

5-19-22

Pix Theatre

172 W. Depressing Street

Lapeer, MI 48446

After the fun experience I've had working with Mary Beth Burns on "Arsenic and Old Lace" and "Womenspeak", I would like to donate \$45⁰⁰. It was a new experience for me, and I met a lot of nice people that I hope to do other future productions with under Mary Beth's direction. She is so talented!

April 11, 2023

Ms. Lyons,

I wanted to express my sincere appreciation for having the opportunity of being involved in the Center for the Arts radio shows. For someone who has social anxiety but who has always wanted to be a part of a show, this forum allowed me to enter the world of theatre and created very little stress.

Not only was it entertaining, but it was also great to feel part of a creative environment where we were allowed to experience the unique world of amateur acting and feel we were creating our own community. It was a wonderful experience.

I commend you and Mary Beth Burns on having the insight to allow working people an avenue to be involved in the Arts.

Please extend my thanks to all the staff at the Center of the Arts for this opportunity and I hope there are plans for future endeavors.

Dr. Lynda Maxfield

Flint, Michigan

Dear Jill

I was first able to participate with Pix in a Tennessee Williams one act play about eight years ago—that was live theater.

Then Covid hit, and I was more than grateful for rehearsals in the community and preparing our online zoom performances. Mary Beth Burns is a particularly skilled Director and producer, with great strength in creating community and working with children and others of all ages.

As a Metamora residence, the Pix theater, in Lapeer brings the community together, and it is always supported by a wide variety of sellout audiences. We are very fortunate to have the funding that makes it possible for this long-standing theater to stay active and enrich the communities' lives through good times and bad!

Ellen Waara

Hi Jill

Kim Lewis here. I've been a part of the Pix Theater's Radio show ensemble for 4 seasons now, most recently as Doris Walker in the Miracle on 34th Street. There is a list of people waiting for the release of the new production each Christmas. It's goes out and touches many hearts, not just limited to Lapeer County. Within our group we have a variety of people including students, teachers, retired lawyers as well as those actively working for accounting firms and banks, but we all share a common love of reaching out and performing for others. The radio show ensemble mostly gets together for the Christmas holidays, but has put out a few other programs for Women's month as well as for Halloween. We have members of all ages 5-80! Thank you for this creative outlet and please help keep this funded

Kim Lewis

Hello Jill

I would like you to know that the radio plays have been so fun. I enjoy being able to be at home but still participate in the theater. It makes me feel like a part of the community. I enjoy working with all the different people from throughout our community.

Many of my friends and family will have listening parties. They are now asking me when is the next play. Many friends had never heard of Arsenic and Old Lace but so surprised when they listened to our play. Gives my family who have moved out of state the ability to feel like they can still be part of their home town.

These audio plays were God send during Covid and the isolation. They continue to bring our community together throughout the year.

Thank you for all that you do for our community

Wendy McCord



STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 30014
LANSING, MI 48909-7514
PHONE: (517) 373-1800
FAX: (517) 373-9981
E-MAIL: garyhowell@house.mi.gov

MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
REPRESENTATIVE GARY HOWELL
82ND DISTRICT
LAPEER COUNTY

COMMITTEES:
NATURAL RESOURCES, CHAIR
TRANSPORTATION AND
INFRASTRUCTURE
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
AGRICULTURE

John Bracey, Executive Director

March 7, 2018

Michigan Council for Art and Cultural Affairs

Michigan Economic Development Corporation

300 N. Washington Square

Lansing, MI 48913

Dear Mr. Bracey,

I am writing this letter in support of the Center for the Arts of Greater Lapeer (CAGL) in its quest to secure an Operational Support Grant for Fiscal Year 2019. The CAGL has played a major role in the redevelopment of Downtown Lapeer, and serves as a magnet for several events and diverse groups.

Classified as an underserved arts and cultural community by the National Endowment for the Arts, the efforts of the CAGL has afforded the city of Lapeer to have national award-winning performers at the historic PIX Theatre at reduced ticket rates, expanded educational offerings in art and theater, and the opportunity of offering scholarships to disadvantaged youth to participate in specific classes. Clearly, the CAGL has successfully worked hard at making the Greater Lapeer area a Center of Art and Culture.

Thank you for your consideration of my support for the Center for the Arts of Greater Lapeer. Please feel free to call me with any questions you may have.

Gary Howell

State Representative

82nd District – Lapeer County

517-373-1800



THE FORTIETH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OF MICHIGAN

NICK O. HOLOWKA
Circuit Judge

Lapeer County Complex Building
255 Clay St. • Lapeer, MI 48446
(810) 667-0320
FAX (810) 667-0340

April 10, 2017

JOHN BRACEY, Executive Director
Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs
Michigan Economic Development Corporation
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913

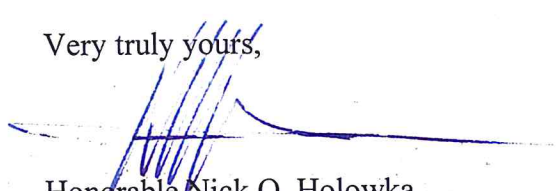
Dear Mr. Bracey,:

I was so glad to be contacted about the Center for the Arts of Greater Lapeer's grant with the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs. Having served on many local boards for various organizations, as well as being a citizen of Lapeer County for many years, I truly appreciate the value of the Arts.

Our Gallery 194 showcases many wonderful artists, as well as members of our community and our various schools. It is a valuable part of our educational system as well. The Pix Theater provides a wide array of entertainment otherwise unavailable to most of our children and citizens, at affordable prices. These are both necessary and cherished by our community.

I just wanted to take a moment to express my support for these wonderful institutions. If I can be of any further assistance, please feel free to contact me here at Circuit Court (810) 245-4816.

Very truly yours,


Honorable Nick O. Holowka
Chief Circuit Judge for Lapeer County



City Manager's Office
Phone: 810.664.5231
Fax: 810.664.2610

William J. Sprague
Mayor City of Lapeer
Lapeer Mi. 48446
Date: May 2, 2017

John Bracey, Executive Director
Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs
Michigan Economic Development Corporation
300 N Washington Square
Lansing, Mi. 48913

Mr. Bracey,

I am writing this letter in support of the Center for the Arts in Lapeer. The CFA is a vital part of our downtown redevelopment. The center serves as a magnet for many events and diverse groups.

The CFA has brought together the schools, Community Mental Health, seniors, services groups and the public in general. It has offered numerous program designed to educate, entertain, and even provide therapy.

We are extremely proud of the CFA and a cornerstone of the community. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William Sprague".

William Sprague
Mayor City of Lapeer

John Bracey, Executive Director
Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs
Michigan Economic Development Corporation
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913
26 March 2017

Kasey Deschler
3664 Reamer Road
Lapeer Michigan 48446

Dear Mr. Bracey-

I would like to support the Center for the Arts of Greater Lapeer in receiving a Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs Operational Support Grant. I am 14 years old, and the Center for the Arts has already influenced my life so much. Starting when I was young, I devoted a lot of my time to taking acting classes at the Pix. That was when my love of acting and arts was born. I continued those classes, and was in a couple of plays, like School House Rock! I still remember the practices, the dress rehearsals, and the final performance. My still best friend, Rachel, was in the play with me, and we really had gotten closer than we were before with the months of practicing. There is a tradition in which we go behind the stage where there is an old fashioned dresser. The oldest writes the name of the play and their name, and the others follow, until we all added our names to the sea of names and doodles on the old dresser, and the walls surrounding it. I went back there just a couple months ago after our performances of an acting class I was taking, and saw all the names still intact, and a wave of nostalgia passed over me. Those were some of the most fun times of my childhood, and I want other kids to do the same thing. Later, during presentations for school, it was always a breeze for me because I already had public speaking experience. There were also many talent shows that I participated in. Although I never

placed, it was still an amazing experience because nowhere else in Lapeer hosted these kind of things. This also gets incoming high schoolers ready for their school play. It can prepare them to beat out upperclassmen in main roles, and so they can get the roles that are more desirable. No one wants to be stuck playing the tree. But all jokes aside, The Center for the Arts is a really memorable place and holds a special place in my heart.

Thank you!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kasey Deschler". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kasey" and last name "Deschler" clearly legible.

Kasey Deschler



City Manager's Office
Phone: 810.664.5231
Fax: 810.664.2610

March 27, 2017

John Bracey, Executive Director
Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs
Michigan Economic Development Corporation
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, Michigan 48913

Dear Mr. Bracey:

This letter will confirm our support for the City of Lapeer's Center for the Arts application to the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs Operational Support Grant.

The City has encouraged our Art Center to continue to develop and enrich our community by offering group classes and may diverse events that will help the community have learning experiences based specifically in the arts and various cultural disciplines.

The City of Lapeer has appreciated the cooperative partnership we have had with the Center for the Arts and we look forward to working together, investing in this entity and developing a culturally arts based community.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dale Kerbyson", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Dale Kerbyson
City Manager

DK/tsr



April 10, 2017

John Bracey, Executive Director
Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs
Michigan Economic Development Corporation
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913

Dear Mr. Bracey,

I am writing to support the grant application of the Center for the Arts of Greater Lapeer. The Center for the Arts plays a critical role in our community through the Gallery 194 and the PIX Theater. Both of these contribute to the quality of life for the citizens of Lapeer County. The educational, cultural and entertainment programming provided through the Center of the Arts creates an environment that can help us continue economic development in Lapeer County.

Gallery 194 provides opportunities for local artists and students to come together to display their work. Citizens of all ages can take advantage of educational opportunities. The PIX Theater provides programming for school children, families and adults including drama, comedy, and music.

The MCACA grant is critical to the continued success of the Center for the Arts of Greater Lapeer. I urge your support of the MCACA grant. It will help create an environment that will attract growth and promote the arts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Patricia Lucas'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name 'Patricia' being more prominent than the last name 'Lucas'.

Patricia Lucas, CECD
Executive Director



John Bracey, Executive Director
Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs
Michigan Economic Development Corporation
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913

April 4, 2017

Dear Mr. Bracey,

The Lapeer Main Street Downtown Development Authority (DDA) would like to express our support for The Center for the Arts of Greater Lapeer, Inc.

The arts play an important role in the development of our downtown and The Center for the Arts is a cornerstone in that development. By being able to offer a variety of programming that appeal to all ages and interests the Center for the Arts is taking a leadership role in improving the livability and economic vitality of our community. Live performances by local and national acts alongside exhibits that feature student artists, state, and national artists engage the community and expose them to new cultural experiences that enhance our quality of life. In addition it great programing the Center for the Arts is able to offer a variety of classes in both the visual and performing arts. These programs serve to not only strengthen our downtown, but also the surrounding areas. It's a positive impact that reaches all of Lapeer County and beyond.

The Lapeer Main Street DDA is proud to be able to support the Center for the Arts of Greater Lapeer Inc. The arts play an important role in our community, enhancing our lives in many ways. We are fortunate to have a venue like the Center for the Arts in Lapeer that serves our downtown, city, and county.

Sincerely,

James Alt
Executive Director
Lapeer Main Street DDA

John Bracey, Executive Director
Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs
Michigan Economic Development Corporation
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913

March 27, 2017

Kara Deschler
3664 Reamer Road
Lapeer, MI 48446

Dear Mr. Bracey,

I am writing this letter in support of the Center for the Arts of Greater Lapeer. They would be an excellent candidate to receive the Operational Support Grant.

I have two high school children. They began going to the Pix Theater as preschoolers, as part of a school days program to see Strega Nona, put on by the Wild Swan Theater from Ann Arbor. I still remember this because they talked about it for days afterwards. Following that experience, we were regular visitors to the Family Fun Saturday series. This is a regular part of the Pix's offerings, with shows appropriate for young children including magicians, musicians, puppeteers and short plays. Because the Pix is local, we were able to attend more of the offerings than we might have if we had to travel to Ann Arbor or Detroit.

This early experience has built an appreciation for live theater and music. We enjoy going to shows and concerts as a family, and the Pix is where it all started.

My daughter has taken advantage of other opportunities, taking acting classes, participating in talent shows, and participating in plays. She has also volunteered at the Center for the Arts.

The Center is an important hub in our community. There are many ways it impacts people in our community, and we are fortunate to have it. I would certainly encourage you to support them as well. Thank you for your time.

Yours Sincerely,



Kara Deschler



MICHIGAN'S OLDEST COURTHOUSE

***Lapeer County
Administration Office***

255 Clay Street, Suite 301
Lapeer, Michigan 48446

phone 810 area code

667-0366

667-0369 FAX

April 17, 2017

Mr. John Bracey, Executive Director
Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs
Michigan Economic Development Corporation
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, Michigan 48913

RE: **Letter of Support for Grant Funding**

Dear Mr. Bracey:

It is my come to my attention that the Center for the Arts of Greater Lapeer will be submitting grant applications to provide important funding for the various programs and activities of the Center for the Arts.

I wish to express my full support in their efforts for new grant funding opportunities. The Center for the Arts provide both educational and entertainment programs that are very valuable to the citizens of Lapeer County, such as:

- **The PIX Theater** provides a variety of programming, including comedy, musical and dramatic presentations which appeal to all age groups and are well attended;
- **Gallery 194** offers exhibits, workshops, and events like "Art on Nepessing Street" focusing on the visual arts, as well as exhibit space for local artists; Various Live Entertainment; and last summer they hosted a Smithsonian exhibit entitled "Home Town Sports," which featured items from the Smithsonian along with local exhibits and stories that focused on the role and impact of sports on small communities.

I feel that the Center of the Arts for Greater Lapeer plays an important role in the growth and development of Lapeer County, which is why I highly support their endeavors to seek additional grant funding.

If you need any additional information, please feel free to contact me.

Respectfully,

John Biscoe
Lapeer County Controller/Administrator

JB/dsc

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing you today to express my support for the Center of the Arts here in down town Lapeer. The Center is such a vital part of the culture of our community and a sign of the progress the area has made in embracing the arts. The excitement and inspiration they instill in kids (and even some older folk!) is just awesome to see. The diversity of entertainment the Center brings to Lapeer is an integral part of the community and the down town's renaissance.

Please join myself and my business, Woodchips BBQ, in offering any support you can to this amazing organization.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Patrick Hingst', with a stylized, cursive script.

Patrick Hingst

Owner/Founder

Woodchips BBQ/M.C.'WICHES Sandwiches/PB&J Hospitality Consulting

248-496-0128

patrick@woodchipsbbq.com

March 28, 2017

John Bracey, Executive Director
Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs
Michigan Economic Development Corporation
300 N. Washington Square
Lansing, MI 48913

Dear Executive Director Bracey,

This letter is to request that you please continue to provide grant money to the Center for the Arts of Greater Lapeer. As a resident of Lapeer and President of the local Optimist International Chapter, I feel that the programs offered at the Center for the Arts are very valuable to the youth.

Our Optimist Chapter has provided many years of support for the youth programs offered at the Center. In order for the Center to maintain programs for **all** ages, the MCACA grant is critical. Programs offered provide cultural experiences for all ages.

Opportunities for cultural experiences are fairly limited in this area, but with continued programs offered by the Center for the Arts, people of all ages benefit. It is with your continued support that the Center for the Arts of Greater Lapeer will continue to thrive and provide opportunities for enrichment in the lives of many within our community.

Thank you,


Mike Colpetzer