and possible solutions as your Board seeks to develop a long-range strategic plan. Several hundred stakeholders graciously provided input via an online survey and identified many areas to address including renovations, marketing, management, operations, leadership, and policies and procedures. Your Board and other volunteers will continue to work on a long-range plan, and on changes and improvements in NBCT governance and operations.



*From "You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown"
Photography by Zack Cleland*

2019 FINANCIAL REPORT

Revenue

Other Income	51,909
Event Income	25,560
Production Income	186,324
Total Revenue	263,793

Expenditures

Payroll expenses	52,019
Production Expenses	98,548
Operating Expenses	94,313
Total Expenditures	244,880

Net Revenue 18,913

NBCT does it best to support itself by high-quality productions, and it operates very efficiently, covering a much greater percentage of its expenses from its operating revenues than many performing arts groups. The reality, however, is that no community theatre can be self-sustaining, and NBCT is deeply grateful for the donations and the sponsorships and advertisements that supports its mission.

thank you!



*From "Mamma Mia!"
Photography by Bridgette Melton*