

IN THE BEST OF TIMES...

(Our last fiscal year was great, breaking records and showing unprecedented growth for Raue Center.)

- **WE LOVE** - Making great art and serving the community is a passion that most simply aren't cut out for.
- **WE THRIVE ON** - The long hours pouring all of our energy, heart and soul into our work.
- **WE HAPPILY ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE** - Eking out our existence as a constant underdog.

But even when you find yourself on top, like we did this last fiscal year with our best showing ever, it doesn't take much to find yourself flipped back against the odds. That's just where we find ourselves now, and the future of Raue Center relies on getting your support NOW.

IN THE WORST OF TIMES...

(This past quarter under-performed.)

- A summer of heavy rain flooded our theater twice, critically damaged our HVAC system, and even caused us to stop some performances.
- When other financial issues added to this literal flood of problems and we missed our first quarter projections by 60K, we did what we had to do.
- We made fiscally appropriate (albeit tough) decisions. We reduced staff, cancelled programs, and cut nearly 210K out of our budget.

Fiscal responsibility has been a constant for Raue Center and we are extremely proud of the fact that since our inception we've paid down 6.6 million of an 8.8 million bank note. And although we don't own the building, we have taken on that undue stress as part and parcel of following our mission to make great art accessible to our community.

Not owning the building comes with serious drawbacks, not the least of which is the strain we feel for its upkeep and maintenance. It also prevents us from securing a line of credit that could help us out when underdog pressures mount (or flood waters rise). It adds an extra level of uncertainty to a job (in the arts) where unpredictability is an everyday occurrence.

We are a staff that is proud to call Crystal Lake our home and are truly passionate about bringing great entertainment and first rate fine arts education to our community. As an important part of this community, we are asking for your help now. Please stand with us and donate today.

Sincerely,
Raue Center for the Arts