

WELCOME TO THE OAC'S 2025 2026 SEASON!



We invite you to join our countdown to the Lyric's 100th birthday, which begins with the start of the Ozark Arts Council's blockbuster 30th season!



ARTS OPPORTUNITIES FOR ONE AND ALL!

There are many ways to experience and supportive transformative power of the Arts in our area, whether by annual or periodic monetary gifts and active voting membership in the OAC, by sponsoring events and productions, by volunteerism that staffs the many facets of our endeavors, or by maximizing some easy and often overlooked ways to turn pocket change into Art!



<https://tinyurl.com/493dv8cd>

Through a new partnership with Arvest's nonprofit support team, establishing and continuing **membership in the OAC has never been easier**—nor as cost-efficient and transparent! If you choose to donate through mail (simply visit TheLyricHarrison.org/get-involved, there is no waiting until an OAC volunteer can process memberships and donations, but the support team in Lowell will quickly take care of things *with no cost to us*, so your *whole donation* goes to the Arts! More, if you choose to **use our web-based system (through the QR code or website on the left)**, not only can you enter your checking account information, instead of a card number, so that there are **no fees**, but **you can choose** to base your membership on **monthly or quarterly** donations, **instead of having to make a single contribution**, allowing you an **easier path** to the benefits of a **higher membership level!**

Our music programming for the coming year is taking shape, with the return of several artists and the addition of several more—bringing perhaps the greatest of our member benefit announcements: **for the rest of this month—until midnight on March 7!—we are allowing only current OAC members to purchase tickets** to see **The World Famous Glen Miller Orchestra!** When you join or renew your OAC membership now, you will have ample time to secure your favorite seats for this rare opportunity to see the greatest of the classic big bands!



We are always in need of—and always treasure!—our volunteers. Whether day-of-performance duties like ushering and concessions preparation or sales, working in set construction for plays, cleaning and maintenance of the Lyric, or handling information request phone calls and visitors to see the Zelm Murals, our volunteers allow us to keep costs down and quality up! Without you, our ticket prices for plays would be at least \$10 higher *per seat*, so we celebrate our volunteers every chance we get! Please email us at info@OzarkArtsCouncil.org or indicate on your membership form that you would like volunteer opportunity



New for 2025, Sponsorship Opportunities can make you a voting member of the OAC! Choosing to sponsor the production of one or more plays or concerts will make you an OAC member, so you will receive sponsorship benefits (**producer's seating, event-specific advertising for your business**, etc.), plus your sponsorship will establish your OAC membership level. Contact our Executive Director, Julianna Hamblin, for the exciting sponsorship opportunity details!

*A Note from
Our Board
of Directors*



Dear Friend of the Lyric and the Arts,

The years since 'Covid' first entered our vocabulary have seen many theaters close and troupes of artists disband due to lack of support...but here in Harrison, we find our Arts community more alive and supported than ever! Through many organizational changes and programming uncertainties, we have refrained from writing our usual membership letters, because we have wanted to see the growth of our work 'stand on its own', *earning* your trust and your support through the creation of outstanding Art and bringing in outstanding Artists on tour. With our current ambitious season and what we have planned for the coming years, both longstanding patrons and new supporters have voiced their affirmation of our approach to programming and care for the historical landmark we call home, and we are immensely thankful for both. Now is the time to build—to restore, to nurture, and to grow—so that the transformative power of the Arts can truly be unleashed throughout our region, affirming our culture and broadening it!

The Lyric is now fully 95 years old, and the OAC is turning 30! Your gifts and hard work brought this historic theater to glow with new life at the start of a new millennium, just as your forebears made it thrive even through the Great Depression. As we head toward this Grand Lady's 100th birthday, we are asking you to stand with us as we bring back some old friends and set our sights on new adventures.

With classic plays like *Our Town* and *Mary Poppins* on the menu, along with newer treasures like the jazz-based recounting of both tragic and triumphant love stories from Greek mythology that is *Hadestown*, the revival of dinner theatre productions, the already-beloved 21st century musical comedy *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, and Dolly Parton's spectacularly-fun musical *9 to 5*, we intend both to create and to satisfy a voracious appetite for theatre throughout our community. This will require a substantial investment in rights and royalties—along with some *extreme equipment!*—but we believe it will leave everyone thrilled and amazed with the high quality productions the actors, directors, and crews of the Harrison area are able to bring to the stage.

The Harrison Art League continues to draw exceptional Artists, as well, and graces the Boone County Library with multiple exhibits each year, encouraging Artists young and old with classes, competitions, and exhibitions. HAL provides supportive visual Arts to other OAC member organizations as well, with posters and playbills for movies, concerts, and plays, and has just launched a new membership and leadership structure that will lead even more Artists to be able to collaborate in their endeavors. With HAL's leadership, the OAC plans to revive the wonderful Arts and Literature awards for local students that the 20th Century Club sponsored until Covid forced its hiatus. When people from all over flock to Maplewood Cemetery's fall colors, we are reminded that the 20th Century Club not only brought that beauty into being, but sought the beautification of our lives through the creativity of our youth, and we believe that *must* continue.

Inside this first edition of what we hope will be a quarterly newsletter, we have outlined opportunities for you to participate in the mission of the Ozark Arts Council—to enrich lives by promoting the Arts in Harrison and North Arkansas through exhibitions, performances and education—to transform lives and build a vibrant, healthy community. As our Woman's Book Club played a leadership role in growing literacy in Boone County by helping provide access for all to reading materials, so we believe that working together to make the Arts more accessible, we will develop a community that deepens our appreciation for what we have even as it broadens our horizons. The spirit of exploration, of sharing, and of stewardship of the land, of knowledge, and of one another is as essential to the Arts as it is fundamental to Ozark culture, and we thank you for your partnership in the past and hope you will continue to view our mission as worthy of your partnership for decades to come!



115 W. Rush Avenue
Harrison, Arkansas 72601
(870) 391-3504

Info@OzarkArtsCouncil.org
Tickets and Info at **TheLyric.org**

Many thanks to Captures Photography (exterior) and Jamie Seed Photography (interior) for the Lyric images in this publication and KaelinDesign.com for our logo!