



FRIENDS OF THE FOX WINTER NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2022



Happy New Year! As we begin 2022, we are excited for a year filled with great performances, fun membership events, as well as supporting the preservation of historic theatres across Georgia and beyond. Coming out of a 17-month closure in July 2021, we are thrilled to continue seeing strong numbers for membership retention. Thanks to your generosity, our success here at 660 Peachtree Street and beyond is progressing. In this Winter Newsletter we are highlighting a tremendous FTI partner, our ongoing virtual education program, and a fabulous theatre in the making on the Westside of Atlanta. We have big goals for this year and for the years to follow. One of our most ambitious goals will be to offer the Fox in a Box program virtually as part of K-5 school children's education in all of Georgia's 159 counties. We hope to reach this goal by the beginning of the 2023/2024 academic school year.

We enjoyed seeing many of you in person in 2021 at a performance or at one of our membership events. We hope that you will take every opportunity to join us here at the Fox Theatre in 2022. Now, in our 92nd year, we remain grateful that our story still evolves here in Midtown Atlanta!

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

2022

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Leadership & Partnership, Heather Stanley



FTI would like to kick off 2022 by highlighting the hard work of Heather Stanley, Managing Director of the Rylander Theatre in Americus. In addition to her role with the Rylander Theatre, Heather is also the President of Georgia Presenters. The Rylander Theatre has been an active member of Georgia Presenters since 2012 and in 2015, Heather became our second Georgia Presenters President. Heather is a tremendous leader, ambassador, and faithful arts advocate for the theatre network administered by FTI.

Heather's lifelong passion for performing arts began at an early age, including performing in many productions during high school. She received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Theatre, Technical Theatre/Theatre Design and Technology from Valdosta State University. Not long after completing her academic training, she joined the Rylander Theatre where she fulfills many roles. One of her most important is working with various agents and she also supports our other members in mentoring them with this and so many other aspects of operations. As the group's President, Heather volunteers her time and expertise throughout the year and always with a smile.

Heather is an invaluable asset to Georgia Presenters, to FTI, and she tirelessly promotes performing arts throughout the state of Georgia. We appreciate her and all she does for our programs. We hope that if you are not aware of the important work of Georgia Presenters, you will visit www.foxtheatre.org/georgia-presenters to learn more. If you are in Heather's part of the world in southwest Georgia, plan a visit to the Rylander Theatre. A note of trivia – the Rylander has a Möller organ known as the “mini-Mo.” Thank you, Heather, for all you do!



VIRTUAL FOX IN A BOX HIGHLIGHTS

While it is a new calendar year, we are halfway through the academic school year and FTI is excited to share some wonderful news about Fox in a Box! Since September 2021, 4,200 K-5th grade students and over 400 educators have participated in the virtual version of the program. Also, over 5,300 participants have committed to experience Fox in a Box virtually through the remainder of the academic school year. With the virtual version, FTI now serves groups beyond metro-Atlanta and since launching in January 2021, Fox in a Box has been presented in 14 counties across Georgia with four more counties scheduled for visits this spring. There is still time to sign up for a virtual Fox in a Box visit! This free program is available to Georgia's elementary schools, homeschool groups, and other learning pods to learn more about the Fox's 92-year history and how it aligns with classroom lessons.

To learn more, refer a school group, or sign up, please visit <https://www.foxtheatre.org/fox-in-a-box> or contact Maggie Fuller at Maggie.Fuller@foxtheatre.org or by calling 404.881.2023.

In addition to the classroom version, please remember that FTI has relaunched the tour of a pop-up Fox in a Box exhibit in partnership with the Georgia Public Library Service (GPLS). Paused during the pandemic, this tour resumed in October 2021 with the exhibit being hosted at the Three Rivers Regional Library System in Wayne County. We are extremely grateful for this outreach opportunity and especially to Dustin Landrum, Director of Strategic Partnerships at GPLS.



Grove Park Community Theatre & Grove Theatre

Since 2017, FTI staff have been providing technical assistance in Westside Atlanta to the Grove Park Community Foundation. Our support has been specifically directed toward the successful rehabilitation of the historic Grove Theatre. In addition to technical assistance, FTI has awarded more than \$150,000 in grant funding to repair the failing roof, create necessary planning documents, and finally for architectural drawings toward the ongoing rehabilitation. FTI looks forward to an official opening of the Grove Theatre in 2023 as a newly opened community landmark in the Grove Park neighborhood.

The Grove Park neighborhood is in northwest Atlanta, in close proximity to the newly opened, 280-acre Westside Park. The neighborhood not only has this anchor historic theatre, but also the new KIPP Woodson Park Academy, the Grove Park YMCA, and coming soon Columbia Canopy, a senior housing apartment complex walking distance to the theatre. We know that the Grove Theatre, will have the opportunity to host numerous public events, as well as have an anchor tenant. We are excited about the ongoing success of not just the theatre, but this dynamic community.

GROVE PARK FOUNDATION



Neighborhood Opportunities **FOR** Wealth

To learn more about the Grove Park Community Foundation and the Grove Theatre please visit <https://groveparkfoundation.org/>.

