

CAPE COD
HARWICH
JUNIOR THEATRE
COMPANY

November 2021

Name
Address
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Dear Name,

Your generous support has meant the world to Cape Cod Theatre Company/Harwich Junior Theatre (CCTC/HJT)—and to me across my 25-year tenure as Producing Artistic Director. During my last visit with our founder, Betty Bobp, she hugged me with a strength I will never forget, and she asked me to promise to sustain “**The Friendly Theater.**” She was empowering me with that embrace, and I hope I have kept to that promise.

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve Betty’s vision of accessible and multigenerational theater, where all ages imagine and create the beauty of performance together. **Support from donors like you has allowed us to bring her vision to life for over 70 years.** Within the walls of CCTC/HJT lies an innate wisdom that embraces new generations and the changes they bring while honoring beloved traditions.

On a personal note, I am grateful to have served a theater that not only welcomes youth but has a deep understanding of child and human development at its core. It has been a balm to witness so many children grow into adults who bring creativity, beauty, and goodness into the world.

Like many alumni, my daughter Nadia grew up here, gaining invaluable lessons and lifelong friendships. Through the loss of my beloved husband Conrad, CCTC/HJT was my strength. Our 60th reunion brought my son Eric together with Emily Murray, also a lifelong member of the CCTC/HJT family, and now my granddaughter Phoebe (left) takes pride in performing.



Yes indeed, live theater transforms lives!

Now CCTC/HJT must welcome new leadership. We are fortunate during this time of change to have a loyal senior staff with Tamara Harper and Matt Kohler, a talented creative team who give a soulful aesthetic to both production and education, and a dedicated Board of Directors leading the transition process.

This year and last have brought unanticipated challenges to all. CCTC/HJT was extremely fortunate for generous community support resulting in our new outdoor stage, sponsored by the Bilezikian Family Foundation, that opened this summer—safely bringing live theater to children and families, generating collective tears of joy and uproarious laughter.

My hope is that everyone comes through these challenging times with newfound strength and appreciation for what is most important.

Entering our 71st year, factors and uncertainties beyond CCTC/HJT's control challenge our ability to provide the community—and especially young families and under-served populations—with affordable and accessible classes and live performances on a year-round basis:

- Lost box office, education, and outreach revenues exceed \$500,000 and continue to mount due to limits on safe class size and seating capacity.
- Devoted CCTC/HJT staff, who have borne hardship in order to continue meeting our mission, deserve a living wage as the Cape's demographics change.
- Our beloved but aging theater needs an upgrade to its heating, air conditioning, and ventilation systems in order to ensure a safe indoor environment.

Cape Cod Theatre Company/Harwich Junior Theatre must endure along with its vision, "Theater for All!" Your year-end gift will help ensure that we continue as a shared experience spanning the generations.

With love and gratitude,



Nina Schuessler



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capecodtheatrecompany.com