

Community Center for the Performing Arts

Executive Director Updates Jan-Feb 2024 Deb Maher

Update Spring Projects!

Raise the Roof Campaign!

We received a \$25,000 gift from a private donor which helps us close our gap. We will meet our \$50,000 goal and this will trigger our \$20,000 match. This means we will have \$70,000 and with the \$30,966 from the Oregon Cultural Trust we will hit our target of \$100,000+. Our Bhangra Dance Party is still happening on Feb 23rd and all funds will be used for the roof and hopefully we will have enough to cover interior wall and ceiling repair.

I have received volunteer help from a local architect who will help us prepare a bid that will go out to invited roofers in March. Our hope is to start the project in May with completion by the end of Spring.



Streetlamp Project

Eric and I met with the City Permits staff last week and now have a clear understanding of all of the required steps to get the project restarted. Eric is following up on the details so that bids can be sent out. The contractor will have to retrieve two streetlamps up Bailey Hill Road and refurbish them so they can be reset at intervals approved by the City. This project should go out to bid in March.

Concession Kiosk

The University of Oregon Architecture Department has authorized their students to construct a modular design on campus and install it at the WOW Hall. I submitted a request to Jerry's for the materials and expect to hear from them within two weeks.

An Exciting Line-up of Shows and Events

We have 13 shows lined up for Feb and 15 shows in March. An email was sent to all members at the beginning of February to let them know about all upcoming shows. This goes directly to their inboxes so they can easily see what is coming up at the WOW Hall and they have the opportunity to purchase advance tickets. This email blasted resulted in close to \$1,200 in ticket sales! Big thanks to Kayla with guidance from Mike Walker! And Big Thanks to Skyeler for a magnificent job in booking shows!



Conference Attendance

Skyeler was able to attend this year's Pollstar conference and made more contacts with promoters and artists. Our visibility continues to pay off with more promoters contacting Skyeler. He tells me he is constantly trying to get through his inbox with over 200 messages stacked up at a time.

NOTES Discussion

I asked for input on the viability of NOTES from several staff and several board members. I presented the costs and returns and with discussion we arrived at a decision. We will continue to print NOTES as a once-a-year publication as a Report to Members prior to the general election. We will send monthly emails to all members on the upcoming shows, and I will communicate organizational updates to the members. Our External Affairs Committee will convene an open discussion to gain input on what members would like to see in the annual publication.

We are starting a new service for our members.

We will be sending out emails about upcoming events and shows with links to online purchases. In this way, everyone will have more up-to-date information. Often when people receive NOTES, the information is not current; we may have added new performances, a show may have already happened, or worse for unforeseen reasons a show is cancelled.

Check out our website for all of the shows: wowhall.org

Eugene Weekly Fundraiser

We raised \$2,500 with a WOW Hall sponsored fundraiser on Friday, January 26. Big Thanks to Desiree Pappenheimer our House Manager who organized it. Three bands, open mike and raffle prizes all for the good of the community. We believe that Eugene Weekly is an essential part of our community and is an essential part of what Eugene is up to. When a community institution goes down, it impacts all of us and we have a responsibility to help each other.

Big Shout Out to KEZI!

We now have a 30 second commercial promoting all that we do at the WOW Hall. It does not cost us anything because a sponsor has paid for it. Ironhead Roofing from Albany is our sponsor. Our commercial will be shown 60 times a month for three months. After Feb 23 it will convert to a more generic message.

(As an FYI: I made it clear that they will be one of our invited bidders for the roof but that it is not a guarantee that they will do the job.)

The Log!

We are having problems with people hanging out in our back parking. When the big tree was cut down, we retrieved logs to repurpose them. Once has remained in the parking lot but it has become a magnet for people. We will get it hauled away and this will help eliminate the problem.



Grant updates

We are submitting two more grants in February. One to fund cultural engagement and community building and one to fund artist engagement programs. We expect to receive a check from the Oregon Arts Commission for \$6,030 toward operating support. I will share more with our financial report.

Upcoming Board Retreat: Saturday, Feb 24th 12:00-4:30

The topic: *Building on our Successes; A Time for Reflection and More Momentum.* We are headed to the 50th Anniversary of CCPA and we will have much to celebrate. Our time together will help us chart the course and get everybody on the same page. I am working with Thomas our VP and Governance Chair who will set the tone for our time together.

Location: Lane Arts, 174 E 16th Ave, between Pearl and Oak. We will have a sign in front of the entrance.

Other Announcements, Please Come if You Can

- **March 14th Thursday from 4:00 to 6:00** we are hosting the Eugene Chamber Business After Hours Event. We expect 150 to 200 business leaders to attend. The Chamber is doing all the marketing and helping us to find sponsors.

-**March 27**th, **Wednesday** during the day (don't have the hours yet) we are hosting the Oregon Cultural Trust's Funders Conversations. This is the second year in a row, and we will have 10 foundations in the Hall and invite all Arts and Culture organizations in Lane County to come and meet funders. We will call on members to supply goodies.

Request for Your Continued Support

We are continuing to head in the direction of sustainability and need your help in gaining more community support and promoting the WOW Hall. Please tell your friends and family to buy tickets, and merchandise, become a sustaining member, or make a donation. **Distribute brochures!**

See you on ZOOM at our board meeting! Monday, Feb. 19, 2024