# COLONIAL ARTS COLUMN

#### A MONTHLY EMAIL NEWSLETTER

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### FROM ALL OF US AT





THANK YOU FOR A WONDERFUL 2023 SEASON!









Wow, Buckhannon! What a great year of performing arts!

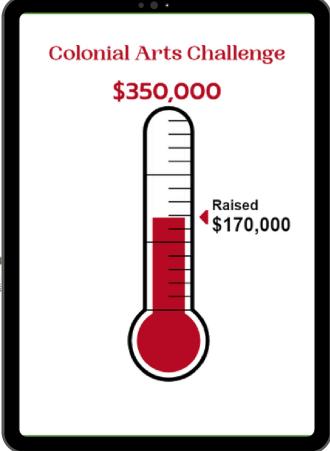
On behalf of <u>Buckhannon Community Theatre</u> and the CAC, we cannot thank you enough for the role you played in 2023--as an artist, an audience member, a contributor--we would not be celebrating such a successful year without you. Here's what it looks like in numbers:

2,995 people attended BCT shows this season. For the first time, multiple shows in 2023 were SOLD OUT!

Over 1,400 of those folks attended the <u>Wizard of Oz</u> alone!

We had fun laughing with over 400 of you in Sweet Gum, Texas during The Red Velvet Cake War!
Over 130 of you joined us for the very first dinner theatre experience in our Main Hall with Death By Dessert. We learned that these are the friends you want to have around when there's a case to solve. We must admit though, our favorite moments have come from the past two weekends, in which over ONE THOUSAND of you lovely folks supported our production of A Christmas Story.

We are exhausted, excited for the holidays, and ready to jump into 2024 and bring you brand new and returning arts experiences.



#### JANUARY 1, 2024, BEGINS ACT II OF THE COLONIAL ARTS CHALLENGE!

Help us with our goal to reach \$350,000 by year end 2024 as we celebrate the 100Th Anniversary of our historic building built in 1924!

Funds will be directed in primary areas:

- Programming that leverages our partnership with Upshur County Schools building on last year's successes
- Outfitting our Creative Suites with instruments, soundproofing, and other resources to present a broad array of arts instruction and to encourage local artists.
- Invest in technical upgrades for both theaters to provide professional tools for more creativity.
- Scholarships for camps, lessons, and more!



# WHAT HAS THE CAC BEEN UP TO?

For the remainder of December, we are taking a short break to recuperate and reset before we jump into everything that we have planned for you in 2024.

In the meantime, now is the perfect chance to secure a plaque on a brand-new seat in our Main Hall OR Balcony Theatre! A permanent plaque of recognition is the perfect gift for your loved one who has a huge passion for the creative arts. We will provide a special Holiday letterhead with your proof of plaque purchase for them to open during the holidays!

P.S. are you following us on Instagram and Facebook @colonialartscenter? Your follows help us reach more artists, so we humbly appreciate your support in every single way.

# JANUARY 2024 AT A GLANCE

We had another jam-packed year of creative arts programming in 2023! Even with renovations limiting us to a soft opening in late April, we have done so much and welcomed almost 3000 visitors into the CAC in just eight months' time.

With more and more creative minds coming together to join our team and promote the local arts scene of Buckhannon, most specifically for our growing student artists, we are so excited to present our very first camp experience!

8-12th grade students have the chance to participate in a five-day, after-school and weekend camp with local directing professionals from Vintage Theatre Company, Buckhannon Community Theatre, and more!

The Young Director's Camp runs January 17-21 and is coordinated by CAC Manager Anne Wilson with Camp Facilitator Sawyer Alderman. Anne & Sawyer have worked together to continue the Buckhannon Upshur Middle School's Theatre Club each semester, and this camp serves as an extra opportunity for more theatre work in between these after-school rehearsals.

Join the Colonial Arts Center this winter!

# Young Directors Camp



A 5-day immersive program for aspiring young directors in 8-12th grade.

Jan. 17-21, 2024

Learn from local directors and gain practical experience in directing!

Sign up now at colonialartscenter.org.