



NEWSLETTER

Alex Haunty's Theater & Arts Fund, Inc.

April 2018

www.alexhauntystheaterandartsfund.org

Hometown Hero Award

Welcome Everyone,

2016-2017 was a very exciting year for Alex Haunty's Theater and Arts Fund.

Making a Difference

Alex received the January 2017 *NBC15 Making a Difference Award* for taking people with disabilities to the theater. In an interview by James Ewing for a documentary on Alex, John Stofflet of NBC 15 explained: "...Alex not only brings light to a canvas, he brings light to a room. Taking the extra step of helping others he uses part of the proceeds from his paintings to share his love of musical theater with others, which is why Alex Haunty is making a difference."

Hometown Hero Award

On September 14, 2017, Alex was nominated by State Representative Dianne Hesselbein and received the



Alex accepted the Hometown Hero Award in the Wisconsin State Assembly. From left to right: Thomas Haunty (family, AHTAFI Board member), Robin Voss (Speaker of the House), Dianne Hesselbein (Wisconsin State Representative), Bobbette Rose, (AHTAFI Board member) Alex Haunty, Ted Dedee (Overture Center for the Arts), Mary Beth Haunty (family, AHTAFI Board member), Melissa Haunty (family, AHTAFI Board member).

Wisconsin State Assembly's Hometown Hero Award for his philanthropic work through Alex Haunty's Theater and Arts Fund. He was invited as a special guest and given the opportunity to speak to the Assembly on behalf of creating opportunities for people with disabilities to have access to the arts.

We were so honored for Alex to receive these awards and for his nonprofit to be lauded so well.

Honoring Al Ripp



Alex was commissioned in 2017 by Food Concepts in honor of Al Ripp who was the Executive Director of MOM's Food Pantry. Alex and Al became friends through the "Creating for Causes Holiday Art Fair" fundraiser. Alex painted this based on Al's wife, Shari's memories, including the rainbow that shone in the sky shortly after Al passed.

How you can be involved in this work

Alex Haunty's Theater & Arts Fund Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and is seeking donations. To learn more about how you can be involved in this work, visit our website at:

alexhauntystheaterandartsfund.org

Board of Directors

Mary Beth Haunty
President, Registered Nurse, BSN

Thomas A. Haunty
Vice President and Treasurer,

Melissa Haunty
Member at Large, Exec. Dir., AHTAFI,
Program Curator, Stephen & Laurel
Brown Foundation (Upper House)

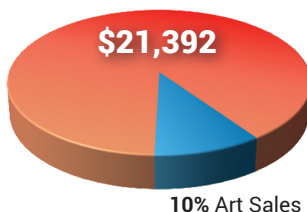
Gayle Reed
Secretary, R.N. Ph.D. in
Developmental Psychology

Bobbette Rose
Member at Large, Creative Dir.,
Rose Design Studio & Visual Artist

Alex Haunty
Founder and Ex Officio member, Artist

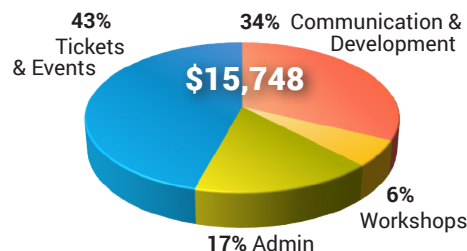
REVENUE 2017

90% Private Donors & Foundation Gifts



* \$2,579 starting balance carried over for ticket purchases going into the Overture 2017/2018 season.

EXPENSES 2017



Alex Haunty's Theater and Arts Fund, Inc. (AHTAFI) is a nonprofit organization making a difference by helping create access to the arts for people with disabilities and giving them the opportunity to shine. AHTAFI provides special experiences of premier Broadway shows, and is developing workshops and performance opportunities in art, music and theater.



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AHTAFI continues to give adults with disabilities a memorable experience with the theater



Alex dons his mask and cape to greet his friends at The Phantom of the Opera.



It was a privilege to host 181 young adults with disabilities along with their supporters in attending two different performances of *The Phantom of the Opera*. For our first showing, Alex's beloved UW Best Buddies attended. Our pre-show party was generously sponsored by Ed Deuschlander and we had a fantastic experience. Alex next brought individuals from the Cutting-Edge program at Edgewood College and from LOV-Dane. This time AHTAFI hosted a post-party for attendees where we got to ask questions from some of the cast. John Stofflet also came to present Alex Haunty the NBC15 Making a Difference Award, completely surprising Alex and our guests. Visit www.alexhauntystheaterandartsfund.org to see the video.



John Stofflet from NBC15 News awarded Alex the January 2017 Making a Difference award for creating art and opportunities for young adults with special needs.



Rachael, our dance instructor, showing us all kinds of dance moves.

Sing! Stomp! Act!

Fall 2017 workshop stirred excitement

In the Fall of 2017 Alex Haunty's Theater and Arts Fund, Inc. joined hands with Inspiring Hope Studio, a branch of Inspiring Hope Ministries to do creative art workshops for young adults with disabilities. Alex invited his teachers Bobbette Rose (visual artist), Wendy Rowe (voice professor at UW Milwaukee), Lynda Sharpe (theater instructor), and Rachael Peterson (dance instructor with Breakthrough Dance Company) to help create a pilot workshop to explore song, dance, art and drama together. AHTAFI funded the professionals to help develop each learning module and Inspiring Hope Ministries, led by Mary Beth Haunty, provided the workshop space, food and peer mentors, together creating opportunities for people with disabilities to grow in the arts, have fun and build relationships. Our plan is to continue to develop this integrated model into an ongoing community endeavor.



Where Broadway takes us in 2018

In 2018, we are inviting young adults with disabilities to *American in Paris* and *Les Misérables* at the Overture Center for the Arts. We are taking new groups and their helpers and are also hosting some preparatory opportunities to help prepare our guests for these experiences. We plan to continue to sponsor pre and post events that celebrate and extend the theater experience, allowing our guests to connect with each other about the show as well as give them opportunities to interact with the Broadway cast. We invite individuals to consider sponsoring a show reception and be a part of the event.