



**BEST LOCAL
THEATRE GROUP**
10 years in a row!

Fairfield County Weekly
Annual Readers' Poll

**BEST
PERFORMING
ARTS GROUP**
2008 through 2023
StamfordPlus Magazine

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Lou Ursone
Executive Director /
Producing Artistic Director
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1349 Newfield Avenue
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REPORT TO CITY OF STAMFORD – 4/10/25

Audience numbers for our current season will very likely finally match pre-pandemic levels and MAY even surpass them by a small amount.

Our number of performances scheduled during the 2019-2020 season was 186 with 44 weekends of programming. Unofficial plans for 2025-2026 have us at 160 / 40.

We continue to offer our Sumer Youth Theatre program (summer 2025 – HOLIDAY INN) for just a \$50 registration fee compared to nearby towns: Fairfield - \$225 / Wilton - \$500 / Westport - \$775 / Greenwich - \$1,350.

Enrollment in our educational programming has actually surpassed our 2019 (last normal period) by about 12%. We continue to offer our classes on par or less than similar area programs. Bridgeport: 24 hours program \$885 / Norwalk: 12 hours -\$350 / Ours 8 weeks – 14 hours - \$280

We will continue bringing free children's programming to the Ferguson Library main branch as part of our outreach to communities that have limited access to traveling to Sterling Farms.

Our budget for FY 2025-2026 is predicted to be similar to this year: \$1.3M. (Due to the schedule of securing licensing rights for shows, our annual budget process ramps up early-May through late June.) The contracted City support toward Utilities, Security, etc. of \$90,000 will help cover anticipated gas, electric, oil, phone and security costs of \$120,000. (Projected costs year-ending June 30, 2025: \$111,310.)

With the Kweskin stage completely open to the sky, the installation of solar panels could be a worthwhile venture.

As always, our four, 100+ year-old buildings continue to need work –electrical issues / upgrades are needed in our scene shop barn and the silo attached to The Dressing Room Theatre still has a major water problem. As our staffing needs grow, a second story addition to our office would be extremely helpful. The scene shop/storage barn hasn't been painted in more than 30 years,

One other concern: We again ask our City leaders to reach out to State legislative colleagues to support the nonprofit theatre industry. Curtain Call and all but two of the 20+ theatres in Fairfield County were shut out of an \$8M state grant program this budget cycle. The Governor's proposed budget will again benefit this small group of 17 theatres – not us!

We remain honored to manage the theatre operations for The City of Stamford and are most appreciative of the support from you.

Most sincerely,

Lou Ursone
Executive Director

**2011 Governor's Award for Excellence in Culture and Tourism
2016 ACE Award for Excellence in the Arts**



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2025 -2026 SEASON (Unnofficial)

OUTDOOR – KING LEAR - July

KWESKIN – HOLIDAY INN – August

DRESSING ROOM THEATRE – THE FANTASTICKS – September / October

DRESSING ROOM THEATRE – MISERY – October/November

KWESKIN – WHITE CHRISTMAS – November / December

DRESSING ROOM THEATRE – RUDOLPH (Children's Show) - December

DRESSING ROOM THEATRE – LION IN WINTER – January

KWESKIN – URINETOWN - February

DRESSING ROOM THEATRE – A VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE - March

KWESKIN – ANASTASIA – April

DRESSING ROOM THEATRE - TBA - May

KWESKIN – GUYS & DOLLS - June

Plus

Concerts, Comedy Nights and other special events.

A FEW PATRON EMAILS THAT CAME IN THIS WEEK

AFTER OUR OPENING OF ANYTHING GOES:

We enjoyed the show. Our favorite was the dancing and choreography. We have been delighted with all seven of the shows that we've seen. We are looking forward to next season!

Joyce and Jay Riemer

Great production!! The play was a very enjoyable evening and Anne Cavaliere was terrific...voice and stage presence. Kudos to all. The whole team was good. Thanks and congratulations on another good show and year.

Judy Williams

We loved the show and are telling our friends to go.

Thank the crew for all the hard work.

Sheldron Sepowitz

"Anything Goes"! What a fantastic show! Gordon and Karen Casagrande are a wonderful Director/Choreographer team! They chose a great cast, and we saw a wonderful presentation of this excellent Cole Porter show! We'll tell everyone to go see it! Hope you get full audiences every night! See you soon!

Dee and André

ANYTHING GOES: Loved it. Everything about it. Brought a friend who's never been to a Curtain Call production. She'll be back! Special shout out to costume designer.

Judy Crystal

Hi Lou,

This is Bette Kolodney

Anything Goes was the best. All the players, The voices, the dances, the choreography, the comedy.

It was Broadway, but not Broadway ticket prices. And local.

You and the committee and the cast were so professional. I am calling family and friends to get tickets while they are still available

How lucky we are to have Curtain Call in town.

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