

De's Dazzles

June 2019 – Different Perspectives

The past month has been a busy one at the Corning Opera House. I enjoy seeing the opera house for the “first time” through the eyes of those who take tours. The young elementary students experienced buying a ticket, finding their seat, learning stage directions, plus operating the lights while classmates “perform” on the stage with a microphone. I’m reminded there are many sides to every action and story, the view is different for every person, whether you are on stage, backstage or in the audience. Which is one of the great things I enjoy about our summer youth musicals, once a child ages out of the program they can then learn to run the lights, put on make-up, make props and more. They learn to see the whole picture and how all the intricate pieces fit together.

As I’ve written several grants this past month there is a recurring theme in each one, tell us about your community impact. Do you know? One tour group this past month had their meal catered from Three C’s and shopped in our stores! You should have seen all the bags they filled! One rental had 75 people that ate in our restaurants on Davis Avenue at noon. The Carpenters Once More brought people from 19 different Iowa cities to Corning and many of those ate in our restaurants. The last time I counted the opyry show attendees came from 12 counties as far as Marshalltown, Iowa to Maryville, MO. Currently, Lion King Jr families are driving up to 60 miles to rehearse 3 or 4 times per week! That’s a lot of gas! These kinds of things happen every month, over and over! Do you have a story on how we’ve impacted you or your family that you’d share?

As many of you know, we are a non-profit that is entirely volunteer run. Our board works tirelessly and believes in the arts! We are constantly searching for grants and new programming/ideas to help us be financially stable in the years to come. To help with all the building upkeep, the board voted and started a Preservation Fee to be added to every ticket purchased. All tickets between 0 and \$9.99 a quarter will be added. For all tickets over \$10, \$2 will be added. Thank you for your understanding.

The real magic happens most often in the small venues – anonymous quote, I came across. The opera house has had many magical moments and I for one am looking forward to all the ones to come!