

April 2021

Dear Friends;

We can't wait to see you beginning Memorial Day weekend when live performances return for our 2021 Season!

Hopefully, you weathered this past pandemic year in good health – and we hope you're ready to cautiously emerge from quarantine and begin to once again connect with others, and enjoy the laughter and excitement that can only come from live theatre. And we have a great lineup planned for you, as well as accommodations to continue keeping audiences, volunteers, and staff safe – both indoors and out. Of course, that has meant lots of careful planning that we were able to accomplish in great part due to the economic relief programs, as well as some ongoing gifts from loyal and generous donors and businesses – which combined, made it possible for us to work behind the scenes.

We unveiled our summer performance plans only a few weeks ago with an online video that you can now watch on our website. But if you haven't yet heard, we are very excited to share with you our live, professional 2021 productions: ***The Sound of Music In Concert*** (and outdoors!), a one weekend special event kicking off our season outdoors at the Pemi Base Camp of Loon Mountain; back in the theatre, we next open ***Clue the Musical***, where the audience helps choose the ending every night; the iconic rock-opera musical, ***Evita***; and a blast from the past with ***Forever Plaid***. During a summer where some theatres are still not able to open, we are so excited to present to you a season of all-star titles! Plus our Memorial Day Comedy Show is back to open the season; Comedian Juston McKinney returns for the Fourth of July weekend; And the fall brings even more comedians, musicians, and the like. In December, we will ring in the holiday season with our original musical, *A White Mountains Christmas*, which some of you may have seen this past December as a special four-part video series online – it was our holiday gift to you and just a small taste of our charming musical that will once again be performed in its entirety, live and in person!

This of course means we're busy securing business sponsors, program advertisers, and – with this letter – making an annual appeal for the charitable gifts that drive our ability to make all these performances and more happen for everyone. Our *IMPACT* Touring Children's Theatre troupe will also be back on the road, traveling to venues in our region and across the state, as well as our own stage, with favorite fabled tales told in original musicals designed for kids and families. And we're in great hopes to finally be able to launch our *StageSetters Youth Program* (formerly Jean's Teens), an enhanced education program for youth in our region.

That's a lot! And we'll look to you all to help make it happen. With this letter, we launch what will be an annual appeal every spring. Your gifts will go a long way in providing critical support pre-Season, so we can entertain in-Season. Please consider making a charitable contribution today – or at least before May 20th so we can make sure your name appears in the program ... and for gifts of \$500 or more, as part of a new Annual Fund Lobby Display.

Thank you so much – until we see you at the Playhouse once again!

Joel Mercier
Producing Artistic Director

Lyn Osborne Winter
Managing Director

Scott Rice, *president*
Brian Baker, *vice president*
Robert Wetherell, *secretary*
Ken Chapman, *trustee*
Connie Chesebrough, *trustee*
Dennis Ducharme, *trustee*
Jean Gessner, *trustee*
Deborah O'Connor, *trustee*
Kimberly Pickering, *trustee*
Jerry Stringham, *trustee*