

NAC Volunteers of the Year

Jeanne Stieber was named Norwalk Arts Center Volunteer of the Year for 2025 and Aubrey Darovich was named Teen Volunteer of the Year at an evening devoted to thanking all of NAC's volunteers for thousands of hours of hard work.

"Tonight we are here to celebrate and recognize our volunteers," said Lisa Bleile, chair of business affairs and volunteers for the NAC board. "The Board of Directors and I extend our appreciation for your support in achieving Norwalk Arts Center's mission of creating art and building community."

Bleile noted that Stieber volunteers not only for NAC, but also for four other community non-profits – the Clothing Bank, Huron County Humane Society, Norwalk Food Bank and Fisher-Titus Medical Center. Representatives from some of those organizations also attended to honor Stieber's volunteerism.

"Jeanne volunteers for NAC on one night and then another non-profit the following night," Bleile said, noting that Stieber has helped in numerous NAC projects.

Darovich is the first recipient of the teen volunteer award. Bleile said the Norwalk freshman is always willing to help out in any capacity necessary – from sweeping and cleaning windows to assisting backstage for junior productions.

Darovich and homeschool freshman Sophia Smith were both recognized with certificates and NAC sweatshirts for volunteering for more than 100 hours for NAC since June 2024.

"These individuals have demonstrated their commitment to NAC and their willingness to serve others," Bleile said of all three of the volunteers receiving special recognition. She told all of the volunteers that their work has been vital to NAC.

"The quote by Martin Luther King, Jr., 'Everybody can be great because anybody can serve' is reflective of all of our volunteers," she said. "You are truly great." NAC has about 100 volunteers, with about 30 participating on a regular basis.



Dina Lukasko, NAC executive director, gave all of the volunteers gathered an update on the rehabilitation of the historic Norwalk Theater. The volunteers also received gift bags as thanks for their volunteerism.

If you have a passion for the arts and would like to join our amazing volunteer team, please contact Lisa Bleile at bizaffairs@norwalkartscenter.org or visit our website at NorwalkArtsCenter.org and sign up under the giving tab.



Aubrey Darovich, NAC Teen Volunteer of 2025; Jeanne Stieber, NAC Volunteer of the Year; Lisa Bleile, NAC chair for business affairs and volunteers; and Sophia Smith, teen volunteer, all attended NAC's Volunteer Appreciation Night on April 22, 2025.

"Outta the Park Arts" event was a home run for the whole family!

The Arts Education Committee's "Outta the Park Arts" event on March 2 was one for the books! Participants had fun interacting with featured artists while earning stamps on a passport that qualified them for a raffle for several prizes, including a pair of Hrusovsky's



Custom Kicks that were created at the event by Jonathan Hrusovsky, himself.

Other artists featured included Alex Penrose, Director of Video & Photography at Ohio State University Department of Athletics; Helen Marketti, author of "Skill, Size, Strength & Speed;" John Orndorff, Chief Master and owner of North American Martial Arts Institute; James Schepers, local sports photographer; Ben Kline, Lefty Grove enthusiast; and Will Currence, sports card enthusiast. A surprise appearance was made by Al



Preston, founder of Lefty Grove Baseball League. Many thanks go to Artist's Open Studio, NAMAI and Collector's Hangout for providing locations for our presenters, as well as Sheri's Coffee House for a raffle donation and Norwalk Area United Fund for grant funding. Congratulations to Carl R. Gray, the grand prize winner of a pair of Hrusovsky's Custom Kicks!

Teens to Totally Blow Your Mind with Live Musical Theatre This Summer

Area thespians will hit the stage this Summer with two full length musicals. Both shows are being presented through special arrangement with Musical Theatre International and will be performed at 22 E. Main Street in Norwalk, Ohio.



Travel *Back to the 80's* with the NAC teens. From the era that brought the world the Rubik's Cube, Max Headroom and the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles comes the "totally awesome" musical *Back to the 80's*. In the style of movies such as *Back to the Future*, *Ferris Bueller's Day Off* and *The Karate Kid*, *Back to the 80's* is a nostalgic romp through the greatest hits of the decade.

Back to the 80's tells the story of the senior class of William Ocean High School, as remembered through the eyes of now thirty-something Corey Palmer. Seventeen-year-old Corey is madly in love with his next-door neighbor, Tiffany Houston. One of the coolest girls in the school, she is too busy mooning over Michael Feldman, the hottest guy around. Michael and his friends are athletic and good looking —

the kind of guys that Corey and his two best friends dream of being.

However, while they may not be the coolest guys in school, they are still one up on Feargal McFerrin, III, whose best friend is his computer and who believes the crazy notion that one day CDs will replace cassette tapes. Performance dates and times are Friday, June 6 at 7 p.m., Saturday, June 7 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, June 8 at 2:30 p.m. Order your tickets soon to get the best seats! Our performances will be held at 22 E. Main Street, Norwalk OH 44857. Tickets are \$15.

Adult Community Theatre Bets on a Broadway Classic

Want to try your hand at performing? Auditions will be held for the NACTor's presentation of *Guys and Dolls* on May 31 and June 1 and will be open to performers aged 16+ at the time of auditions. Check website for more details.



Set in Damon Runyon's mythical New York City, *Guys and Dolls* is an oddball romantic comedy. Gambler Nathan Detroit tries to find the cash to set up the biggest craps game in town while the authorities breathe down his neck. Meanwhile, his girlfriend and nightclub performer, Adelaide, laments that they've been engaged for 14 years. Nathan turns to fellow gambler, Sky Masterson, for the dough, and Sky ends up chasing the strait-laced missionary, Sarah Brown, as a result. *Guys and Dolls* takes us from the heart of Times Square to the cafes of Havana, Cuba, and even into the sewers of New York City, but eventually everyone ends up right where they belong.

Summer Arts Learning and Fun on the Horizon

Norwalk Arts Center is offering several opportunities for arts learning this spring and summer. Opportunities for immersive experiences will allow participants to embrace the arts in their community. All learning opportunities will be held at 22 East Main Street.

Hola Casita: An Immersive Experience with Familia Madrigal is first up. Children in first-fourth grades will explore the magic of Colombia through fun crafts, snacks, and activities throughout this immersive Encanto-themed evening. This fun Arts Explorers event takes place Saturday, May 10, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Cost is \$25 per child with a \$50 family cap. Registration is limited to 24 participants, so register early!

Teens will be offered a learning opportunity this summer with a Musical Theatre Immersive. Professional teaching artist will be providing immersive sessions throughout the one day intensive. This event is sponsored by the United Fund.

Norwalk Arts Center Teen Association (NACTA) will be hosting the event for all area teens aged 13-19 interested in all aspects of musical theatre. The event will be held on Friday, June 13 from 9:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Professional instruction will be given in areas of voice, audition, dance, costuming/makeup, stage management and technical theatre. Students will be immersed in each subject throughout the day. The cost for registration is \$20 and all students must register for the event. Registration opens May 1 and closes May 26. Space is limited to 30 students.

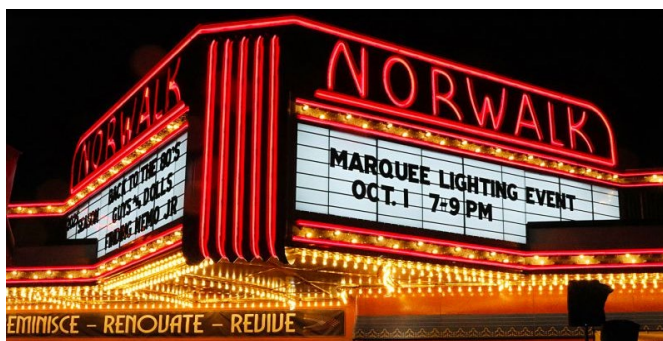
NORWALK ARTS CENTER
Teen Association presents a
MUSICAL THEATRE IMMERSIVE
June 13, 2025
9:30 am - 6:30 pm

Sessions on:
Acting
Voice
Dance
Stage Management
Light and Sound Design
Costume Design
Audition Technique

Norwalk Arts Center
22 E Main St.
Norwalk, Ohio
Open to students ages 13-19
Registration required
Fee: \$20.00 per student
Registration Opens May 1, 2025
Limited spaces available!

Event sponsor: NORWALK AREA UNITED FUND

In June, NAC will offer their fourth annual theatre summer camp with the award-winning Missoula Children's Theatre (MCT). This event is generously sponsored by the GeoTrac Foundation. Participants will learn and perform the musical *Treasure Island*. All shows are original adaptations of classic children's stories and fairytales. MCT's little red truck will be at 22 East Main Street, June 23- 28. Although the camp is currently full, a wait list has been started. Performance of MCT's *Treasure Island* will be performed on Friday June 27 at 6 p.m. and Saturday, June 28 at 1 p.m. The performances are open to the public and a perfect way to give youngsters a taste of live theatre. Tickets will be available on line and the cost is \$7 and will be available in June for purchase.



Save the Dates:

AIM: FREE Art pop-ups @ Sheri's Coffee House (5th-8th grade): May 9, after school at Sheri's Coffee House.

Theatre Discovery Series: May 9 *Cinderella Confidential* open to grades 1 and 2, registration required.

Arts Explorers: May 10, (1st-4th grade) *Hola, Casita!* Registration required.

Teen Theatre: *Back to the 80's* performances June 6-8, tickets are \$15 and available online.

NACTors Adult Theatre: AUDITIONS for *Guys & Dolls* May 31 and June 1. Open to actors 16+, register on line for an audition time.

NACTA Musical Theatre Immersive: June 13 (9:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.) Registration required.

Creating Art. Building Community.

It is the mission of Norwalk Arts Center to celebrate and increase advocacy for the Arts in North Central Ohio by providing education, experiences and environment for artistic growth.

Thank you to our generous continuous benefactors:



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COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



Ohio Arts
COUNCIL



Norwalk Arts Center

PO Box 656

Norwalk, OH 44857

info@NorwalkArtsCenter.org



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