

### 2022/2023 ATC HIGHLIGHTS & IMPACT



### MISSION

We create world-class theatre about what it means to be alive today – inspiring curiosity and creativity, sparking empathy and joy – bringing all Arizonans together.

# VISION

To transform the lives of every Arizonan through the power of theatre.

### VALUES

Artistry Conversation Collaboration Equity Stewardship Sustainability JOY



# **Company Overview**

Arizona Theatre Company puts our artists and audiences at the heart of all we do. ATC's performances bring people together to experience essential stories – from reimagined classics to contemporary plays, original works to innovative musicals – all fostering continued conversation beyond the theatre walls.

Founded in 1966 and celebrating 55 seasons, ATC is led by Kasser Family Artistic Director Matt August and Executive Director Geri Wright. ATC operates in two major cities, unlike any other LORT theatre in the country, and is recognized as the official State theatre. Each year, tens of thousands of people experience exceptional professional theatre on ATC's home stages in Tucson and the Phoenix metropolitan area.

ATC shares the power of theatre through a variety of outreach programs, educational opportunities, access initiatives, and community events. Including its nationally recognized National Latine Playwrights Award, ATC focuses on training artists, audiences, and community members about the creative power of theatre, enriching the learning experience for current and future audiences.

# ATC - CELEBRATING A LONG LEGACY IN ARIZONA

For more than 50 years, excellence has been at the heart of the mission of Arizona Theatre Company. As a cornerstone of the cultural life of our state, ATC has achieved prominence through the dedication and imagination of hundreds of artists, craftspeople, and supporting audiences in both Tucson and Phoenix.



#### The 1960s The Beginning

Arizona Theatre Company was established as Arizona Civic Theatre in 1967 by Sandy Rosenthal and a group of civic and business leaders concerned about the demise of community theatre activity in Tucson.

The company's first season consisted of four productions presented in the ballroom of the Santa Rita Hotel. Total attendance for the season was 4,000, and the operating budget was \$8,000. The following year, the newly formed Arizona Commission on the Arts and Humanities awarded its first grant to the theatre.



**1966** In November, Sandy Rosenthal and a group of like-minded citizens appounce place front. will have a year-round season, with productions for children. It stages its first plays the following summer.

A grant from the Arizona Commission on the Arts helps 1967 launch the company. Generation, its first production, opens in the Santa Rita Hotel's basement in July. Founding Artistic Director Rosenthal directs.



#### The 1970s A Decade of Growth

In 1972, the company moved into the little theatre of the newly completed Tucson Community Center. The new facility contained a 526-seat semi-thrust theatre and offered rehearsal, costume, and scenic

construction shop space. Also in that season, the company received its first grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, which was designated to assist the company in hiring its first Equity actors under a Guest Artist Contract.

The company becomes fully professional, which ups the quality of everything from costumes to the actors. At the same time, Artistic Director Rosenthal responds to complaints that the company ignores local talent when it hires actors from out of town. It's a complaint that is still heard today. This is also the year that ACT moves into the Leo Rich Theatre at the Tucson Convention Center.

Vanities is the first show the company takes to Phoenix.



The company changes its name to Arizona Theatre Company. Health concerns force Sandy Rosenthal to step down, and Mark Lamos becomes artistic director for a short stint. He goes on to make a name for himself as a director on Broadway and around the country.



#### The 1980s A Decade of Change

ATC experienced continuing change and promise as Artistic Director Gary Gisselman led ATC with a full schedule of productions each season in both Phoenix and Tucson. The decade saw the opening of the new Herberger

Theater Center, a project in which ATC played an instrumental role.

Arizona Theatre Company is cited by President Reagan on 1983 behalf of the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities, commending the company on its unique two-city operation and designating it a national model. ATC presented its full six-play season in two different Phoenix facilities: Phoenix College Theatre and the Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts.

Groundbreaking ceremonies for the long-awaited Herberger 1986 Theater Center in Phoenix herald new growth potential for that city.



#### The 1990s **Promise for the Future**

As Arizona Theatre Company approached fiscal year 1990, it was faced with both change and potential. It began its Phoenix season by performing in the Herberger Theater Center and, as construction proceeded as anticipated

on Tucson's Temple of Music and Art, it began performances there in early fall. The exceptional show of support by the public during its emergency fundraising effort had increased both donor rolls and the subscriber base.

The 1990/1991 season opens with Amadeus in ATC's new Tucson home, the Temple of Music and Art. This is the first season the company announces it will produce one new play a year - a significant step for a theater company. First up is The Holy Terror by one of Britain's most revered playwrights, Simon Gray. Upping the prestige of this production: Gray is willing to travel to the desert to direct.

**1992** After guest-directing several times, David Ira Goldstein begins his 26-year tenure as ATC's artistic director. He will go on to produce or direct more than 200 plays - more than any other director in Arizona history.

**1995** ATC begins a long relationship with playwright Steven Dietz with the world premiers of him. Dracula.

ATC hosts The Royal National Theatre's production of Othello 1997 in Phoenix. The relationship forged with the London-based company leads to the National bringing Hamlet to ATC in 2001. That production stars Simon Russell Beale, one of England's bravest and greatest actors.



#### The 2000s **Turn of the Century**

As Arizona Theatre Company entered its 1999/2000 season, ATC had produced over 5,000 performances of nearly 200 plays including many Tony Award and Pulitzer Prize winners. As part of its ongoing mission to

serve as an educational resource for the community, ATC introduced over a quarter million young people to the magic of live professional theatre through its Student Matinee Program and established educational ties with the University of Arizona, Arizona State University, and Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, Texas. ATC instituted many new accessibility services including wheelchair access and seats, audio described performances, and American Sign Language interpreted performances for each production.



ATC's continuing commitment to staging newer works along with classics is clear with back-to-back productions: Shakespeare's As You Like It and the 1999 Tony winner Side Man by Warren Leight.

**2006** Sherlock Holmes: The Final Adventure opens. It is ATC's sixth world premiere of a Steven Diversity of the T world premiere of a Steven Dietz play. Those plays continue to be staged by theater companies around the country.



#### The 2010s **Celebrating 50 Years**

The decade kicked off with ATC co-producing the world-premiere of Khaled Hosseini's The Kite Runner, which went on to open on Broadway. With the retirements of longtime Artistic Director David Ira Goldstein and

Managing Director Jessica Andrews, new leadership worked to navigate the changes and redefine the half-century-old company's future.

Khaled Hosseini's The Kite Runner is co-produced as a world-premiere with San Jose Rep at ATC.

Despite good ticket sales, ATC has yet to fully recov-2016 er from the turmoil and deficit of a few years before. In late June, it announces it has two weeks to raise \$2 million or it will close. That period is extended two weeks. After furious fundraising efforts that involve board members, politicians, and donors in both Tucson and Phoenix, the money is raised. The 2016/2017 season, the company's 50th, will go on as planned.



#### The 2020s The Future is Now

With an active Board, and new leadership in place, excitement for the future was palpable. In early March of 2020, ATC began previewing a co-production with Milwaukee Repertory Theatre, The Legend of Georgia

McBride. With many events planned and strong ticket sales, the show opened on March 13, 2020, the same day that the theatre, along with the rest of the world, came to a halt due to the spread of a novel virus, COVID-19.



With a reduced staff, ATC produces a digital season full of play workshops and readings, educating audiences about the play-making process.

2021

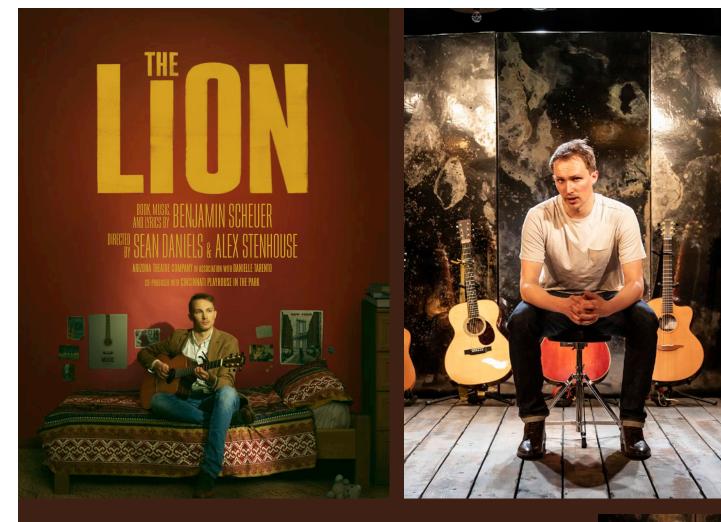
By Fall, ATC begins hiring back many of its staff that had to be let go during the pandemic and fills many new roles. Employees walk into a completely different organization; ATC is in its best position financially in well over a decade, the Board - led by Chair Char Augenstein - works tirelessly to support the company, and a new mission, vision, and values are implemented. ATC produces a full 2021/2022 mainstage season with health and safety protocols in place to keep artists, staff, and audiences safe.

2022

ATC reignites the annual Gala fundraising event with 380 people in attendance, raising over \$330,000. In July, ATC finishes its final performance of six productions for the first time in more than two years. Plans for the 55th season are underway.

ATC welcomes Kasser Family Artistic Director Matt August. 2023 August has directed two successful productions at Arizona Theatre Company, 2016's The Gospel According to Thomas Jefferson, Charles Dickens and Count Leo Tolstoy: Discord and 2017's King Charles III. ATC moves Phoenix metropolitan area performances to Tempe Center for the Arts beginning in October 2023.





"... this is an incredibly life-affirming theatrical experience. I suspect that, when word spreads, this will become a very hot ticket all over again. It certainly deserves to. Go. See. Feel, weep and wallow... it's a little masterpiece."

- WhatsOnStage









TUCSON 09/24/22 - 10/15/22 Temple of music and art

ATC.ORG / 833-ATC-SEAT

PHOENIX 10/20/22 - 11/06/22 Herberger theater center Tucson Production Sponsor Shirley Estes

Season Community Partner Banner Alzheimer's Institute

Season Sponsor I. Michael & Beth Kasser



*"The Wickhams* is entertaining, light holiday fare, and we could sure use some light these days."

– Arizona Daily Star





ТНЕАТКЕ

COMPANY









Season Community Partner Banner Alzheimer's Institute

Season Sponsor I. Michael & Beth Kasser

#### TUCSON 11/05/22 - 12/02/22 TEMPLE OF MUSIC AND ART

ATC.ORG / 833-ATC-SEAT

PHOENIX 12/08/22 - 12/23/22 Herberger theater center



"It takes an astute director and a solid acting ensemble to elicit our empathy. Tom Wingfield is not only Tennessee's stand-in; the entire cast is all of us."









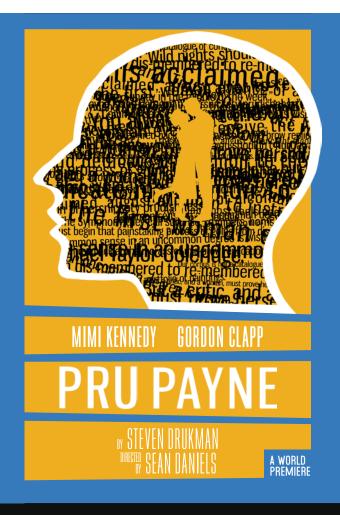
TUCSON 01/21/23 - 02/11/23 TEMPLE OF MUSIC AND ART

ATC.ORG / 833-ATC-SEAT

PHOENIX 02/16/23 - 03/05/23 Herberger theater center Corporate Production Sponsor (PHX) United Healthcare

Season Community Partner Banner Alzheimer's Institute

I. Michael & Beth Kasser





"All intellect and accomplishment ultimately evaporates anyway, Drukman seems to say, but the loving connections that form between people, however different they may be, never do."

- Phoenix Magazine









TUCSON 03/04/23 - 03/25/23 TEMPLE OF MUSIC AND ART

ATC.ORG / 833-ATC-SEAT

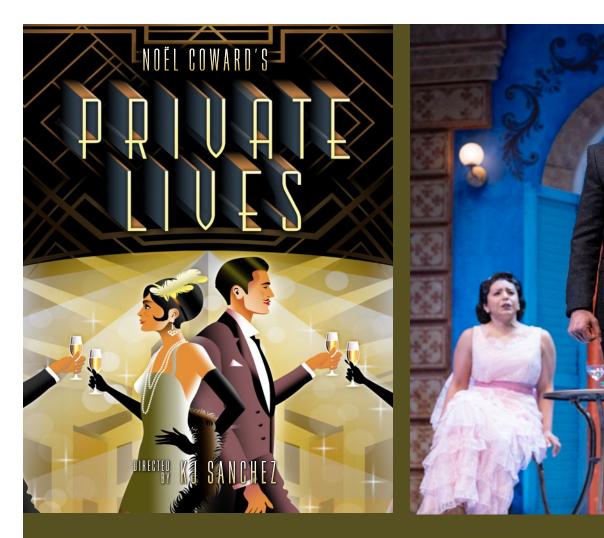
PHOENIX 03/30/23 - 04/16/23 Herberger theater center

DEMAN

Phoenix Individual Production Sponsor **The Flatt Family** Phoenix Corporate Production Sponsor **Lavidge** Phoenix Corporate Production Sponsor **SRP** Phoenix Corporate Sponsor **Blue Cross Blue Shield** Season Community Partner

Season Community Partner Banner Alzheimer's Institute

I. Michael & Beth Kasser



"Hugo E. Carbajal and Sarita Ocón are perfect as Elyot and Amanda, respectively. Volatile and on the brink of combusting at any moment, they create a believable, well-matched, and selfabsorbed couple with plenty of chemistry."

– Talkin' Broadway





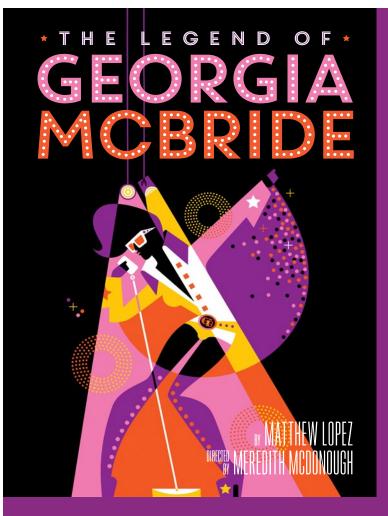




TUCSON 04/15/23 - 05/06/23 TEMPLE OF MUSIC AND ART

ATC.ORG / 833-ATC-SEAT

PHOENIX 05/11/23 - 05/28/23 Herberger theater center Tucson Corporate Production Sponsor **RBC Wealth Management** Phoenix Corporate Sponsor **Spencer Fane** Season Community Partner **Banner Alzheimer's Institute** Season Sponsor **I. Michael & Beth Kasser** 





"This is a simple fact of life: Where there are drag queens there is joy. And there is an abundance of joy on the Arizona Theatre Company stage."

- Arizona Daily Star







TUCSON 06/03/23 - 06/24/23 TEMPLE OF MUSIC AND ART

ATC.ORG / 833-ATC-SEAT

PHOENIX 06/29/23 - 07/16/23 Herberger theater center Phoenix Corporate Production Sponsor Lavidge Phoenix Production Sponsor The Richard P. Stahl Charitable Fund Phoenix Production Sponsor The Estate of Frank K. Davis Season Community Partner Banner Alzheimer's Institute Season Sponsor I. Michael & Beth Kasser



The workshop process invites actors, dramaturgs, composers, artistic teams, and other creatives to support and participate in a collaborative process to interrogate the text and provide insight. By adding in actors to read, sing, and sometimes dance, writers can hear and visualize what

works and does not work before heading back to their desks to create the next draft. The majority of plays take several years before a final draft is fit for a production. Most new musicals spend an average of six years in development before ever reaching their first full production with a live audience.

### THE SCARLET TATTOO

JULY 11-12, 2022 AT THE HERBERGER – KAX PLAYWRIGHT/DIRECTOR: STEVEN DRUKMAN

### TITANIC

JULY 18-22, 2022 AT TEMPLE OF MUSIC AND ART – REHEARSAL HALL BOOK: SCOTT ROTHMAN MUSIC: KELLEN BLAIR

# **ATC's National Latine Playwrights Award**



submissions in 2022



% of NLPA winners have gone on to productions across the United States and worldwide

Established in 1995, the Arizona Theatre Company's National Latine Playwrights Award (NLPA) is unique in its longevity and prescience. Under the leadership of ATC Playwright-in-Residence Elaine Romero, the award continues to create a greater awareness of under-represented Latine writers' stories. After over a quarter-century of recognizing many outstanding works by Latine playwrights who have achieved remarkable success throughout the country, the award will evolve into the Latine Playwrights Award and Festival. ATC will honor and present the finalists' works in workshops and a weekend of staged readings in 2023 in this new format.



Erlina Ortiz, the Dominican-American playwright, performer, and theatremaker behind *La Egoista*, was awarded the 2022 National Latine Playwrights Award. Elaine Romero, ATC's Playwright-in-Residence, praised the play for its ground-break-

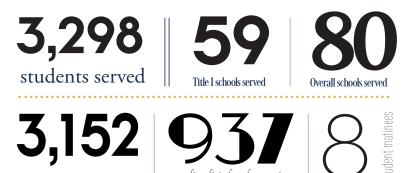
ing storytelling style and form, which impressed the initial readers and the distinguished panelists, who all fell in love with the play. La Egoista explores the story of Josefina, a rising stand-up comic who takes nothing seriously, and her very religious sister Betsaida, who is suddenly diagnosed with a chronic illness. This surreal play follows Josefina through her comedic sets as they unfold in conjunction with the deterioration of her sister's health. La Egoista uses comedy, puppets, magic, and memory to explore caregiving, how we process grief, and how to find a balance between the selfless and the selfish. The play made its world premiere at the well-known company Actor's Theatre of Louisville in February 2023 and made its West Coast premiere at Skylight Theatre in Los Angeles in March 2023.





# **Education/ATC Academy**

- Student Matinees (Live and Virtual) allow us to share the live theatre experience at low or no cost to young people throughout Arizona. The learning didn't stop when the curtain came down. A post-show discussion with members of the cast and ATC staff followed each Student Matinee performance.
- **Teacher Preview Night** is an opportunity for educators to preview a production before their school group attends the Student Matinee performance.
- Play Guides are informational packets teachers and students may reference before and/or after attending a play. These essential educational guides provide pre- and post-show discussion questions, a glossary of terms, historical context, and group activities for students to engage in while they are learning and experiencing the material on ATC's stages.



attending student matinees

attending digital student matinees

# **Community Engagement & Partnerships**

ATC proudly partners with community organizations, businesses, and nonprofits that align with our core values, mission, and specific works on our stages. ATC looks to develop these mutually beneficial partnerships that provide ample opportunities to promote, engage, and educate the stakeholders and supporters of each organization; increasing brand awareness, fostering conversations, and thoughtfully supporting the communities in which we work and live.



### Examples of partnerships include:

Community chamber memberships

**In-kind donations** 

Joint fundraisers

**Educational roundtables** 

Media and marketing trades

### **CURRENT & UPCOMING PARTNERSHIPS:**

Act One APS Arizona Broadway Theatre **Arizona Citizens** for the Arts Arizona Opera **Arizona Public Media Arizona State University ASU Gammage Banner Alzheimer's** Institute **Big Brothers Big Sisters Black Chamber** of Arizona **Bookmans Boys and Girls Club Broadway in Tucson City of Tempe** Cox **Desert Leaf Magazine** 

**Desert Voices Downtown Tempe** Authority **Equality Arizona Fox Theatre Tucson** GayTucson.com **Grand Canyon University Greater Phoenix Gay** & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce **Greater Oro Valley** Chamber of Commerce Green Valley/Sahuarita **Chamber of Commerce** IBT's **ION Arizona Magazine** Kobalt Lavidge Lead Guitar **Live Theatre Workshop Make Way for Books** 

Marana Chamber of Commerce Mesa Arts Center One N Ten **Phoenix Chamber** of Commerce **Phoenix Pride Phoenix Theatre** Company **Pima Community College RBC Wealth Management Reveille Men's Chorus Scottsdale Fashion** Square **Southern Arizona AIDS** Foundation (SAAF) SRP **Tempe Center** for the Arts

Tempe Chamber of Commerce Tempe Diablos

**Tempe Marketplace Tempe Tourism Office** The Richard P. Stahl **Charitable Fund The Roque Theatre** The University of Arizona **Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network Tucson Jazz Festival Tucson LGBT Chamber Tucson Metro Chamber** of Commerce **Tucson Young Professionals United Healthcare United Colours of** Arizona Theatre (UCAT) **University of Arizona** 

Valley Young Professionals Visit Phoenix

Visit Tucson

### ATC BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2022/2023

#### BOARD Officers

Char Augenstein, Chair Pat Engels, Chair Elect Kay Oliver, Secretary Adam Michael, Treasurer

#### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Beverly Arrington Matt August The Kasser Family Artistic Director Brian Boylan Phil Cowen Deanna Evenchik-Brav Joanie Flatt Mary Jo Ghory Nora Hannah Stephen Heitz Gary Jackson Patrick Jones Dr. Brian Jorgensen Michael O'Connor Adam James Michael Michael O'Connor Karen Peters Don Riegger Joan Sherwood Erica Stutman Karen Wohlgemuth Geri Wright Executive Director

#### **EMERITUS TRUSTEES**

Jessica L. Andrews Managing Director Emeritus Paul Baker Katie Dusenberry Lynne Wood Dusenberry Darryl Dobras Shirley Estes David Ira Goldstein Artistic Director Emeritus I. Michael Kasser Dr. John Schaefer F. William Sheppard

### ATC STAFF 2022/2023

Geri Wright Executive Director

#### ARTISTIC

ASSOCIATE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR Chanel Bragg

#### PRODUCTION

PRODUCTION MANAGER Becky Merold

ASSOCIATE PRODUCTION MANAGER Sheldon Lane

PRODUCTION OFFICE MANAGER Hannah Al-Baiaty

#### STAGE MANAGEMENT

STAGE MANAGERS Terence Orleans Alexander Emily Paige Ballou Mollie Heil Christine Lomaka Dom Ruggiero

#### ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER MyKel Marie Hall

STAGE MANAGER APPRENTICE Jess O'Connor

#### ADMINISTRATION

GENERAL MANAGER Julie Fancher

COMPANY MANAGER Cat Tries

ASSOCIATE COMPANY MANAGER / EDUCATION OUTREACH MJ Okawa

EVENT MANAGER Nick Cianciotto

#### DEVELOPMENT & MARKETING

CHIEF DEVELOPMENT AND MARKETING OFFICER Paula Taylor

DIRECTOR OF ANNUAL FUND AND STEWARDSHIP Carley Elizabeth Preston SCENERY TECHNICAL DIRECTORS Nils Emerson Arthur Potts CARPENTERS

John Crain Cory Walters PAINTS

CHARGE SCENIC ARTIST Charlotte Alcorn

ASSISTANT CHARGE SCENIC ARTIST Sammantha Nickel

antha Nickel

**DRAPER** Phyllis Davies

PROPERTIES

Sara Pugh

PROPS SUPERVISOR

**COSTUMES & WARDROBE** 

**RESIDENT COSTUME DESIGNER /** 

**COSTUME DESIGN ASSISTANT** 

COSTUME SHOP ASSISTANT

COSTUME DIRECTOR

PROPS ARTISAN

Shadow Gilmore

Sandahl Tremel

Kish Finnegan

Caitlin Fanning

ARTISTIC PRODUCER

Kristi Hess

WIG & MAKEUP SUPERVISOR Maggie Clark Matt August Kasser Family Artistic Director

> PLAYWRIGHT-IN-RESIDENCE Elaine Romero

PHOENIX LEAD DRESSER Afton Hensley

LIGHTING AND PROJECTIONS

LIGHTING & PROJECTIONS SUPERVISOR Tim Smith

LEAD ELECTRICIAN Brittany Tennis

STAFF ELECTRICIAN Allison Gammons

#### SOUND

SOUND SUPERVISOR Mathew DeVore

PRODUCTION SOUND ENGINEER Brianna Moore

PATRON SERVICES MANAGER

**Richard Ragsdale** 

ASSISTANT BOX

Keith LaSpaluto

Katelin Andrews

Sarah Smilev

Wendy Sander

Sophia Nagore

**Bill Bethel** 

HOUSE MANAGER

Carrie Luker

**OFFICE MANAGERS** 

**BOX OFFICE AGENTS** 

#### STAGE CREW

CREW LEAD TUCSON Emma Prange CREW LEAD PHOENIX

CREW LEAD PHOENI Tanner Gurule

FACILITIES

FACILITIES MANAGER Horace Ashley

MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR Dean Morgan

MAINTENANCE TECHNICIANS Jesus Francies Derrick Herrera

GRANTS MANAGER Gretchen Pace

SENIOR MARKETING MANAGER Bitty Rosenberg

CREATIVE AND BRAND MANAGER Richard Giuliani

MARKETING OUTREACH COORDINATOR Ethan Hoover

DIGITAL MARKETING COORDINATOR Marina Nelson Nicholas Kuhn FINANCE

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER Mark Kochman

SENIOR ACCOUNTANT Nancy Kilmer

ACCOUNTING COORDINATOR Patricia Walter

BOX OFFICE & HOUSE MANAGEMENT

DIRECTOR OF PATRON SERVICES Juliet Martin

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF PATRON SERVICES Linda Schwartz

# **Our Presence in the Community**

ATC strives to do all we can to connect to our local communities and showcase the best that Arizona has to offer. Find us at various events, join us for one of our Community Nights or Pride Nights, and catch a post-show discussion! We put our artists and audiences at the heart of all we do and encourage conversation beyond the theatre walls. Join us!

#### **Community Night**

We know there are many individuals in our community who cannot afford a full-price ticket, so we extend this offer as a way to make our season accessible to everyone.

#### **Pride Night**

ATC has long been committed to inclusivity both on stage and within the organization. Everyone has a place at our theatre, and we are proud to celebrate our wonderfully diverse community.

#### **Community Donations**

ATC has been a pillar in Arizona for over 55 years and is honored to be part of community fundraising events in Tucson and Phoenix.

### Find us in Tempe ...



**Downtown Tempe Authority** Including 2<sup>nd</sup> Sundays on Mill and Halloween Stroll

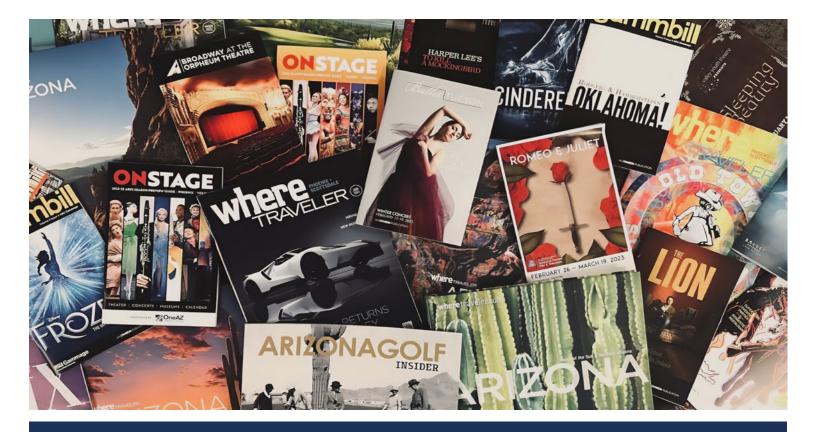


**Tempe Marketplace** Including Holiday Tree Lighting Performance



**Phoenix Pride** 





ARIZONA PBS Arizona republic COX Frontdoors ION MAGAZINE KJZZ

ON MEDIA Phoenix magazine





# DIGITAL OUTDOOR





### ATC will have a major presence along 101, 202 and I-10 freeways and Tempe Center

for the Arts, plus Arcadia and Uptown (near Central & Camelback).

*Barefoot in the Park* – 3 weeks *Scrooge* – 4 weeks *Master Class* – 3 weeks

### ARIZONA THEATRE COMPANY





















# TUCSON

MAILING ADDRESS P.O. BOX 1631, TUCSON, AZ 85702-1631

PERFORMANCE VENUE TEMPLE OF MUSIC AND ART 330 S. SCOTT AVENUE

833-ATC-SEAT



# **PHOENIX / TEMPE**

MAILING ADDRESS P.O. BOX 619, PHOENIX, AZ 85001-0619

PERFORMANCE VENUE 22/23 HERBERGER THEATER CENTER 222 E. MONROE STREET

PERFORMANCE VENUE 23/24 TEMPE CENTER FOR THE ARTS 700 W. RIO SALADO PKWY

833-ATC-SEAT