

The Old Creamery Theatre Board of Directors exceeds challenge grant!

Written by Shelly Klimes

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Amana - The Old Creamery Theatre is pleased to announce that its board of directors recently exceeded a generous \$35,000 challenge grant from The Gethmann Foundation to net the non-profit professional theatre a total of \$56,000. The board was challenged by Jack Gethmann of The Gethmann Foundation to raise \$17,000. Exceeding the challenge, board members were able to secure a total of \$21,000.

Peter Teahen, President of The Old Creamery Theatre Board of Directors, said "With the commitment from the Gethmann Foundation and the theatre board, we will be able to upgrade our facilities to address the needs of theatre guests with disabilities to include expanded theatre seating and a handicap accessible companion restroom."

While The Old Creamery Theatre offers performances for over 35,000 theatergoers each year, it cannot thrive on ticket sales alone. Ticket sales cover approximately 60% of the theatre's yearly expenses. Because programming has grown significantly in the last five years to bring community members a wider variety of performances to enjoy, donations must fill in the financial gap for the professional theatre. The success and longevity of The Old Creamery Theatre depends on generous donors such as The Gethmann Foundation.

Different than other local theatres, The Old Creamery Theatre is a live, professional theatre. Everyone on staff and on stage is a paid professional. Donations to support the theatre not only keep the arts alive in Iowa and offer community members a chance to experience live theatre, but also keep jobs alive and in Iowa.

Established in 1959, The Gethmann Foundation is a private, not-for-profit grant making organization.

The Old Creamery Theatre is a not-for-profit professional theatre founded in 1971 in Garrison, Iowa. The company is celebrating 42 years of bringing live, professional theatre to the people of Iowa and the Midwest.

With truly something for everyone, The Old Creamery Theatre brings productions to its 300 seat Main Stage and its 70 seat Studio Stage and produces a yearly comic murder mystery. In addition, The Old Creamery Theatre for Young Audiences offers children's shows on the Main Stage and its school tour travels throughout Iowa each spring with shows that incorporate

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positive messages. The Old Creamery also offers summer camps for children at various locations each year. The Old Creamery Theatre is proud to be the oldest professional theatre company in Iowa.