A century marker is an opportune time to reflect on what has come before, and what lies ahead.

When Sylvester Z. Poli opened this theater in 1922, Vaudeville was still hugely popular, the film industry was developing rapidly, the Roaring Twenties and Jazz Age made it an exciting time for the arts and for live entertainment. The opening came on the heels of the Spanish Flu pandemic of 1918, a historical parallel we can all relate to in 2022. Then, as now, people looked to the arts as a way of escaping and learning, and the Waterbury community wholeheartedly embraced their new Palace. Over the years, the “talkies” replaced silent movies, while musicals and rock ‘n’ roll took Vaudeville’s place. But audiences continued to come to the Palace to see the newest bands, shows, and films.

This year, we saw the Palace Theater spring back to life once again in time for our 2021–2022 season. Patrons gladly took their seats as artists returned to the stage, feeling increasingly comfortable with public gatherings as the year progressed.

The pandemic still looms over most sectors of the economy, but we have done our part to mitigate its risks and costs. Last year, as Broadway tours prepared for their post-shutdown launches, testing and masking protocols became necessary to keep cast and crew members safe and able to perform. The Palace rose to the occasion: with over a thousand COVID-19 test kits purchased and a dedicated group of volunteers trained in their use, we set up a testing system that became the model for many national tours and shows to follow.

As we look to the future, we reiterate our commitment to serving the community through arts programming, educational initiatives, and community partnerships. We strive to provide the best customer service for our guests, which includes keeping our technology, communications systems and services relevant and up to date.

The Palace has stood strong for 100 years because of the Greater Waterbury community and the people who have supported the theater, championing it in good and hard times. The Palace is a tribute to both Poli’s vision and the spirit of the community. On behalf of the Board of Directors and staff, we thank you, our patrons and supporters, for keeping us moving forward over the years.

Sincerely,

Peter J. Jacoby, MD, FACEP
Chairman of the Board

Frank Tavera
CEO
CELEBRATING OUR PAST

Our 100th Anniversary Year provided many opportunities to tell the Palace’s story. **Throughout the year, we held events and celebrations designed to underscore the theater’s rich history and role in the Greater Waterbury community.**

Kicking off our season with an evening of conversation, nostalgia, and music, **Concert Legends with Mike Lapitino & Jim Koplik** highlighted the theater’s time as a sought-after rock concert tour stop (right). This event coincided with the opening of our popular rock history exhibit.

We held two unique film events to celebrate the Palace’s legacy as a movie theater. In March, we offered a free screening of **Mister Wonderland**, a documentary chronicling Sylvester Poli’s journey from Italian artisan to renowned theater impresario in the United States (below).

Continuing our partnership with the Waterbury Symphony Orchestra, we welcomed patrons to a showing of **The Wizard of Oz**, with live orchestration by the WSO in April. One of the afternoon’s highlights was the performance of “Somewhere Over the Rainbow” by young musicians from Bravo Waterbury!
CELEBRATING OUR FUTURE

Arts education has been shown time and again to be beneficial to people of all ages, and especially for young learners who may not otherwise have access to the arts. Introducing students to the arts opens a pathway to new discoveries and passions, which often translates to becoming future patrons or artists.

During the pandemic, we adapted our annual after-school arts program to a hybrid format in order to run it without interruption. This year, we were delighted to welcome back our middle and high school students with a fully in-person program once again! Using the musical Anastasia’s themes of self-discovery and identity as a starting point, the program empowered students to examine their own sense of self and personal history, as well as looking at the role that music plays in memory and connection with community.

Furthering connections between students and performers, our partnership with the Waterbury Arts Magnet School (WAMS) allowed us to bring masterclasses with the Yale Whiffenpoofs (below left) and the Russian Ballet Theatre to WAMS students, while students from several local schools were chosen to perform with Pilobolus on our stage (below right).

Education doesn’t end after school, and we continue to offer a variety of thought-provoking programming for all ages. History tours and classes continued to engage patrons from across the region. The 2ND ACT Speaker Series gathered people and encouraged conversation. New this year was a Table Reading Series, featuring presentations of new plays in development, with the unique opportunity for audience members to ask questions and give feedback to the playwrights (top right).
STAGE-RELATED PERFORMANCES
68

NON STAGE-RELATED SPECIAL EVENTS
52

TECHNICAL DAYS
60

WATERBURY ARTS MAGNET SCHOOL DAYS
47

PATRONS
61,023

CT TOWNS SERVED
143 out of 169

FINANCIAL POSITION

Income Breakdown (inclusive of COVID relief)

Contributed Income Breakdown (exclusive of COVID relief)

Expense Breakdown

Board Advised Fund
Contributions / Earnings $3,124,313.53
In January, the Palace launched its newly redesigned website in partnership with WORX. Featuring high quality photographs and videos, history timeline, interactive seating chart, and updated FAQ section, the new website provides more expedient access to information on shows, programs and events, as well as direct links to purchase tickets or make donations.

The marketing team continued to build brand awareness across all our social media channels with themed video content, engaging posts, and behind-the-scenes photographs.

Right: Two young patrons eagerly await the screening of The Wizard of Oz with Waterbury Symphony Orchestra.
CORPORATE SPONSORS

With the support of our Corporate Sponsors, we continue to build future financial security for our beautiful and historic theater, while expanding our outreach and mission. We thank the following organizations for aligning with us to enhance our arts programming, educational offerings and community partnerships.

Palace Block Party sponsors Al Vagnini & Liz LaCava of Powerstation Events enjoy the party.

Ion Bank guests gather during the Stages Wine Dinner.

Photo Credit: Felix Manuel Photography
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WNPR Connecticut Public Radio
WORX
WSHU Public Radio
WTNH—News Channel 8

The cast of Anastasia takes a bow on opening night. Photo Credit: Jeremy Daniel.
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Above: Brandon & Teresa Dufour dress to impress at Martinis & Mistletoe.
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A Sweet Sixteen photoshoot captures a dazzling moment! Photo Credit: Atiana’s Boutique
Cheri & Ted Barrett, Audra Petrucelli, and Doug & Megan Johnson catch up outside during the Palace Block Party.
Above: The stage was beautifully set for our 100 Year Anniversary Stages Wine Dinner.

Below: The Wine Dinner chefs pose for a picture between courses. Photo Credit: Erin Dubuque

Wine Dinner attendees received a bottle of Palace private label wine. Photo Credit: Felix Manuel Photography
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A bride and groom share a kiss in one of the theater’s boxes.
Photo Credit: Esteban Gil
Students from the Waterbury Symphony Orchestra’s Bravo Waterbury! program sing “Somewhere Over the Rainbow” before The Wizard of Oz.

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<thead>
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<th>Margherita Luzzi</th>
<th>Donna Membrino</th>
<th>Kathy Noonan</th>
<th>Tom Pinto, Jr.</th>
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<td>Ann &amp; Earl Rompre</td>
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<td>Rebecca Parker</td>
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<td>Michele Newton</td>
<td>Richard Perrotti</td>
<td>Lori Richnavsky</td>
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<td>Marilee Perugini</td>
<td>Cheryl Riddick</td>
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<td>Connie &amp; Bernie Nolan</td>
<td>George Pettinico</td>
<td>Mary &amp; Ty Rimcoski</td>
<td>Tamar Saunders</td>
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WORKPLACE GIVING

Matching Gifts: Many employers sponsor matching gift programs and will financially match eligible charitable contributions made by their employees, potentially doubling or tripling each gift.

Workplace Giving: Some companies allow for employee contributions to be made through payroll deductions.

The following businesses supported the Palace through these programs this past year:

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<th>New York Life</th>
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<td>IBM</td>
<td>Savings Bank of Danbury</td>
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Arlene Savago
Kurt Schaller
Lee Schlesinger
John Schwaikert
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Sciarretto
Christine Sellas
Angelica Sepples
Janice Shambor
Amy Shannon
Patrick Shaw
Dawn Sherman
Glenn Siglinger
Mr. & Mrs. Vincent Simons
Lori Siowik
Jerry Soltis
Stephen R. Sorrell
Alan Southard
Greg Sparso
Laura Sparso
Janice Stancio
Steve Stanton
Pat Stepka
Linda Stevens
Helen St. Germain
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Stolfi
Valerie Stolfi
Chelsea Sullivan
Robert Sutay
Timothy Suydam
Denise Swan
Mrs. Lori Sweeney-Shahen
Theresa Tate
Jeff Taylor
Christopher Tebeau
Joan Templeton
Mr. & Mrs. Nick Tetreault
Joseph Theroux
Stephanie Thibault
Tim Thompson
Elizabeth Tilly
Daniel Toner
Donna Torre
Larry Trachtenberg
Gabrielle Trombley
Rosanne Tullock

Candice Turner
Laura Tutoli
Jane & Richard Ullrich
Cynthia Urso
Abigail Vacca
Fran Vacca
Kim Valentine
Jason Van Stone
Michael Verret, Sr.
Virginia Vezina
Susan Virgilio
Pauline Vitarelli
Janet Vonkannewurff
Chester D. Walker
Tami Walker
Thor Leonard J. Walker
Jennifer Wall
Mary & Patrick Walsh
Uwe Wanner
Debbie Wasikowski
Mike Wayne
Michael Weglinski
Kelly Weldon
Linda Welles
Laurie Went
Lauren White
Andy Whitfield
Lisa Willadsen
Carolyn Wisler
Richard Wither
Neter Witherspoon
Torrey Woodberry
Atty. & Mrs. Joe Yamin
Fallon Yulfo
John Yurchyk
Jennifer Zaccagnini
Lawrence Zankel
Alyssa Zito
John Yurchyk
Jennifer Zaccagnini
Lawrence Zankel
Alyssa Zito

Heather Morgado and Kathy Kornhass stop for a photo at the Palace Block Party.
GRAND SOCIETY OF GIVING

Shae & Marissa Apland
Timothy & Kirsten Bergstrom
Charles & Elizabeth Boulier III
Josh Broder — Centurion Wealth Management
Nancy G. Calabrese
The Carpinella Family
Mary & Steven Chiappalone
The Ciampi Family
Michael & Dianne Cicchetti
Dr. & Mrs. John K. Conant, Jr.
Jerry & Rita D’Amico
Joyce S. & the late John A. DeCesare
Tom DeLeon — Lee Lynd Mfg. Co. Inc.
Brian J. DiVito
John & Lindsey Donato

Oguz Erkan & Donnalee Robinson
Vincent & Heather Farisello
David & Brenda Ferraro
Dr. James & the late Mrs. Gloria Ferraro
The Flowers Family
Judy Godburn
Joe & Debra Gugliotti
Jack & Jennifer Hogan
David Ioiime
Peter & Kristen Jacoby
Lillian E. Kandell
Dr. Michael & Sally Karnasiewicz
John & Natalie Lawlor
Peggy & Jim Lawlor
Ms. Patricia Lindenman
Mr. & Mrs. John Loyer
Michael & Rebecca Lucht
Marcelo Martins — Luso Cleaning Service, L.L.C.
Mattatuck Industrial Scrap Metal
The Monteiro Family
Martin & Heather Morgado
Timothy C. Moynahan
John & Robin Novak
David & Nancy Nurnberger
Thomas G. Parisot
Paul & Kim Pernerewski
Donald & Lynnette Piombo
Attorney Julie M. Porzio & Mr. Joseph J. Santopietro
Sheila M. Powers
John & Terry Reihl
Rev. Robert & Mrs. Nancy Rhodes

Carl & Sandra Rosa
Timothy W. & Mary Ellen Rourke
Kathrine E. Rutledge
Daniel J. Ryan
Marilyn & Domenic Santucci
Chuck Senich & Christine Sullivan
Jack Senich & Sandra Vigliotti Senich
Danielle & Corey Shaker
Jim & Cathy Smith
Karen Streeter

Susan Suhr & Marina Viale
Ric & Lisa Suzio
Joseph & Lauri Sylvestro
Frank & Deidre Tavera
In Memory of Donald P. Tortora — Nancy Tortora
Ray & Maggie Tremaglio
Patricia A. Varanelli
The Family of Ronald & Marie Vitarelli
Ron & Pam Webb

CLICK TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE GRAND SOCIETY OF GIVING
The Marquee Society of Women brings together women who support the Palace Theater, its arts education and programmatic offerings (above).

Right: Marquee Society members Laurie Porzio, Mary Rosengrant Chiappalone, and Lynnette Letsky Piombo celebrate the season at Martinis & Mistletoe.

Photo Credit: Felix Manuel Photography
TRIBUTE GIFTS

In memory of Catherine Symons
  Catherine Antonelli

In memory of Caesar Caldarone
  Theresa Caldarone

In memory of Dorothy Cameron
  Donna Cameron

In memory of Thesea Cangelosi
  Frank Cangelosi & Lisa Cesare

In memory of Gordon & Elizabeth Mannweiler
  Julie & Ted Crawford

In memory of Roger Fortin
  Beverly Fortin

In support of Dr. Peter Jacoby’s dedication to preserving & promoting the Palace
  Jane Whitney Gruson

In memory of Anne G. Maggipinto
  Selim & Linda Noujaim

In memory of James G. Pierpont Jr. (Jimmer)
  Jude Pierpont

In memory of Anne G. Maggipinto
  Diane Ploch

In memory of Nancy L. Sarlo
  John A. Sarlo

In honor of Suzy Ponton Pike
  Jeaninne Schetzen

In memory of Louis Belloisy
  Karen Streeter

In memory of Donald P. Tortora
  Nancy Tortora

In honor of my husband Lorenzo Vigliotti
  Maria Vigliotti

In honor of Ariana Themeli
  Webster Bank

A Tribute Gift is a donation in memory of a loved one or in honor of someone special. It is a meaningful way to show your appreciation for a friend or family member, while also honoring their love of the arts.

CLICK TO LEARN MORE ABOUT TRIBUTE GIFTS
Attendees cheer for Latanya Farrell and her band during the Palace Block Party.
Board of Directors
Dr. Peter Jacoby, Chairman
Paul Pernerevski, Vice Chairman
Jack Senich, Secretary
Martin G. Morgado, Treasurer
Craig Porter, Marketing Committee Chair
Mary Rosengrant Chiappalone, Development Committee Chair
Shae Apland
Mary Grace Cavallo
Vincent Farisello
David Ferraro
Atty. Joseph Foti
John Hopkins
Douglas Johnson
Dr. Scott Kurtzman
Peggy Lawlor
Dave Martin
James Murphy
Michael L. O’Connor, Esq.
Lynnette Letsky Piombo
Felix Rodriguez
Dr. Verna Ruffin
Fernando Spagnolo
Jason Van Stone

Administrative Staff
Ana Dec, Programs & Ticketing Officer
David Flowers, Chief Production Officer
Debbie Forchielli, Volunteer Coordinator
Denise Hinkelman, Box Office & Administrative Assistant
Brian Kimmey, Digital & Design Manager
Natalie Lawlor, Development Officer
Meg Luddy, Operational Events Manager
Andrea Madrid, Digital Marketing Associate
Sheree Marcucci, Director of Special Projects & Curated Programs
Michael Migaldi, Bar Manager
Andrea Nyquist, Marketing, Sales & Public Relations Officer
Deirdre Patterson, Box Office Manager
Audra Petrucelli, Director of Hospitality & Special Events
Sandra Rosa, Finance Officer
Joanne Sivilla, Finance Associate
Doug Smith, Director of Facilities
Lisa Suzio, Development Associate
Peggy Terhune, Communications Manager

Technical Staff
Dave Barata, Head Sound Engineer
Andrew Bynum, Head Electrician
Gardner Friscia, Head Carpenter
Karim Lopez, Wardrobe Mistress
Dawn Makay, Head Props
Ken Owens, Head Flyperson
Jack Ferreira, Production Assistant

Members of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees Local #74

Box Office Staff
Emily Collins
Tanina-Marie LoRosa
Ashley Sweet
Wanda White

Bar Staff
Lisa Argraves
Lisa Conner
Rena Gugliotti
Danielle Hayden
Katherine Layman
Lisa Lepri
Angela Mcllhoney
Ann McKinney
Anthony Muchiri
Krysta Oberg
Christopher Primini
Cody Rogers
Kyle Rogers
Kara Steinfield

Concessions Staff
Marianne Byrne
Matthew Keating
Michael Keating
Erika Kenyon
Josephine Keras
Jillian Noack
Jennifer Rosa
Sydney Rybczyn
Cameron Sivilla
Tyler Smith
Keegan Soulliere
Emma Tava
Audrey Terhune
Isabelle Terhune
Nancy Tortora

Special Events Staff
Robyn Colossa
Marilyn Failla
Susan Gordon
Katie Haas

Board of Advisors
Carolyn F. Cicchetti
Timothy C. Moynahan
James C. Smith
Sandra Vigliotti Senich

Chief Executive Officer
Frank Tavera

Right: Nancy Tortora receives the Volunteer of the Year Award from Operational Events Manager, Meg Luddy.

Front of House Staff

HOUSE MANAGERS
Nancy DiLorenzo
Bruce Hirsch*
Carol Merola

CAPTAINS
The late Louis Belloisy*
Richard Bowden
David Byrne
Jillian Celentano
Ronald Conti
Debbie Forchielli*
Joseph Frascatore
Rebecca Harmon
Glenn Heckendorf
Paul Hinckley
Elaine Jacovich
Stephen Jacovich*
Debbie Jones

Concessions Staff
Marianne Byrne
Matthew Keating
Michael Keating
Erika Kenyon
Josephine Keras
Jillian Noack
Jennifer Rosa
Sydney Rybczyn
Cameron Sivilla
Tyler Smith
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Isabelle Terhune
Nancy Tortora

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Marilyn Failla
Susan Gordon
Katie Haas
Louis Belloisy (1934 – 2021) was a devoted friend of the Palace Theater as well as its longest-serving employee, having started working at the theater as a young boy. He took on the role of Palace photographer, historian, and archivist, carefully and lovingly researching the theater’s history and passing on his vast amount of knowledge during tours, classes, and casual conversations.

Lou was a true steward of both the Palace’s history and its mission, and he is greatly missed. His legacy resides in his timeless photographs and generously shared scholarship, both of which reflect his connection with, and love of, the theater.
Kenny Loggins entertains a full house with songs and stories. Photo Credit: Felix Manuel Photography