



# 2017 - 2018 REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY



**You help the stories live on!**



## Educate, Challenge, and Inspire

We are delighted to present you with the results of a remarkable year in this 2017 - 2018 Report to the Community. Last season was a tremendous success, in large part due to the dedication and generosity of donors and patrons like you. Thank you for supporting our mission to create extraordinary theatre experiences that educate, challenge, and inspire young people and their communities.

This season highlighted the value of creative partnerships with other leading theatres to bring artistically adventurous work like *The Wiz* and *Dr. Seuss's The Lorax* to the stage. We began a three-year project to expand Neighborhood Bridges' curriculum to reflect the diversity of students in classrooms. We continued to grow Theatre Arts Training classes and camps, where students are encouraged to be creative, confident, and curious.

Through ACT One, CTC's Access program, we continued to identify and mitigate real and perceived barriers to participation in theatre.

We recognize that cost, accessibility, and representation on stage are all potential obstacles that prevent children and families from experiencing theatre at CTC. We are focused on welcoming and building relationships with four key communities: people of color, low-income families, people with disabilities, and the LGBTQ community.

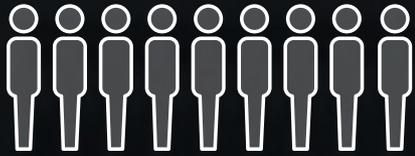
At Children's Theatre Company, we are driven to create opportunities that unleash the power of curiosity, empathy, and imagination in young people. We couldn't do this important work without you, and are proud to report what we've accomplished together over the past year.

Gratefully,

**Peter C. Brosius**  
Artistic Director

**Kimberly Motes**  
Managing Director

CTC served **295K+** through artistic, education, and access programs last year.



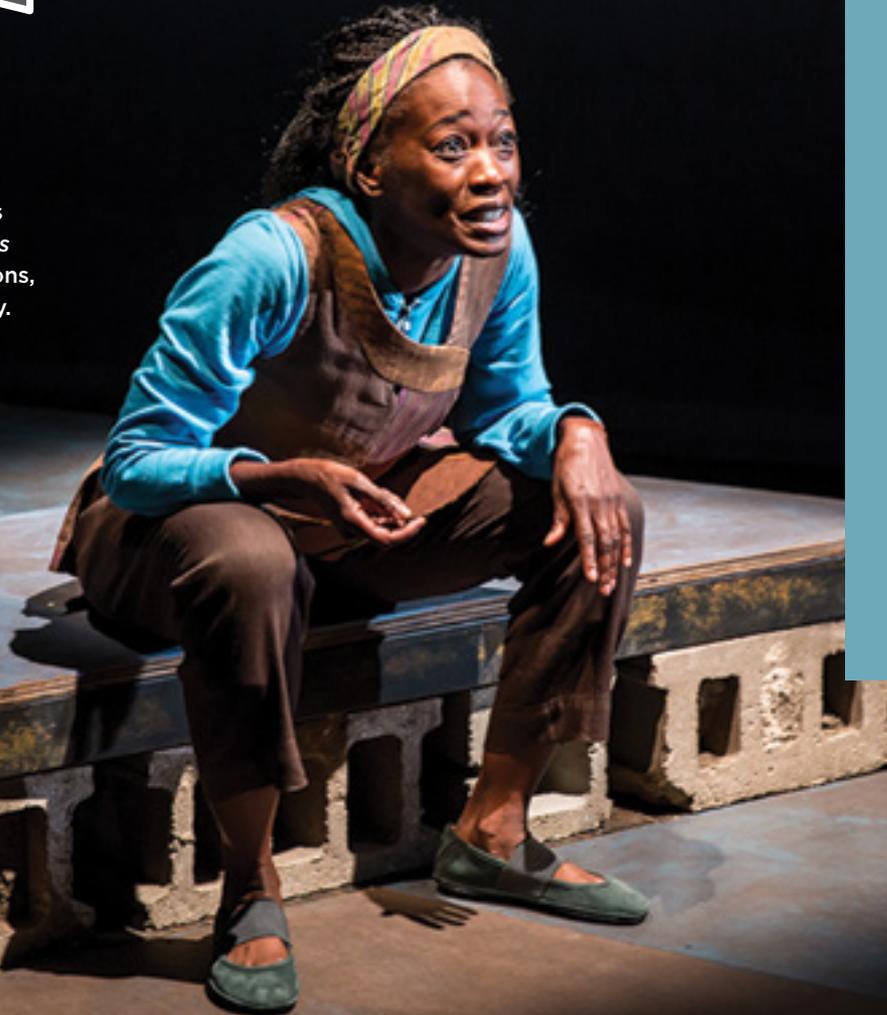
CTC welcomed people from **81** Minnesota counties.



Our script-licensing business, Plays for Young Audiences, licensed plays in **46** states and **6** countries.

**19,000**

people attended CTC's production of *Seedfolks* which toured to **11** locations, including New York City.



## Theatre for You, and You, and You

**Our work is on stages and in classrooms and communities across the country.**

CTC is the nation's largest and most acclaimed theatre for multigenerational audiences. While you may be most familiar with the productions on our stages in Minneapolis, Minnesota, our work had national and international reach as well. Donors and patrons like you helped us **serve more than 295,000 people through artistic, education, and access programs**, including tours and co-productions, during the 2017 - 2018 Season.

Through our script-licensing program, Plays for Young Audiences (PYA), **CTC shared the power of theatre with audiences in 46 states and six countries.** Licensing these works extended the life of these plays and musicals and provided vital, ongoing income to playwrights across the country and around the world.

CTC's timely and resonant original production of *Seedfolks* reached more than **19,000 people across the nation with a three-month tour** of nine Minnesota cities; Omaha, Nebraska; and The New Victory Theater on Broadway in New York City. *The New York Times* called Sonja Parks' performance in this one-woman-show a "tour-de-force."

This season's co-production of *Dr. Seuss's The Lorax* with The Old Globe in San Diego, in partnership with London's The Old Vic, also had life after the production closed on our stage. The entire cast and crew from the U.S. premiere production at CTC traveled to San Diego, California, and performed the show for an audience of 22,000 people.

# The Stakes are High!

**CTC is committed to artistic excellence for young people.**

We know that for many children, CTC is their first and earliest experience with live theatre. We take this responsibility seriously because we hope these experiences will be the beginning of a life-long love of the arts. **We are fueling the next generation of adult theatre audiences, and that is one reason why we pursue the highest levels of artistic excellence.**

Last season, we embarked on multiple exciting artistic partnerships with leading theatres across the world. Working with The Civilians (New York, New York), Penumbra Theatre (St. Paul, Minnesota), The Old Globe (San Diego, California), and The Old Vic (London, England), we produced *The Abominables*, *The Wiz*, and *Dr. Seuss's The Lorax*.

These partnerships allowed us to combine our individual expertise to produce something we could not create alone. Working with Penumbra Theatre, the nation's leading African American theatre, we co-produced a spectacular production of *The Wiz* that holds true to the play's original spirit. As our partnership with Penumbra Theatre continues, we are looking forward to future projects in the coming seasons.

We continued our efforts to build the canon of work for multigenerational audiences. **Last season, CTC conducted ten workshops and readings of the nine new productions currently in various stages of development.** Additionally, CTC Acting Company Member Autumn Ness received Theatre Communications Group's prestigious Fox Foundation Resident Actor Fellowship award to develop a new, solo preschool production called *Babble Lab*, and new productions for children on the autism spectrum.

Photo of Aimee Bryant in *The Wiz* by Dan Norman



**3** Premiere productions, including the U.S. premiere of *Dr. Seuss's The Lorax*.

More than  
**60,000**  
people attended  
*The Wiz*, including  
**12,000**

who had never before seen a CTC production.



# Working Towards an Inclusive Vision

**All families deserve access to world-class theatre.**

ACT One is our institutional commitment to making our theatre a home for all people, all families, reflective of our community. We are working towards a future where all children can enjoy the benefits of high-quality theatre experiences. This critical and urgent work focuses on reducing barriers to participation for four key communities: people of color, low-income families, people with disabilities, and the LGBTQ community.

ACT Pass is a key pillar of CTC's ACT One initiative, and an acknowledgement that income can pose a barrier to theatre. During the 2017 - 2018 Season, **129 community groups and 1,962 families were enrolled in the ACT Pass program**, which provides tuition scholarships and \$5 tickets to participants. **The ACT Pass provided 12,000 tickets and 390 Theatre Arts Training scholarships, valued at \$387,911.**

We also believe that the work on our stages must reflect our increasingly diverse community. **Last season, 55% of the performers on our stages identified as people of color.**

CTC continues to be a leader in Sensory Friendly offerings for children with autism spectrum disorders. Thanks to the partnership of our Sensory Friendly Performance sponsor, U.S. Bank, the new Audience Support Station created a more inclusive environment for our patrons by offering sensory supports like earplugs and fidgets. **A total of 3,161 people attended special Sensory Friendly performances.** Audiences at these performances enjoyed production modifications like reduced noise and increased house lights. **Additional tickets were donated or subsidized by U.S. Bank for access partners** like Fraser, Autism Society of Minnesota, and St. David's MN Autism Center.

The ACT Pass and Sensory Friendly offerings are just two of the many initiatives that allowed us to better serve our community last year. In total, **nearly 40% of CTC's total audience attended artistic and educational programming with free or reduced price tickets.**



CTC's ACT Pass provided  
**12,000**

deeply discounted tickets.

**55%** of the performers on our stages identified as people of color.

**3,161**   
people attended Sensory Friendly performances.

Nearly **40%** of CTC's audience attended our programming with discounted or free tickets.

# Art as a Force for Empathy

**You support theatre education at CTC and in local classrooms.**

CTC's vast array of education programs ensured that more than 93,000 children enjoyed the benefits of high-quality arts experiences last season. These programs are broad, like our Student Matinee performances that engage many students around a single experience, and deep, like our residencies in local classrooms that provide a smaller number of students an incredibly meaningful immersion.

Research shows that theatre experiences such as **field trips can increase students' empathy, tolerance, and creativity.** Budget cuts in public schools mean that fewer students have the opportunity to participate in cultural field trips. Thanks to your support, **more than 71,000 students and teachers** from across Minnesota and Wisconsin attended weekday matinees of our productions.

Theatre Arts Training (TAT) welcomed more than 3,100 students, and **encouraged participation for traditionally underserved communities with special program offerings.** In fall 2017, for example, we offered "Devising Gender: An Exploration of Art and Identity" for gender-diverse teens and LGBTQ-allied students, who collaboratively devised a piece of theatre in partnership with a transgender theatre artist.

Neighborhood Bridges served 763 students through in-depth, year-long residencies in 32 public-school classrooms across the Twin Cities, and another 3,572 students through shorter residencies. CTC also embarked on a three-year project to expand the program's curriculum to include stories from the lives of local Somali Muslims. These stories were incredibly impactful for teachers, students, and families. One mother who identifies as Muslim shared: **"I can't express to you how happy I am that the Children's Theatre feels that bridging the gap with the Muslim community is an important thing.** Being a religious minority, sometimes it feels like a constant uphill battle just to be understood. But when good people like you decide that we're worthwhile, the burden is much less heavy. Thank you."



**71,000+**

students and educators attended Student Matinee performances with deeply discounted tickets.

**3,100+**

students took a Theatre Arts Training class or camp.



As Chair of CTC's Board of Directors, I am proud of the theatre's impact in our local, national, and international community. I am also pleased with CTC's increasingly well-managed financial position, and grateful for the generosity of our community of supporters whose partnership is critical to our successes. On behalf of CTC's entire Board of Directors, thank you for your support!



**Sam Hsu**  
Board of Directors, Chair

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

(Fiscal Year July 1 – June 30)

Assets		
	2018	2017
Cash and Investments	\$13,033,926	\$12,189,656
Promises to give, net	\$4,613,036	\$1,530,981
Property and Equipment	\$14,024,610	\$14,622,299
Other Assets	\$838,867	\$814,993
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$32,510,439</b>	<b>\$29,157,929</b>

Liabilities		
	2018	2017
Liabilities - General	\$4,071,006	\$4,053,709
Bond Payable	\$900,000	\$900,000
Net Assets	\$27,539,433	\$24,204,220
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$32,510,439</b>	<b>\$29,157,929</b>

### STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY

#### Support & Revenue

	2018	2017
Ticket, Education, and Concession Revenue	\$7,050,745	\$6,283,110
Grants, Contributions, and Net Special Events Revenue	\$8,091,779	\$4,881,300
Investment Revenue	\$867,985	\$1,085,121
Other Revenue	\$854,799	\$633,655
<b>Total Support &amp; Revenue</b>	<b>\$16,865,308</b>	<b>\$12,883,186</b>

#### Expenses

	2018	2017
Artistic and Production	\$8,901,453	\$8,098,497
Outreach and Education	\$1,109,850	\$1,094,876
General and Management	\$2,688,056	\$2,550,745
Fundraising and Development	\$830,736	\$770,858
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$13,530,095</b>	<b>\$12,514,976</b>
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<b>\$3,335,213</b>	<b>\$368,210</b>



**The 2017 – 2018 Season**  
saw the highest-grossing ticket sales in CTC's 52-season history.



**65,000**

people saw *Dr. Seuss's How The Grinch Stole Christmas!*

CTC donors contributed  
**\$400,000+**  
in celebration of Peter C. Brosius' **20<sup>th</sup>** anniversary as CTC's Artistic Director.

# Together, We Educate, Challenge, and Inspire!

You make our work possible.

**We are thankful for our community of donors** who believe that high-quality, family-friendly arts experiences make our world a better and brighter place. **Without your support, none of our work is possible.**

In the 2017 – 2018 Season, CTC continued to enjoy robust support from individuals, corporations, and foundations. CTC's donors funded the productions on our stages and the multi-year efforts to develop new work. You funded our educational programs that inspired thousands of kids through training, in-school residencies, online programming, and early childhood education. Your gifts provided financial aid to families and community groups through our ACT Pass program. **Together, we accomplished all this and more**, and we are incredibly grateful for your generosity.

In September 2017, we welcomed nearly 400 supporters and friends to our annual Curtain Call Ball. Together, we danced the night away and raised more than \$800,000 to support our mission.

The 2017 – 2018 Season also marked Peter C. Brosius' 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary as CTC's Artistic Director. Peter's visionary leadership helped grow CTC's impact and laid the path to a wildly successful season. His focuses of artistic excellence, education, engagement, and access for all are evident in CTC's work on stage, in classrooms, and in the community. We are grateful to the many donors who contributed more than \$400,000 in honor of Peter's tenure this past season. Their leadership contributions allowed us to continue to elevate the quality of the work on our stages, and advance theatre for multigenerational audiences.

# THANK YOU!

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2017 – 2018 Season

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