



# BACKSTAGE AT THE

# Valentine Theatre

FALL 2022

## OUR MISSION

The Toledo Cultural Arts Center, a non profit organization, produces and provides cultural and performing arts experiences for diverse audiences of all ages, to enhance the quality of the cultural and economic life of the City of Toledo, Lucas County, Northwestern Ohio and Southeast Michigan.

## OUR HISTORY

The historic Valentine Theatre opened its doors on Christmas Day in 1895 and is currently a 901-seat facility operated by the Toledo Cultural Arts Center, Inc. Following a 21-year effort by the Board of Trustees and the community, the newly renovated theatre was reopened on October 9, 1999. Since then, more than a million people have attended international, national and regional presentations, weddings and events.

## CONTACT US

419-242-2787

ValentineTheatre.com

410 Adams Street  
Toledo, Ohio 43604



## Our 24th Anniversary Season

Welcome back to the Valentine! After the challenges and uncertainties of the past few years, we cannot tell you how thrilled and grateful we are to be presenting a new season of *live* programming. The Toledo Opera opened our season in August with the contemporary opera, *Blue*, and in September we kicked off our Pro-Medica Pick 4 Series with the cleverly entertaining *Spamilton*. From national tours of Broadway classics like Gilbert & Sullivan's *The Pirates of Penzance* to rich and diverse performances from our local arts partners, this season promises something for everyone. On the next page you will find a calendar of our entire presenting season including Broadway, Pick 4, Family, and Silver Screen Series. Please save the date for our Heart-to-Heart concert featuring 3-time Tony Award winner and Broadway legend, Patti LuPone! We look forward to seeing you in the theatre and enjoying another season of shared artistic journeys!



The Valentine's award-winning educational program, StoryTime, recently added several new episodes to its virtual library: *The Proudest Blue: A Story of Hijab and Family*; *Lunar New Year*; *Yo Soy Muslim*, and more. You can view our entire StoryTime library for free from our website — [valentinetheatre.com](http://valentinetheatre.com). More episodes are coming soon!



(l-r) Danielle Moseley, Steve Boyd, Matt Lentz, Tim Durham, Pro Jenny Coleman

## KeyBank PuttingProAm

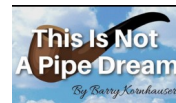
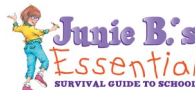


VT staff participated in the annual KeyBank Putting ProAm on August 30. Although there were no holes-in-one, the team represented us well!

♥ Go Team Valentine ♥



## SENSORY-FRIENDLY FAMILY SERIES



Our new Relaxed Weekend Family Series is for everyone! We have made accommodations for children or relatives diagnosed with Autism, Autism Spectrum Disorder or anyone with sensory-sensitivities. The season includes several favorites: *Junie B.'s Essential Survival Guide to School*, *This is Not a Pipe Dream — The Story of the Artist René Magritte*, *The Ugly Duckling*, and *The Magic School Bus*. During the performances, house lights will be at 50%, and "chill-out" zones will be available in our lobbies and the Founder's Room. Families are encouraged to bring their own motivational systems for their children, but the Box Office will also have a limited number of widgets and headphones for families to borrow. Our staff and volunteers recently underwent training in autism awareness, and the Valentine is now certified as an autism-friendly venue by the International Board of Credentialing and Continuing Education Standards (IBCCES). We believe that by making these small adjustments to our programming and providing more awareness to our staff, the Valentine will become a more welcoming and inclusive venue for all families in our region.

A round of applause for our generous sponsors!



# The Valentine Theatre's 2022-2023 Season

## Broadway Series

### Million Dollar Quartet Christmas

Tues, Nov 15, 7:30 pm

### R.E.S.P.E.C.T. The Aretha Franklin Story

Wed, Feb 22, 7:30 pm

### The Simon & Garfunkel Story

Sun, Mar 19, 7 pm

### The Pirates of Penzance

Mon, Apr 3, 7:30 pm

## Gretchen A. Zyndorf Family Series

♥ *Now Sensory-Friendly* ♥

### Junie B.'s Essential Guide to School Survival

Sun, Nov 6, 2 pm

### This is Not a Pipe Dream

Sat, Nov 19, 2 pm

### The Ugly Duckling

Sun, Jan 15, 2 pm

### The Magic School Bus

Sat, Feb 18, 2 pm

## PROMEDICA Pick 4 Series

### American Ballet Theatre Studio Company

Wed, Nov 2, 7:30 pm

### Jim Brickman: A Very Merry Christmas

Wed, Dec 14, 7:30 pm

### It's a Wonderful Life LIVE Radio Play

Thurs, Dec 15, 7:30 pm

### Scared Scriptless

Thurs, Jan 5, 7:30 pm

### All Things Equal

Mon, Mar 20, 7:30 pm

## THE BLADE Silver Screen Series

### Gone with the Wind — Fri, Nov 4, 7:30 pm

### It's a Wonderful Life

Fri, Dec 16, 7:30 pm & Sun, Dec 18, 2 pm

### HairSpray

Fri, Jan 6, 7:30 pm

### The Sound of Music

Fri, Feb 17, 7:30 pm

### Studio A—Glass City Improv

The Monthly —8:30 pm last Friday of the month

## ♥ *Heart-to-Heart Funding Concert* ♥

### Patti LuPone — Don't Monkey with Broadway

Saturday, March 4, Reception at 6:30 pm / Concert at 8:00 pm

**Tickets 419-242-2787 / valentinetheatre.com**

Year-End Gift

## Make a TAX-FREE Gift from your IRA

Giving Tuesday—Nov 29th

If you are age 70 ½ or older, you can make an annual tax-free gift to The Valentine Theatre from your Individual Retirement Account (IRA). The Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD), and the amount (up to \$100,000) count toward the Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) from your traditional or Roth IRA. Gifts must be completed before Dec. 31 to be eligible in the current tax year.

### Important points to consider:

- You must be at least 70½.
- The gift should come directly to The Valentine Theatre from your IRA account administrator, in the form of a check. Address: Valentine Theatre, 410 Adams Street, Toledo, OH 43604
- The gift may come from a Traditional or Roth IRA (special exclusions may apply to other types of IRA accounts).

- Although there is no tax deduction, there is NO income tax on the IRA withdrawal.

### What are the advantages?

- Benefit The Valentine Theatre in a meaningful way today.
- Meet your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD).
- Pay no income tax on the amount withdrawn for your gift.
- Give above your deductible charitable limit of 50 percent of adjusted gross income.

The Valentine's Tax ID number is 34-1385037. Accompanying paperwork should identify your name and address, and whether your gift is intended for a specific program or for general operations. For more information, please contact Development Coordinator, Kelby Sodeman at (419) 214-4803 or ksodeman@valentinetheatre.com.

## From the History Vault

### The Great Stage Actor Richard Mansfield Gets His Comeuppance at the Valentine

In 1936, the Toledo News Bee published a story which recounted how in the early days of the Valentine Theatre, the great actor Richard Mansfield (1857-1907) had a run-in with the Valentine's owner, George Ketcham. Apparently, Mr. Mansfield was known for being an extremely temperamental actor with a tremendous ego. He is depicted in the Valentine Theatre's mural as Cyrano de Bergerac, one of his most famous portrayals. On the night of the story, Mansfield threatened to end the show midway through his performance because he was so irritated by a stage hand whose new shoes squeaked every time he walked around backstage. After the curtain came down for Act 1, a peeved Mansfield stormed off to his dressing room. When it became clear that he wasn't going to return for Act 2, one of the Valentine staff went to the front office to let management know the situation.



Richard Mansfield



GEORGE H. KETCHAM,  
Capitalist and Owner of Valentine Block and Theatre, Toledo.

George H. Ketcham

That evening the house manager was George Ketcham himself. George was also known for his temper and for his passion for his theatre. When he realized that his theatre was threatened by Mansfield's truculence, he responded swiftly and decisively. Within seconds he was outside the actor's dressing room and not wasting any time with pleasantries or even bothering to knock, he kicked in the door and gave Mansfield an ultimatum. Holding his watch in the palm of his hand, Ketcham told him that he had three minutes to get back on stage. "You may be the greatest actor the world has ever known. You have got by throughout the United States with your temper and eccentricities, but... if you don't go back and ring up that curtain and finish this performance, I am going to give you the damndest physical overhauling you or any other actor ever got, and besides I will kick you off this stage and into the alley!" A chastened Mansfield returned to the stage and finished the show. George was sure that he had offended the actor beyond repair and that Toledo would never see Mansfield again, but to his surprise he came back to the Valentine the very next season and performed on her stage for many seasons after that.

"Richard Mansfield Met His Waterloo at Valentine Theatre," Toledo News Bee, Jan 27, 1936, p. 10

## New Faces at the Valentine

We are happy to welcome Adam Bergeron and Joe Gozdowski to our technical team. Adam comes to us from Las Vegas where he spent 15 years on the lighting team for the Blue Man Group. He and his wife, who is originally from Toledo, have a 5-year-old and recently moved back to the area to be near family. Joe is our new sound technician and a professional musician, having played in more than 200 shows, including several here at the Valentine. He is also adjunct professor of Sound & Recording Tech at Ohio Northern University. Former Assistant Tech Director Joshua Smith has taken a position at the Cleveland Playhouse, but he will continue to direct StoryTime episodes for us. Please extend a friendly hello to Adam and Joe when you see them!



Adam Bergeron




Joe Gozdowski

## Gretchen Ann Zyndorf Dedication

On August 24, the staff and board of the Valentine together with friends and family of Gretchen Ann Zyndorf gathered in the historic lobby to dedicate this beautiful plaque created by CommunicA in her honor. Gretchen was a beloved friend of the Valentine who volunteered her professional services for our galas. She was also a playwright who developed her creative writing skills later in life. Her play "Captain of the Crossing Guards," premiered at the Valentine in the summer of 2018. In recognition of her generosity, our educational programs have been renamed "The Gretchen A. Zyndorf Education Series." These include Valentine School Days and our Weekend Family Series. She is forever in our hearts and minds.



**Fun Fact** – Did you know that the famous English actor Basil Rathbone once performed on the Valentine Theatre stage? In 1913, at the age of 21, he played Fenton in Shakespeare's "The Merry Wives of Windsor" with the Stratford-upon-Avon Players. Rathbone appeared in more than 70 films during his long career and is perhaps best known for his portrayal of Sherlock Holmes.

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*Executive Director*

MATT LENTZ  
*Director of Marketing & PR*

TIM DURHAM  
*Technical Director*

ADAM BERGERON  
*Assistant Technical Director*

JOE GOZDOWSKI  
*Assistant Technical Director*

BILL COLTER  
*Facility Manager*

NANCY GOLDE  
*Special Events Director*

RUTH KILLE  
*Finance Manager*

AMY SPAULDING-HEURING  
*Box Office Manager*

Danielle Moseley  
*Manager, Support Services &  
Box Office Assistant Manager*

Matthew Leuck  
*House Director & Volunteer  
Corps Coordinator*

JOSHUA SMITH  
*StoryTime Director*

KELBY SODEMAN  
*DEVELOPMENT & VSD COORDINATOR*

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Toledo Cultural Arts Center  
The Valentine Theatre  
410 Adams Street  
Toledo, Ohio 43604

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HEART TO HEART CONCERT



**Patti LuPone in Concert**  
*Don't Monkey With Broadway*  
Saturday, March 4, 2023  
Appetizers 6:30 pm, Concert 8 pm

Spend an evening with a true Broadway legend! Three-time Tony Award winner Patti LuPone returns to The Valentine after 22 years with her acclaimed one-woman show. In *Don't Monkey with Broadway*, Ms. LuPone explores — through indelible interpretations of classic Broadway show tunes by Rogers & Hart, Jule Styne, Stephen Schwartz, Leonard Bernstein, Stephen Sondheim, Cole Porter, Irving Berlin, and more — how her life-long affair with Broadway began and her concern for what the Great White Way is becoming today. Tickets \$60—\$125. Call the Box Office (419) 242-2787 or online at [valentinetheatre.com](http://valentinetheatre.com) All proceeds help support the historic, not-for-profit Valentine Theatre.