

What's New With CNS 12-5-15

A note from our Co-Chairs

It's hard to believe it has already been more than a month since our new home was completed – on-time and on-budget! There is much to share with you, our family of supporters. Truly, this new home is allowing Northern Stage to change lives, one story at a time.

Northern Stage officially welcomed the public into The Barrette Center for the Arts with a Grand Opening Celebration on October 10, 2015. After a ribbon cutting ceremony, more than 1,000 community members walked through the doors of the Barrette Center for the Arts and enjoyed the all the spaces:

- Staff members talked guests through the different functions of the Byrne Theater and backstage areas.
- The Roesch Family Lobby proved to be a beautiful gathering space featuring photography from our first exhibiting artist, Leah Berry.
- The Couch Terrace hosted local food purveyors Big Fatty's and the Cupcake Queen, while a balloon arch from our friends at the Car Store added a festive touch.
- Children's activities – face painting, a costume parade, and games -- took place in the Schleicher Education & Rehearsal Studio.

The celebration was capped off by a sold-out opening night performance of Thornton Wilder's American classic, *Our Town*, followed by a toast in the Roesch Family Lobby.

Audiences are enjoying all the BCA has to offer -- plenty of leg room, beautiful gathering spaces, triple the number of public restrooms, accessibility throughout, a hearing assist system, and, of course, enhanced production values.

Our artists are seeing increased creativity, more productive work processes, and cost savings. As we stretch our wings with the ambitious *Mary Poppins*, we look forward to seeing the Barrette Center for the Arts used to full potential and providing a truly breathtaking experience for our audiences.

Our new home is bearing dramatic repercussions organizationally as well.

- Northern Stage has already exceeded our subscription goal for the 2015-16 season.
- *Our Town* saw more than 4,800 attendees, exceeding ticket sale and attendance goals by 15%.
- A 50% increase in participation at Script Club for *Mary Poppins* over last year's *Into the Woods*.
- Increase in student participation:
 - 3 sold-out Student Matinees during the run of *Our Town*;
 - double the number of students in our Youth Ensemble Studio program.

The Campaign for Northern Stage is proving to be an economic engine in our community as well. Four new development projects in White River Junction are underway, with area business people citing Northern Stage as a catalyst for their own housing, retail, and restaurant projects. These projects are infusing more than \$30 million into our community. Unused storefronts across the street from the BCA have all been filled.

All that said we are not home free! We are working hard to raise the remaining \$500,000 needed to reach our \$9mm goal. It's still possible to "Make a Mark" on the BCA -- Pavers, Seats and space on unique and beautiful Donor Wall are available. We hope you will continue to support Northern Stage through your ambassadorship in our community and sharing our work with your friends and neighbors.

We thank you for being part of the Northern Stage Family.

Cyn & Ray Barrette and Linda & Rick Roesch, Campaign for Northern Stage Co-Chairs

Click [here](#) to view a slideshow of the Grand Opening Celebration.

Click [here](#) to watch a time-lapse video of the construction process.

Share the Make Your Mark page by [clicking here](#).

FUNDRAISING PROGRESS

Raised as of 11/5/15: \$8,443,826 // 309 sources // 94% // \$556,174 remaining to raise