



Happy Birthday Beck Center!

Celebrating our **90th Birthday:**

- On Saturday May 13th, over 250 friends helped us celebrate 90 years of Beck Center with one of our favorite Beck traditions, Super Saturday! This month's focus was on stringed instruments and featured performances from the Big Finish Band and from Beck Center's community partners MadJax Dance Company and Cleveland Association of Black Storytellers.
- Kids of all ages enjoyed rock painting, a "Hear & Touch Concert" featuring interactive music, and a demonstration of a family of string instruments.
- Thank you to our event sponsors Lakewood Arts Festival and Healthy Lakewood Foundation



90th Season Announcement & Chairman's Circle:



- On the evening of Tuesday May 16, we announced our 90th season with a free and open to the public event in the Senney Theater.
- Attendees enjoyed live performances of songs from productions in next season's lineup, as well as after party fun with Moss Stanley and "Lounge Kitty."

The 2023-2024 season will include:

- **“Cat’s-Paw”** Sep. 22–Oct. 22, 2023, at the Studio Theater. Written by William Mastrosimone. Directed by William Roudebush. Regional premiere.
- **“Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat”** Dec. 1–30, 2023, at the Senney Theater. Music by Andrew Lloyd Webber, lyrics by Tim Rice, musical direction by Larry Goodpaster, choreography by Lauren Tidmore. Directed by Scott Spence.
- **“Ride the Cyclone”** Feb. 9-25, 2024, at the Senney Theater. Music, book & lyrics by Brooke Maxwell and Jacob Richmond, music direction by Matthew Webb, choreography by Lauren Tidmore, additional materials by Alan Schmuckler. Directed by Victoria Bussert. Regional premiere.
- **“Jitney”** Apr. 5-May 5, 2024, at the Studio Theater. Written by August Wilson. Directed by Jimmie Woody.
- **“A Doll’s House, Part 2”** May 31-Jun. 30, 2024, at the Studio Theater. Written by Lucas Hnath. Directed by Don Carrier. Regional premiere.
- **“Beautiful, the Carole King Musical”** Jul. 12-Aug. 11, 2024, at the Senney Theater. Book by Douglas McGrath, music by Stephen Flaherty, choreography by Lauren Tidmore, music direction by Larry Goodpaster. Directed by Scott Spence. Locally produced premiere.

Thank you to our sponsor Nordson Corporation Foundation for their continued generous support of our Chairman’s Circle event, an annual gathering of donors and friends to celebrate the announcement of the new theater season.

Very Important Volunteers:

Spotlight: Women’s Board

Beck Center Women’s Board was founded in 1936 under the umbrella of the Lakewood Little Theatre. Since then, as the organization has evolved to Beck Center for the Arts, the Women’s Board has continued to work diligently to continue their tradition of **supporting** and **servicing** the organization while enjoying good fellowship. Through the years, the Women’s Board has raised and contributed hundreds of thousands of dollars and provided thousands of volunteer hours to support performances, programs, and day-to-day operations at Beck Center.

The Women’s Board’s mission is to support Beck Center for the Arts in its effort to create a community where everyone can be directly involved in the performing and visual arts, Creating Arts Experiences.

Through various activities throughout the year, the Beck Center Women’s Board has raised and donated approximately **\$10,000** over the last fiscal year.

If you are interested in joining the Women’s Board, please contact **Charles Battaglia, Associate Director of Development** (cbattaglia@beckcenter.org).

Spotlight! Beck Center's Annual Gala:



Join us **Friday, July 14, 2023**, at Gordon Green

This year's theme, **"Celebrating Our Past, Creating Our Future"** looks back at Beck Center's 90-year history of creating arts experiences, providing an evening of fun and fellowship, as well as a celebration of the critical impact of the arts in our lives. This year, Beck Center is posthumously honoring Richard Kay, founder of the Lakewood Little Theatre, which later evolved into Beck Center for the Arts.

Tickets, sponsorships, and opportunities to buy tables and ad space in the program can be found below:

<https://beckcenter.ejoinme.org/spotlight2023>

Annual Fund Update:

- The Annual Fund provides essential operating support to continue our dynamic arts education, performances, free community programs, and exhibits. Out of Beck Center's \$2.9 million annual budget, over 60% is earned revenue from theater ticket sales and class registrations. That leaves approximately \$1M or 40% which needs to be raised each year through contributions from individuals, foundations, companies, special events, and government support. In short, we couldn't provide access to our quality arts education and professional performances without you! Thank you to everyone who has donated this season!
- You can help us continue a strong 2023 by making a gift [here](#) and choosing "Annual Fund". Please direct questions about the Annual Fund to **Jay'da T. Hall, Annual Fund Manager** (jhall@beckcenter.org)

Playing now at Beck:



"Doubt: A Parable" Written by John Patrick Shanley & directed by Don Carrier

- Studio Theatre; May 26– June 25, 2023
- This 2015 Pulitzer Prize-winner for Drama draws one into an issue of suspicion in the query of a Catholic school in the Bronx in the 1960s. Principal Sister Aloysius's suspicions about the relationship between a priest, Father Flynn, and a young male student will raise questions long after you leave the theater.
- "The grey gulf between Sister Aloysius and Father Flynn's entrenched positions is where the audience are left to swim. The play leaves us, unnervingly, in that place of doubt."
The Guardian