

CINCINNATI PLAYHOUSE
ANNUAL REPORT 2014 | 2015 SEASON



THIS SEASON BY THE NUMBERS:

- Total mainstage attendance: **138,355**
- Number of students reached by Playhouse education and outreach programs: **53,837**
- Number of subscribers: **13,591**, the highest of any nonprofit regional theatre in Ohio, Kentucky or Indiana
- Single and group ticket attendance up **27%**, the highest in the last 14 seasons
- Support from you and our other passionate donors up by **16%**
- Our **23rd** consecutive season with an operating surplus



Here's what **YOU** helped make possible this season!



Two enthusiastic students participating in our Summer Theatre Day Camp.

EXCEPTIONAL ARTS LEARNING EXPERIENCES

The Playhouse continued to provide high quality learning experiences in the arts to more than 53,000 students across our region through our robust education programs. One of these programs – the Scripps Howard Foundation Class Act! program – provides students with free, single-session workshops that use drama activities to prepare students to see Playhouse productions. Because of you, almost 7,000 students were able to experience this valuable program.

NEW AUDIENCES EXPERIENCING EXCEPTIONAL THEATRE

Your support allowed us to continue producing shows of the highest artistic value, helping us to attract and engage new audiences and provide them with exceptional cultural experiences. Productions such as *Tenderly: The Rosemary Clooney Musical*, *Peter and the Starcatcher*, *Ring of Fire: The Music of Johnny Cash* and *Buzzer* attracted a wide array of new theatregoers of all ages and cultural backgrounds, creating new opportunities for audiences to share their theatre experiences. Because of you, we were able to welcome or re-engage approximately 8,400 households.



The cast of *Peter and the Starcatcher*. Photo by Sandy Underwood.

EXCEPTIONAL COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Playhouse strives to provide all members of our community with the opportunity to experience quality theatre and engage in discussions that build awareness of broader issues. The Playhouse Off the Hill tour of *Theory of Mind*, a play about a teenage boy living with autism, allowed for just such an opportunity. Because of you, we were able to collaborate with the Autism Society of Greater Cincinnati and bring much needed awareness to the often misunderstood social disability of autism.



Kelsey Torstveit and Christopher Michael Richardson in *Theory of Mind*. Photo by Tony Arrasmith/Arrasmith & Associates.

EXCEPTIONAL NEW WORK

Your support allowed us to further our commitment to producing work that explores the history and experiences of our diverse Cincinnati community. We continued to offer compelling new work including *Safe House* — written by Cincinnati native Keith Josef Adkins — a world premiere with unique ties to local history and our region's role in the Underground Railroad. Through this show, we were able to share this previously unknown and important story in American history.



Shane Taylor, Stephanie Berry and LeRoy McClain in *Safe House*. Photo by Sandy Underwood.

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A NOTE FROM BLAKE AND BUZZ

By every measure, the 2014-15 season was a rousing success. From world premiere works such as *Safe House* to the hit musical *Ring of Fire: The Music of Johnny Cash* to family-friendly treats including *Peter and the Starcatcher*, we continued to serve our large subscription audience and welcomed many new patrons to the Playhouse along the way. Plus, for the 23rd year in a row, we ended the season “in the black.”

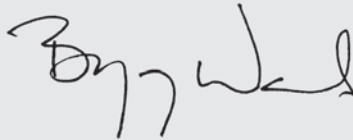
None of this would be possible without the loyalty and support of our donors, sponsors, local foundations, ArtsWave and its contributors, subscribers and thousands of single ticket buyers throughout the season. To all of you, we offer a huge “thank you!”

Together, we celebrate our past accomplishments, even as we look to new joys and discoveries in the coming season. See you at the theatre!

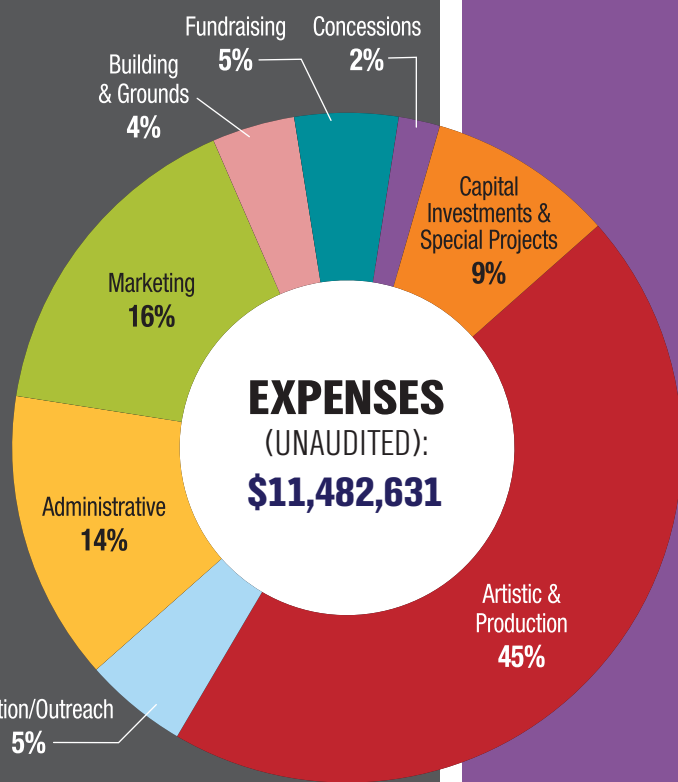
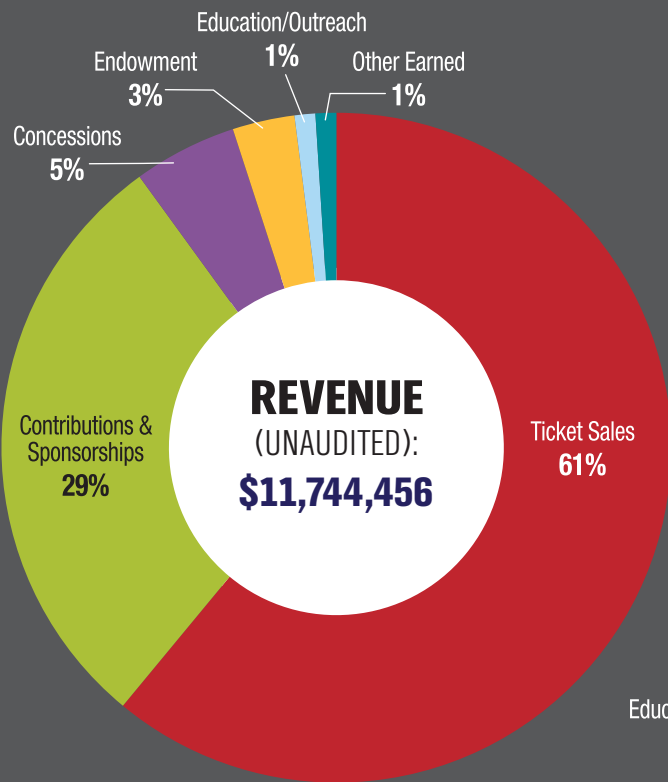
With gratitude,



Blake Robison | Artistic Director



Buzz Ward | Managing Director



Pictured on the front cover, clockwise from top left: LeRoy McClain, Stephanie Berry and Shane Taylor in *Safe House*; Susan Haefner and Michael Marotta in *Tenderly: The Rosemary Clooney Musical*; Eric Lynch in *Buzzer*; The cast of *Ring of Fire: The Music of Johnny Cash*. All photos by Sandy Underwood.

Thank you to all of our donors, including:



The Robert and Adele Schiff Family Foundation



The Lois and Richard Rosenthal Foundation

