

January 17, 2025



## DEAR FRIENDS, DONORS, AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS,

We are delighted to share some exciting news. After more than a year of dedicated discussions, we are making meaningful progress toward resolving the outstanding issues tied to our 2018 sublease and building ownership agreements with the **City of Crystal Lake, the Crystal Lake Civic Center Authority, and Home State Bank.**

**We are optimistic that a long-term, mutually beneficial solution is on the horizon, with final agreements anticipated within the next 30 days.**

This past year has been one of significant challenges, as we worked to navigate disruptions to our programming, fundraising, and operations. Despite these hurdles, our Board's subcommittee, alongside our valued partners, is diligently working to finalize a new lease agreement that will provide the stability and clarity we need to ensure a bright future for Raue Center for decades to come.

**As we continue to move forward, we've made the strategic decision to temporarily suspend Williams Street Rep.**

This allows us to focus our resources on our educational programs and outreach, community engagement and outreach, and Performing Arts Shows (one-night events) areas that have been at the heart of our mission for years.

Thanks to a new **Illinois Arts Council** Multi-Year grant, we will be taking more of our educational programs to neighboring communities of East Dundee, Carpentersville, and Huntley.

**Please know that Williams Street Rep remains a vital part of who we are, and we look forward to its return, stronger than ever, once our operations are fully stabilized under the new agreements.**

Your support has been the cornerstone of our ability to face these challenges head-on.

To our friends, donors, and the Greater McHenry County community, thank you for standing with us. Your initial investment of over 17 Million dollars has made this a home for all as they experience the Arts.

**To Home State Bank and the City of Crystal Lake, we are grateful for your commitment to ensuring Raue Center's success over the past 25 years and beyond. We look forward to the next 25+ years!**

The finish line for these lengthy negotiations is in sight. With a new agreement on the horizon, we are excited about resuming our regular programming and fundraising cycles, building momentum toward an even more vibrant future.

Together, we are shaping a brighter tomorrow for Raue Center. Thank you for being an essential part of this journey. Your trust and support inspire us to continue bringing the arts to life in our community.

**With heartfelt gratitude,**  
Raue Center For the Arts

