



P.O. Box 177
Hamilton, NY 13346

April 25th, 2024

Dear Friends of Arts At The Palace,

We are thrilled to be one year into our effort to transform Arts At The Palace (AATP) from just a performance venue to a true community arts center. Thanks to all of you for your enthusiastic support of this exciting journey. In addition to our recent slate of events, we have a number of updates to share with you.

Critical to our success in the past year has been our intense focus on artist empowerment and creative collaboration. We view AATP's role as giving creators space, resources, and expertise in support of their work. This focus on artistic development benefits the community in multiple ways: it provides a home, connection point, and platform for creators, and even more importantly, **it strengthens our creative infrastructure that is so important to the vibrancy, stability, and economic well-being of the whole community.**

We are proud to say that this past year we held 65 events including artist gatherings, dances, workshops, theater productions, lectures, and live music. These were attended by nearly 2,000 individuals and involved over 250 artists. Creativity abounds within our region and we want to say thank you to ALL the talented and enthusiastic individuals who have volunteered, coordinated, collaborated, partnered, and performed.

It is important for us to acknowledge that much of our success is the result of the vision and skill of our Executive Director, Henry Howard. Henry's outreach to local and regional artists helped to identify their needs and insight into the role AATP could play. His collaboration with other arts organizations and Colgate University has further clarified our mission. You should also know we are not the only ones who value Henry's work. Henry was a recent recipient of a LeMoyne College Impact Award for his accomplishments as a newly appointed Arts Administrator. This is well-deserved recognition.

We are also pleased to report that we are in a stable financial position through your generous support, careful oversight of expenses, and grant writing success.

Going forward, we will continue our emphasis on artist empowerment and are also excited about a new initiative. This month, we are launching *Hamilton Creates*, an online directory and calendar of arts events for participating organizations and groups. **We believe that creating a central place to find out about regional arts events will be a service to all arts supporters, visitors, and the region at large.** The new site is now live at www.hamiltoncreates.com. Check it out and please contact us if you have an artist, group, event, or organization you would like to share.

While we remain optimistic about our future, we are working fervently to increase our financial capacity in order to grow our impact across the region. Currently, Arts At The Palace requires annual, individual contributions of \$25,000/year. Will you please consider renewing or increasing your annual support to help us meet our goal? With your help, we will continue to uplift the arts and culture within our region.

Your partnership with AATP truly is an investment in our entire community and affects the vibrancy of Hamilton and beyond.

Please join us!

Gratefully,



Bill Butler, Board President

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