

**Annual Report**  
**June 1, 2024- May 31, 2025**

**Mission:** To provide a complete state of the arts performing arts theatre and learning center which will allow Downriver youth to experience, learn, teach, and perform in a variety of performance art areas while providing exceptional entertainment and a multi-purpose facility for the entire Downriver community.

**Purpose:** The positive development of young people through experiences in the arts.

Downriver Youth Performing Arts Center, whose home is the Trenton Village Theatre, was formed in 1998. DYPAC is a 501c3 non-profit charitable organization whose mission and purpose are as listed above. There is no paid administration to the DYPAC board of directors-all are volunteers. The DYPAC Board of Directors and involved adults, enjoy seeing the positive growth of the young people, believe in the opportunities for family participation, and love to help create memories for all involved. It is DYPAC's belief that young people who learn to be involved, and who feel cared about by many adults, and are allowed an outlet for their youthful enthusiasm and creativity will become creative, involved, caring and purposeful adults.

**"Positive, Productive, Purposeful"**  
**"Be Kind, Be Creative, Be DYPAC"**  
**"Be a Star by the person you are!"**

**Productions and Programming 6/1/2024-5/31/25**

**Summer 2024**

**Mean Girls August 2024, Directed by Mary Zaleski**

**Summer Arts Program June-August**

**Summer 2024- Taylor Teen Center**

**Fall 2024**

**Alice in Wonderland Jr Jr- directed by Nathan Vasquez**

**Holiday Inn- directed by Mary Zaleski**

**Frosty Follies 15- directed by Mary Zaleski**

**Halloween Walk, City of Trenton, Mary Zaleski, Director**

**Winter 2025**

**Diary of a Wimpy Kid, Kids Version- directed by Nathan Vasquez**

**12 Angry Jurors, directed by Dave Rzucidlo**

**Field Trips- directed by Mary Zaleski (approx. 2000 attended) A Bad Case of Stripes**

**Spring 2025**

**Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, directed by Mary Zaleski**

**Beetlejuice, Jr.- directed by Nathan Vasquez**

**Auditions: Hadestown Teen Edition, performing in August**

**Sign Up: Giants in the Sky, performing in September**

**Community Outreach and Growth: Community Participation**

DYPAC performed for :Trenton Rotary, Rotary Foundation, Trenton Educational Foundation, Christnet and Downriver Community Band

- Donations of Tickets:

Anderson Elementary School  
Anderson PTO  
Animal Refuge  
Cancer Fundraisers  
Children's Hospital of MI  
Christnet  
City of Trenton Police/Fire fundraiser  
DCA  
First Step  
Mi Cookie Project  
Mott's Children's Hospital  
Penrickton Center for Blind Children  
St. Joseph Elementary Fundraiser  
SWCRC  
TBA  
The Information Center Gala  
Trenton Educational Fund  
Trenton Rotary  
Wildlife Refuge Fund

Rentals:

Scott Galeski for film project  
Betty Thomas, recital 2024  
Jamie Krause for recital  
Downriver Community Band  
Graduation Parties  
Birthday Party

Trenton Village Theatre Galleries

Tom Shumate Gallery &  
Richard & Rosalind Meyer Gallery

This marked our 17th Year of inclusion of the Visual Arts in our learning environment-  
Artist AJ Trivett on display May 2025

- finding and scheduling artists constant effort

## Fundraising Ventures

- Continuing Sales of DYPAC Merchandise
- 50/50
- Memorials
- Items ( DONATED BY MARY ZALESKI)
- Raffle baskets at each show
- Sponsorships for Legacy Project
- Dave Martin Guitar Festival

## Repairs/Improvements

Thank you Volunteers (who make DYPAC's World Go 'Round!)

Lighting Improvements and maintenance- Thanks to Patrick Yaeger

Grass weed removal- Dave O and Barb R

Lightbulb replacement duty- Rzucidlos and Patrick Yaeger

Vacuum Repair- Patrick Yaeger

Paint touch ups- Patrick Yaeger

Sign Repair- Patrick Yaeger

Donation of seating and beginning of Legacy Project, seat donation via Henry Ford Hospital/Patrick Yaeger

Little Free Library, repaired by Steve Krwcke and his friend Ben, and Barb R. painted library

Courtyard continues to be maintained by Joyce Brown-Gillespie

Installation of Peace Pole c/o Dr. Noel and Debbie Jackson- part if the <https://www.peacepoleproject.org>

## Financial Notes

- Sponsorships arriving for Legacy Project- will be updated with project
- Donations received from 96 ticket purchasers ranging from \$1 to \$150
- Donations over \$100: will update with legacy project, but current Gary Kolaska \$2500, Debbie Jackson \$3000 for toilets, JSP \$2400 for Cookie Sponsor,
- Memorial donations from Victoria Morgan and Noel and Debbie Jackson
- Grant \$5000 from John & Marine van Vlissingen Foundation BCD Grant for Open Spot Theatre program
- \$1.00 PayPal Giving Fund
- \$ 278.72 Kroger
- Collected \$ 3.98 loose coin and bills in jar and floor
- GM donation via Dave Rzucidlo, \$700
- Merck donation, via Lori Hawkins \$500
- Donations of clothing from many individuals
- Agreement to continue lease with slight increase- wonderful! Good until 2031
- Building Rekeyed
- Snow Removal donated by Wright Landscaping ( at least a \$10,000 value annually)

## *Major expenditures:*

*Utilities (\$2000+ month)*

*Janitorial Supplies \$50 month*

*Upkeep of fire extinguishers- about \$800*

*Annual fire suppression/water quality testing- about \$600*

*Monthly rental of warehouse space \$2050*

*Utilities at rental space \$400mo*  
*Janitorial Supplies- cleaning products, masks, sanitizer, printing, etc*  
*Usual costumes, sets costs, supplies*  
*Repair of light equip.*  
*Insurance- approx. \$600 monthly*  
*H&C new Unit \$22000*  
*H&C Repairs \$2500*  
*Plumbing repairs \$1500*  
*Grant via City purchased new unit for front of building, about \$8000 value*

**Memberships:** *As of June 1, 2025 268*

**Civic Memberships:**

*Trenton Business Assoc.*

*Chamber of Commerce*

*Community Theatre Assoc. MI*

*DCA*

**Awards and honors**

- Rory Wallace won Essay contest re: DYPAC and \$100 check for DYPAC
- Debbie Jackson serving on TBA Board for DYPAC
- Noel Jackson President Trenton Rotary, also was honored with Service Above Self Award
- Noel Jackson appointed to Michigan Council for Arts and cultural Affairs for 2 year term
- Selection by Trenton Rotary and Tom Shumate Endowment Fund for the Arts as an organization to continue to support.
- Many young people also performed in various local community and school theatre activities, received vocal and dance awards, and shared their talents in a variety of ways.
- Many DYPAC Alumni have graduated college and pursued a variety of arts and community related fields- Many wonderful college placements and job opportunities, businesses, and community efforts!
- College graduates –many wonderful success stories!
- Marriages- Babies- DYPAC alumni are growing up! Full circle!
- 2025 High School Grads: Names on Marquee on May through June 6
- GM had a newsletter article dedicated to Dave Rzucidlo's volunteer works
- Grant award for HC nUnit through City

**Growth**

Therefore, during the fiscal year of June 1, 2024 to May 31, 2025 approximately 170 young people and their families have participated with DYPAC for productions and 186 for Summer Program.

-21 Students received some type of scholarship,

waived participation Fees for productions or workshops

-continued Rentals of Theatre-

-enhanced inclusion philosophy/support of diversity of young people

All registrations fill rapidly- positive comments from those enrolling

**Goals**

- Completion of Legacy Project 2025-6
- Strong, supportive, Board of Directors honoring confidentiality, cooperation, and dedication.
- Varied programming addressing educational and community needs

- Costume Shed continued organization- Oh so, so true!
- Improved communication and participation growth, addressing diversity and acceptance
- Continued restoration and improvement of theatre
- Continued Community service and involvement
- Continued Rentals
- Financial stability- we do what we say we will with the funds collected
- Board remains All-Volunteer
- Positive, Productive, Purposeful Activities
- Attract Adult Role Models of integrity and caring
- Inclusion of all- Development of programming supporting those with Autism and special needs particularly in summer program
- Safe, caring, supportive environment for young people and their families
- Continued Gallery Showings
- Increased Grant Applications
- Positive Public Relations
- Continued awareness of the value of our mission and our purpose
- Encouraging new directors and support staff
- Focus of positive interactions between board members and support of board decisions.
- Emphasis on arts education as opposed to community theatre: using the arts as a vehicle for engaging and training young people through experiences and mentoring.

**Directors:**

Dave Rzucidlo, Nathan Vasquez, Mary Zaleski,

Asst. Directors: Jennifer Rodriguez, Patrick Yaeger, Shaun Rice

Youth assistants: Skye Baxter, Matthew Bond, Samantha Plunkett, Noah Rodriguez Parker Watson

**Producers:** Cindy Robertson, Karen Rutkowski, Ryan Begin

**Choreographers:** Nina Nelson, Nathan Vasquez, Holly Eggleston, Julianne Floetke, Molly Zaleski

**Dance Captains:** Noah Rodriguez, Delia Henderson, Ciana Litten, Lily Digna, Sawyer Watson

**Vocal Directors:** Audra Baas, Hannah Allie, Eric Floetke

**Make-up:** Dave Rzucidlo, Jennifer Ferguson, Kayla Harwood, Angela Henderson

**Musical Directors:** Audra Baas

**Costume Designers/Seamstresses, Coordinators** Jennifer Rodriguez, Debbie Bond, Debbie Jackson, Mishell Schutt, Melissa Pitock, Mary Zaleski, Carol Bridges, Jessica Watson, Paula Hawley, Nancy Eluskie, Karen Connor, Katie Klavinger, Jessica Fitzsimmons, Aimee Jamison

**Props:** Aimee Plunkett, Michelle Pippin,

**Tech Directors:** Dave Overholt, Matthew Bond, Kevin Bond

**Set Design:** Dave Overholt, Sheman Broge, Kevin Bond, Craig Clark, Juan Rodriguez, Brian Walker, Ryan Begin

**Set Artists:** Dave Overholt, Morganne Vasquez,

**Special Creation:** Sandworm — Parker Watson

**Gypsy Robe Winners:**

Hudson Veltman

Melanie Walker

Sawyer Watson

***Ace Award:*** Reagan Lewis

**Assistants, Costume Designers, Seamstresses, Set Designers, Artists, and Set Builders- so many!**

*Sincere apologies to any omitted names- Each and every donation of time talent, materials, and resources is greatly appreciated. All supports and enhance our young people's lives. Thank you to all!*

**Volunteer Hours-** Many! Thanks to all the parents who did so many helpful roles!

**Memories-** Immeasurable !

Volunteers- As always, the backbone of our organization and as varied as the flowers in a garden. Thank you to all for each and every effort- sharing your skills, your caring, your opinions, and your support for young people. Special Thanks to community members who never had or no longer have children in our programs, but continue to support, work, and dedicate time to the goals of DYPAC.

Board of Directors: Thank you for your dedication to the organization and for your commitment of time and support.

Noel Jackson, Kurt Sebaly, Barbara Gratton-Clark, Audra Bass,

Karen Connor, Karen Rutkowski, Victoria Morgan, Dave Overholt, Barb Rzucidlo, Dave Rzucidlo, Mishell Schutt, Patrick Yaeger, Mary Zaleski

Admin: Debbie Jackson

*May 2024 25<sup>th</sup> Thank you Celebration*

**Lives touched-** we may never know this for sure, for it may be years that pass when a "DYPAC" child looks back and realizes the value of the experiences or when the adults look back and treasure the memories! We may not immediately know we have "saved" a child from loneliness, lack of acceptance, or despair, and that we have offered a lifeline of hope and caring from a concerned adult, the discovery of a talent unknown, friendships formed, or potential life skills learned. Perhaps we have given parent and child something to bond over and something to share and it will help them, as they become parents. Perhaps we have touched someone's heart and given him or her reason to smile, feel confident, and grow to be able to go out into the world and see good in others and to do good!

Be Happy- Do good! Spread Kindness- teach gentleness.

Special Thanks to the City of Trenton for allowing us to care for and inhabit the Trenton Village Theatre.