



With the Covid pandemic having severely restricted our normal activities since March 13, 2020, we have continued to contingency plan and pivot as the situation has changed. From only outdoor performances in the summer/fall of 2020, plus online classes, we have resumed normal programming – but without normal levels of participation.

Program:

Our next two productions will be in May & June: *The Lobby* is a world premiere of a new play by the award-winning Irish author Don Creedon, playing in the Dressing Room Theatre in May; *Disaster the musical* will play in The Kweskin Theatre in June. Our annual summer Shakespeare production will be *Measure for Measure* in July; our annual youth musical in August is *The Pajama Game*. NEW: We will be partnering with The Ferguson Library to bring a free youth theatre production to the downtown main branch this fall.

We have followed the Broadway theatres for the majority of this season – requiring proof of vaccination and masks and not allowing food/drink. As of April 1, we have lifted all restrictions with the caveat that should the situation change, we would revisit. We plan to run a full, normal season of shows, September through June. All shows are licensed and contracted expect for one.

Our educational programming is up and running - fully in-person. Enrollment levels have been lower than normal still, but our summer programs are looking to be close to normal based on early registration.

As always, capital needs on four, 100+ year-old buildings are significant. The roof on our scene shop is 20+ years old now while the building itself hasn't been painted in at least 30 years. (The silo was painted last summer.)

Updating HVAC systems to meet new safety standards needs to be explored as well as exchanging current fixed windows to those that open would also help meet newer air quality standards. Upgrading safety lighting in the Kweskin Theatre has been funded – installation pending.

By using the CT Labor Department Shared Work Program, we maintained full head count through July 15, 2020, when we furloughed one staff position, which was brought back on July 1, 2021. We are now back to six full time and five part time employees in addition to 50 other seasonal hires.

Respectfully submitted,

Lou Ursone
Executive Director

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