

WINTER 2023

THE OBSERVATORY

THEATRE UNDER THE STARS



FY23 AT A GLANCE

\$5,550,134

raised through charitable contributions

\$8,184,272

raised through ticket sales

\$553,598

raised through tuition



Tuts Staff, Leading Ladies, and The Ugly XMAS Sweater Musical cast during the cast Meet-and-Greet

7,108

youth's lives transformed

Over

300

local crew members employed

\$78,853

in scholarships awarded



Mary Poppins visiting River students in the December 2022 Showcase

Over

130

artists employed

Over

120

volunteers

Over

1,062

free community access tickets provided

860

costumes made

Angel



Costume sketch by Colleen O'Grady for Tuts 2023 production of RENT

SEASON RECAP WITH DAN



Speaking of our amazing students, the past few seasons have seen the launch of our musical theatre academy productions. Since 2021, we have produced *Into The Woods*, *Bring It On*, *The SpongeBob Musical*, and *Head Over Heels*, all of which were wildly successful. Our students from both schools also came together to create and produce an incredible Inclusive Arts Showcase, which we performed at Kinder HSPVA. Tommy Tune Awards has returned live and in person, and in 2023, our very own Tommy Tune Awards Jimmy Nominee Makenzie Woolridge won a semi-finalist title.

As we dive into our 2023/24 season, all I see is a world of possibility. We produced a brand-new musical that I co-wrote, *The Ugly Xmas Sweater Musical*. We have a tremendously strong season of shows: *Jagged Little Pill*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Rodgers & Hammerstein Cinderella*, *The Cher Show*, *On Your Feet*, and *Disney's Newsies*

While the past few years have brought challenges, it has certainly brought celebrations. As each year passes, I see more and more the importance Tuts has on the fabric of Houston's artistic landscape. It is an honor and privilege to drive this responsibility forward, and it is why Tuts is so proud to be your home for musical theatre.

With much appreciation,

Dan Knechtges
Artistic Director

We closed out our 2022/23 season with much to reflect on and celebrate.

The 2022/23 Season brought new audiences, more students, and even more excitement with a re-imagined and interactive production of Fats Waller's *Ain't Misbehavin'* where guests seated on stage were immersed within the story itself. We followed that with a brand-new musical, *The Secret of My Success*, and our holiday production of Disney & Cameron Mackintosh's *Mary Poppins*. Both of these productions won Houston Press Theatre Awards (...Success for Best Choreography and *Mary Poppins* for Best Musical)! The season closed with *Rent*, which received accolades for its diverse casting, and overall design.

Over the summer, we welcomed the National Tour of *1776* and we celebrated Miller Outdoor Theatre's 100th birthday by producing a concert featuring many Houston performers and students from Tuts education.

AIN'T MISBEHAVIN'

Created by **Richard Maltby, Jr.**
 Director **Monique L. Midgette**
 Choreographer **Courtney D. Jones**
 Musical Director **Phillip Hall**
 Costume Designer **George T. Mitchell**
 Lighting Designer **Fabian J. Garcia**
 Sound Designer **Andrew Harper**
 Originally produced by the Manhattan Theatre Club
 Originally produced on Broadway by Emanuel Azenberg, Dasha Epstein,
 The Shubert Organization, Jane Geynor & Ron Dante



THE SECRET OF MY SUCCESS

Book **Gordon Greenberg** and **Steve Rosen**
 Music and Lyrics **Michael Haler** and **Alan Schmuckler**
 Director and Choreographer **Dan Knechtges**
 Musical Director **Charlie Alterman**
 Scenic Designer **Jeffrey D. Kmiec**
 Costume Designer **Colleen Grady**
 Lighting Designer **Ryan O'Gara**
 Sound Designer **Andrew Harper**
 Projection Designer **Mike Tutaj**



THANK YOU TO OUR PRODUCTION SPONSOR: FREEPORT LNG

DISNEY'S & CAMERON MACKINTOSH'S MARY POPPINS

A musical based on the stories of P.L. Travers and the Walt Disney Film
 Co-Created by **Cameron Mackintosh**
 Book **Julian Fellowes**
 Original Music and Lyrics **Richard M. Sherman** and **Robert B. Sherman**
 New Music and Lyrics **George Stiles** and **Anthony Drewe**
 Director **Julie Kramer**
 Choreographer **Jessica Hartman**
 Musical Director **Stephen W. Jones**
 Scenic Designer **Timothy R. Mackabee**
 Costume Designer **Colleen Grady**
 Lighting Designer **Ryan O'Gara**
 Sound Designer **Andrew Harper**



THANK YOU TO OUR PRODUCTION SPONSORS: ENBRIDGE AND THE HUMPHREYS FOUNDATION

CHICAGO

Book **Fred Ebb** and **Bob Fosse**
 Music **John Kander**
 Director **Walter Bobbie**
 Choreographer **Ann Reinking**
 Musical Director **Cameron Blake Kinnear**
 Scenic Designer **John Lee Beatty**
 Costume Designer **William Ivey Long**
 Lighting Designer **Ken Billington**
 Sound Designer **Scott Lehr**



LEGALLY BLONDE THE MUSICAL

Book **Heather Hach**
 Music and Lyrics **Laurence O'Keefe** and **Nell Benjamin**
 Director **Jeffrey B. Moss**
 Based On The Novel By **Amanda Brown** And The Metro Goldwyn Mayor Motion Picture
 Choreographer **Bob Richard**
 Scenic Designer **Randel Wright**
 Costume Designer **John Beltre**
 Lighting Designer **Charlie Morrison**
 Sound Designer **Simon Lambert**



THANK YOU TO OUR PRODUCTION SPONSOR: TEXAS CAPITAL BANK

RENT

Book, Music and Lyrics **Jonathan Larson**
 Director **Ty Defoe**
 Choreographer **Monica Josette**
 Musical Director **Charlie Alterman**
 Scenic Designer **Ryan McGettigan**
 Costume Designer **Colleen Grady**
 Lighting Designer **Michelle Habeck**
 Sound Designer **Andrew Harper**
 Projection Designer **Kate Freer**



THANK YOU TO OUR PRODUCTION SPONSOR: CONOCOPHILLIPS

"I had the pleasure of working in TUTS production of RENT. As a nonbinary, queer person of color and performer, I have never felt more seen or safer than I have at TUTS... from the artistic director, to our directors, to the costumers, I felt seen and celebrated for my gender and what my experience as a trans person brought to the production. This is unfortunately a rarity in professional theatre and is why TUTS is incredibly special... I truly cannot wait to work here again because I know I am safe and respected."

DOMINIC PECIKONIS Performer

TUTS: A CELEBRATION OF HOUSTON STORIES AND SONGS

Fifty-five years ago, Frank Young staged a magical production of *Bells Are Ringing* under the starry sky at Miller Outdoor Theatre—and thus, Theatre Under The Stars was born. Since then, TUTS has produced over 100 free public musicals at the Miller Outdoor Theatre, opening doors to musical theatre for the Houston community. To commemorate the centenary of Miller Outdoor Theatre, TUTS staged a free concert production titled *TUTS: A Celebration Of Houston Stories And Songs* June 11-15, 2023. Directed by Mitchell Greco (*Seussical*), this production presented highlights from the many musicals TUTS has produced over the years. Hits from shows like *A Chorus Line*, *Mamma Mia!* and *Beauty and The Beast* soared across Miller, interspersed with original footage of past TUTS performances, interviews with cast members, students and community members and memories of Frank Young.

Thank you to our production sponsor: **Carrie and Ron Woliver and the CRC Foundation.**

1776

Book **Peter Stone**
 Music and Lyrics **Sherman Edwards**
 Director **Jeffrey L. Page** and **Diane Paulus**
 Choreographer **Jeffrey L. Page**
 Musical Director **Ryan Cantwell**
 Scenic Designer **Scott Pask**
 Costume Designer **Emilio Sosa**
 Lighting Designer **Jen Schriever**
 Sound Designer **Jonathan Deans**

PERFORMANCE ATTENDANCE

September 1, 2022 – August 31, 2023

PRODUCTION

Sarofim Hall	9
Zilkha Hall	2
Miller Outdoor Theatre	1
Kinder High School For The Performing Arts	1

TOTAL PRODUCTIONS 13

TOTAL PERFORMANCES 120

ATTENDANCE

Season, Single & Group Tickets	107,826
Discount Tickets	27,630
H-E-B Community Night Tickets	800

TOTAL ATTENDANCE 136,256

2,932

FY23 donors

4,302

2022/23 subscribers

14,841

households came to a TUTS show for the first time

12,946

non-subscribers saw more than 1 show this season

All six 2022/23 mainstage shows provided ASL interpretation

ADDITIONAL PRODUCTIONS



Pierpont CEO, Phil Morabito, daughter Audrey, and TUTS Executive Director, Hillary Hart. Photo Credit: Priscilla Dickson

DONOR PROFILE PIERPONT COMMUNICATIONS

Theatre Under The Stars has been a proud beneficiary of support from Pierpont for 30 years. Their longstanding partnership and collaboration has fostered the magic of storytelling in the Houston community. As a production sponsor and corporate collaborator, Pierpont has directly uplifted outstanding talent by contributing support for iconic musicals such as our world premiere of **Disney's Beauty and The Beast**, championing our mainstage musicals, and exposing new patrons to musical theatre. Pierpont's dedication to the arts is unparalleled and has allowed TUTS to bring world-class productions to Houston, enriching our cultural landscape and cultivating bold creativity.

Pierpont, founded in 1987 by CEO Phil Morabito (and TUTS Board of Directors member), provides strategic communications and marketing services. They're the largest independent agency in the Southwest, representing clients in a broad spectrum of industries across offices in Houston, San Antonio, Dallas, and Austin and have been deemed one of Houston's "Best Places to Work" by the *Houston Business Journal* for 15 years. Pierpont's bold creativity in communications strategies help clients achieve measurable outcomes, and support the TUTS mission to generate new works as well as revitalize the classics. Thank you for your support, Pierpont Communications!

For more information about the programs Pierpont supports at TUTS, contact Chalise Pamplin at chalise.pamplin@tuts.com.



2022 Lights Up Chairs Patricia & Sig Cornelius and Dolores Cavatore & John Tobola

2022 LIGHTS UP

The Theatre Under The Stars Lights Up Gala, celebrating the 50th Anniversary of TUTS' **Humphreys School of Musical Theatre**, took place Friday, October 7, 2022 at The Astorian. The event raised more than \$660,000 for artistic excellence, community engagement and education. Chaired by **Patricia & Sig Cornelius and Dolores Cavatore & John Tobola**, it showcased the incredible talents of TUTS students with performances throughout the night, including the evening's headlining entertainer, Tony award winner **Alex Newell**. The night was hugely successful, exceeding the night-of goal by nearly 50%.

2023 LIGHTS UP

The TUTS 2023 Lights Up Gala was held on November 11, 2023 at the Post Oak At Uptown Houston. The TUTS community came together to honor **Amy & Robert Pierce** at this event chaired by **Zane & Brady Carruth**. The event raised over \$700,000 for musical theatre excellence! We are excited to share more information in our next digital issue of the Observatory!



Lights Up 2023 Honorees Amy & Rob Pierce with chairs Zane & Brady Carruth

Since 2021, TUTS Lights Up Gala has raised over **\$2,000,000** with the support of nearly 800 virtual and in-person guests!

SAVE THE DATE

2024 LIGHTS UP GALA

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2024



Leading Ladies Luncheon 2023 Chair, June Deadrick, with 2023 Shirley Stein Outstanding Champion in the Arts and Education honoree, Paula Harris, and TUTS Executive Director, Hillary Hart. Photo credit: Priscilla Dickson

TUTS hosted the annual Leading Ladies Luncheon on Friday, April 28 at Tony's. Chaired by **June Deadrick**, this annual Luncheon brought together patrons from across Houston's philanthropic arts community to celebrate our local volunteers and educators. For the third consecutive year, the Leading Ladies Luncheon surpassed its fundraising goal and filled Tony's to capacity. This year, TUTS honored **Paula Harris** (Houston Astros Foundation) as the Shirley Stein Outstanding Champion in the Arts and Education award. **Justin Doran** of **Saint Francis Episcopal** School received the Arts Educator of the Year award for showing outstanding dedication and commitment to arts education. **Jennifer Lamb** received the Volunteer of the Year award for her dedication and commitment to the culture of TUTS by serving as the Leading Ladies chair throughout the pandemic pause and beyond.

SAVE THE DATE

2024 LEADING LADIES LUNCHEON

FRIDAY, APRIL 5, 2024

Honoring Donna Vallone and Chaired by June Deadrick

A LETTER FROM HILLARY



all performing arts in the Greater Houston Area. We saw great success both in the inaugural year of this event in 2022 and this past August as Houston Theater Week returned for a second year. Sales for shows in our upcoming 2023/24 Season made up more than half of the ticket sales during that city-wide event!

While moments of our first full year back were difficult as we accommodated the last vestiges of COVID through shows being canceled and titles replaced, we've felt the excitement of our audiences as they became reacquainted with the incomparable experience of sitting next to each other and sharing this singular moment in time as they watch a musical unfold before their eyes.

The challenges and successes of the 2022/23 season, the first full season since the pandemic created many opportunities to connect, to try new things and to move forward with intent and purpose. We have seen the success of programs initiated in the years before and witnessed the new landscape of live entertainment in Houston.

The state of regional theatre across the country is cause for concern as people are returning to live theatre at a slower pace and donating at a declining rate when compared to previous years. While we too have seen a slower return of subscribers, donors, and single ticket buyers post-pandemic, we have also felt the support of our Board, our donors who have been able to stay with us through these challenging times, and our community; and we continue to grow.

Houston has a thriving arts scene. The success of events like Houston Theater Week, launched by TUTS in partnership with Houston First, illustrates how invested our community is in seeing and supporting

Our education and community programs continued to grow as more of our students returned and we welcomed many new students to both of our schools. Our spring and summer student productions were performed to packed houses in both the 2021/22 and 2022/23 Seasons.

Theatre Under The Stars continues to serve our community as we have since we began 55 years ago. While there may be challenges still ahead of us, there are also opportunities and an exciting path forward as we dream even bigger for TUTS and for our community.

Always,

Hillary J Hart
Executive Director

TUTS EDUCATION

Two years ago, the Education Department was restructured with a more integrated approach and the positive results were felt throughout the following seasons. Staff positions are no longer specified by location, be it at HSMT or The River, but with defined roles related to all students.

Authentic collaboration and shared responsibilities helped the Education team prioritize access and enhance programming. It impacted staff hiring: 25% of the part-time summer staff at The River have disabilities. A new initiative, the Teen Apprentice Program, is offered at no cost, making it accessible to high school students regardless of their family income bracket. H-E-B Community Night provides tickets to partner organizations in underserved communities to experience world class theatre at TUTS.



Humphreys School of Musical Theatre Create and Explore class

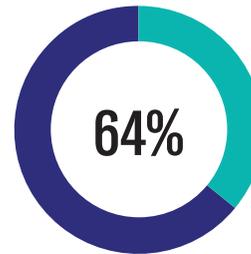
"Not only are [students] taught by working professionals up-to-date on all the latest techniques and practices, but they have the tremendous opportunity to audition and perform on the [TUTS] stage, working with renowned professional performers and directors/choreographers... it is a robust and unique program that benefits anyone involved."

EVAN TSITSIAS TUTS Education Teaching Artist



The highlight of the year was the impromptu visit *Mary Poppins* made to our Create & Explore classes and The River's Fall 2022 Showcase. It was surprising and delightful for students and parents alike.

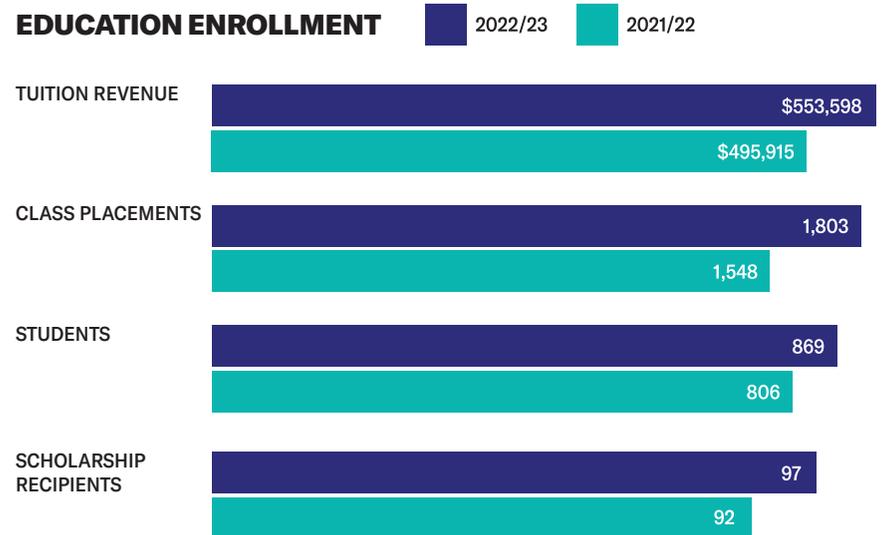
This was a season of unprecedented growth for the Education Department. Open Enrollment tuition revenue for the River and HSMT increased by \$57,683 due to an increase of 63 more students registering for an additional 255 courses than the previous season.



Students from TUTS Academy and The River were cast in 60 auditioned roles throughout our mainstage season. They rehearsed and performed beside union and non-union professionals as full members of our self-produced shows.

FY23 EDUCATION FAMILIES ARE DONORS

EDUCATION ENROLLMENT



TOMMY TUNE AWARDS

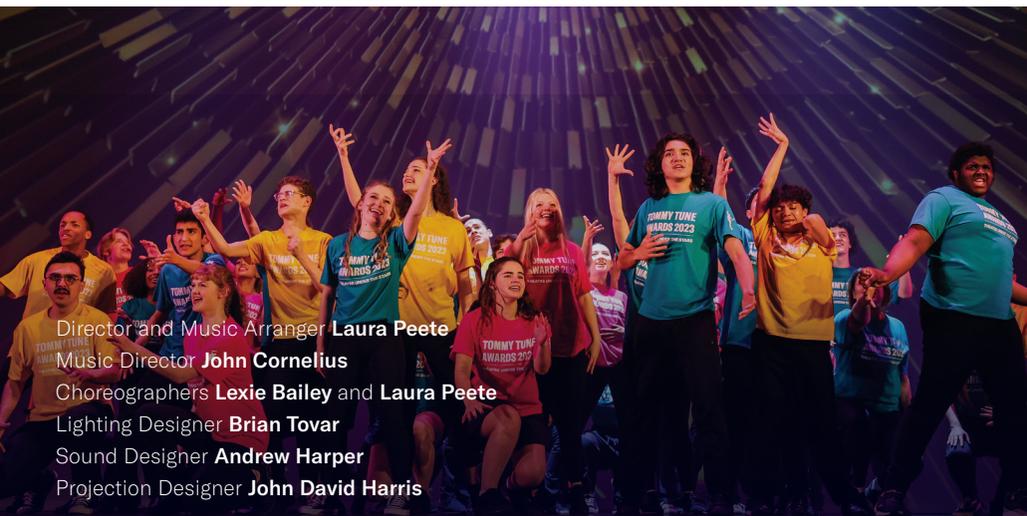
The Tommy Tune Awards unite the Houston community in support of the next generation of talent, uplifting high school thespians in both technical and artistic categories of study. We are proud to encourage young artists to pursue excellence in the arts, creating a legacy of musical theatre for Houston and by Houston.

Back in person for the first time since 2019, the 2023 Tommy Tune Awards Ceremony celebrated high school musical theatre programs in Houston. There were over 1,300 attendees, with more than 600 tickets provided free to students participating in the ceremony. The year-long adjudication process involved over 3,000 students from 48 schools throughout Greater Houston. G.W. Carver High School and Stratford High School won the Outstanding Musical awards. Tuts awarded \$38,000 in scholarships to 16 talented thespians for college education in the theatre arts.

Nic Rhew from Stratford High School and Makenzie Woolridge from Cypress Ranch High School advanced to represent Houston at the National High School Musical Theatre Awards (the Jimmy Awards) in New York City, where Makenzie Woolridge was a semifinalist.



2023 Tommy Tune Award Outstanding Performer in a Lead Role winner, Pre-Professional Company member and Cinderella cast member Makenzie Woolridge, in front of the Jimmy Award Nominees sign in Times Square.
Photo Credit: Gloria Brown



Director and Music Arranger **Laura Peete**
Music Director **John Cornelius**
Choreographers **Lexie Bailey** and **Laura Peete**
Lighting Designer **Brian Tovar**
Sound Designer **Andrew Harper**
Projection Designer **John David Harris**

TUTS IMPACT IN ACTION

Theatre Under The Stars has had a profound impact on my life and so many theatre artists around the world. Tuts to me is FAMILY and it is truly Houston's home for musical theatre. The Humphreys School of Musical Theatre (HSMT) and The River Education programs are top-notch and students from all backgrounds receive top-tier training.

As a former HSMT teaching artist and director, I have always appreciated the emphasis Tuts placed on training and building the total artist. As a result, many former and current academy students are thriving professionally in the arts and in life.

One of my favorite memories was directing *Bring It On* in 2014 which was a Tuts regional premiere with an all-teen cast. The production featured HSMT Academy students and local high school theatre students. We performed to sold out crowds, interviewed on several news networks and many students received their first

Broadway World review which was a success! After the production, Academy enrollment increased because many students wanted to be a part of the magic that Tuts has to offer. **We have some students from that 2014 production that are on Broadway now! Tuts educational programs provide a creative outlet and safe space for students to reach for the stars!**

Education is the great equalizer and the cornerstone of meaningful change in our society and educators are the glue that holds it all together. As an educator, I have always felt valued by Theatre Under The Stars. Receiving the inaugural Tuts Leading Ladies Arts Educator of the Year award was one of the highlights of my career. It encouraged me to keep advocating and being a champion of the arts! Now as a 2022 Tony Award-winning educator, I feel even more compelled to uplift my students and encourage them to follow their dreams.

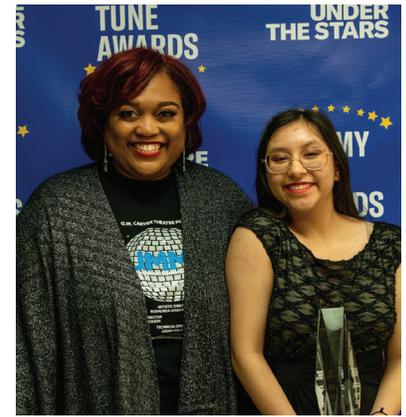
As the director of theatre at G.W. Carver Magnet HS in Aldine ISD for nearly 20 years, my students have directly benefited from the community engagement programs Tuts has to offer from masterclasses and apprenticeships, to attending phenomenal musical productions and participating in the annual Tommy Tune Awards.

We first participated in the TTA in 2008 and we received one nomination. We were over the moon. **That nomination sparked a fire with the students, teachers, administration and community.** Many years later we have received several Tommy Tune nominations and wins, with seven wins this year including Outstanding Musical for the high school premiere of *Summer: The Donna Summer Musical*. **The opportunity to perform on the Hobby Center stage is a once in a lifetime experience for students, and it gives them a glimpse of the professional world.** The Tommy Tune Awards as well as the other community engagement programs are vital to the Houston community.

On behalf of Theatre Under The Stars, I invite you to join me in supporting this outstanding organization by making a tax-deductible contribution to Theatre Under The Stars. Theatre Under The Stars has definitely enriched my life and has given me the chance to share my love of theatre with the world.

Roshunda Jones-Koumba

G.W. Carver Magnet HS Theatre Director
Tuts Arts Educator of the Year
2022 Tony Awards® Recipient



Roshunda Jones-Koumba and her student from George Washington Carver High School with the school's Best Musical award at the 2023 Tommy Tune Awards. Photo Credit: Ruben Vela

TUTS EDUCATION PROGRAMS

2022 saw the inception of TUTS inaugural **Pre-Professional Company**, 30 students, ages 15-20, in an elite training and performance company. Pre-professional artists experience career-focused musical theatre education with weekly rehearsals, industry professional masterclasses, competitions and performance opportunities.

Our performance troupe has performed throughout Houston, including the TUTS Lights Up Gala, SPCA Howl-O-Ween Ball, the Four Seasons Hotel's Annual Tree Lighting and ReelMusic at White Oak Music Hall.



2022/23 Pre-Professional Company

Of the 125 cast/creative teams participating in the 2023 Junior Theatre Festival in Atlanta, GA, the TUTS student-developed production of *Mary Poppins* received an Outstanding Production award and the Outstanding Directing Team award.

In 2023, TUTS Education produced two youth productions in Zilkha Hall. ***The SpongeBob Musical*** had an inclusive cast of 70 youth, 10% with disabilities. TUTS provided 695 free tickets to area schools and sold another 105 discounted tickets to two matinee youth performances. During these matinee performances, a sensory area was provided, with therapy dogs available from the non-profit organization Faithful Paws. ***Head Over Heels*** was comprised of 75 cast members. Nine of those performers were Tommy Tune Award Outstanding Lead Nominees who received scholarships from The Terry and Yogi Sheth Foundation to participate in the production.



TUTS Education production of *Head Over Heels*

Five musical theatre college majors who participated in our paid **Summer Apprenticeship Program** assisted with choreography, directing and stage management with this production. They led and taught the Humphreys School of Musical Theatre summer camps as well.



TUTS Education production of *The SpongeBob Musical*



Members of The River, HSMT and Community Members performing in the 2023 Inclusive Arts Showcase

INCLUSIVE ARTS SHOWCASE

The annual Inclusive Arts Showcase on August 3rd featured student performers from TUTS Education and our community. This capstone event in pursuit of the TUTS mission is student-led and student-driven; the ensemble brainstormed all the performance concepts and worked together collaboratively to bring them to life. The show centered on Hope & Harmony, including performances with Queen and Disney songs, the Golden Girls, and partner dancing. Over 100 people joined us for this production, which was free and open to the public. **Thank you to our partners at Kinder HSPVA for hosting this production one again!**

You can join us in supporting inclusivity as a core value of musical theatre by becoming a member of the Inclusive Arts Society. As a member, you not only support TUTS, but you also become an advocate for a more equitable world. The IAS is accessible to all; every gift, no matter the size, will make you an integral part of this dynamic giving circle.

To see more of what our students do, follow TUTS Education at [facebook.com/tutseducation](https://www.facebook.com/tutseducation).



DONOR PROFILE

THE SCHWEERS

FAMILY



Julie and Lauren Schweers at the Leading Ladies Luncheon

was being cast in *The Secret of My Success*, a new musical that premiered at TUTS. She was amazed by the opportunity to work alongside professional actors at such an early stage in her career. In 2019, she was also a part of the organization's Public Works performance of *Seussical* at Miller Outdoor Theatre, which she says was an amazing experience in which all people from Houston came together to create the magic of theatre.

Lauren interned at TUTS this spring and last spring for credit at school. She loved going behind the scenes to learn more about production and management at a theatre she had performed at for so long. She spent her first year with the development office, learning just how important donors are to a nonprofit such as TUTS. Her second year she helped with the Season Announcement Event and shadowed essential administrators who help TUTS run but are not always in the spotlight.

We donate to TUTS as a way to return the many gifts TUTS has given us over the years my family has been there. We also know that our gift will be used to better the lives of other students interested in the performing arts, just like our kids.

The impact theater has on the Houston community reaches far more than what is seen on the big stage; it is helping young students find their voice, teaching blossoming artists valuable skills, and giving everyone a place to come together as one.

We are so incredibly thankful that TUTS is a home for our kids for the past 10 years, and we're looking forward to all the exciting things to come this season.

We are driven to volunteer at TUTS because we enjoy watching students find the joy of musical theater. It is such a pleasure to help in any small way to promote the TUTS mission of allowing all kids to participate. **Through TUTS Education and the Leading Ladies we meet other like-minded people and other parents working towards the same mission of sharing theatre with all Houstonians.** While helping serve food at the Tommy Tune Awards this year, we were blown away by the joy the participants had leading up to a celebration of their hard work. When we helped throw the cast party for the students in *Into the Woods*, we had an amazing time witnessing their love for each other and the creative team.

TUTS classes have enriched my kids' lives. They have learned valuable skills that will help them find success in this industry while making friends with students from The River.

One standout moment Lauren mentioned



2023 Teen Apprentices, Photo Credit: Gloria Brown

TUTS EDUCATION

IN THE COMMUNITY

H-E-B Community Nights

TUTS partners with H-E-B to make theatre accessible to Houstonians through non-profit partners, including a post-show chat for the 2nd Wednesday performance of each TUTS self-produced show. In the 2022/23 season, communities of non-profits, including Girls Inc., Dress for Success, Fundación Latinoamericana De Acción Social, New Hope Housing, Wesley Community Center, Montrose Grace Place and Montrose Center, as well as students and staff of area schools, received 800 tickets to H-E-B community night performances.

Arts In Medicine

TUTS teaching artists used music, language, dance, art and mime to provide the magic of storytelling to over 700 pediatric patients and families at Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital in the 2022/23 season.

Teen Apprentices Program

TUTS professionals met monthly with 27 high school students to teach them about the technical and administrative sides of musical theatre. Three of these Teen Apprentices received paid opportunities as Assistant Stage Managers and Costume Assistants for ***The SpongeBob Musical*** and ***Head Over Heels***.

THANK YOU TO OUR 2022/23 DONORS!

ANNUAL MEMBERS*

Pegasus

Demetra & Frank Jones, Jr.
Lu Ann & Morton Katz
Gail & Gerald O'Neill
Elaine & Johnny Pickle
Amy & Rob Pierce
Vijaya & Rao Polavarapu
Tricia & Alan Ratliff

Lyra

Margaret Alkek Williams
Patricia & Sig Cornelius
Mr. Jay Landa & Mr. Daniel Turner
Cheryl & Herb Listen
Patrice Baumann McKinney & Pete McKinney
Mr. & Mrs. Roger Medors
Shelly, Jerome, Allie, Abbie, & Cameron Mulanax
Roxann & Timothy Neumann
Mr. & Mrs. Ronald W. Woliver

Orion

Cathy & Robert Binstock
Zane & Brady Carruth
Dolores Cavatore & John Tobola
Heather G. Hrap
Ms. Marlene Marker
Suzanne Reyes & Robert Scheinerman
Dr. Deborah & Mr. Adrian Shelley
Lauren & Pat Sullivan
Mr. Wilson Van Tine
Charlotte & Larry Whaley

Nova

Anonymous
Martha & Guy Benham
Ms. Tina Bentsen
Mr. Brad Blume
Mr. Will Brabston
Rebecca & Thomas Brandt
Mr. & Mrs. John Burgess
Mr. Steven L. Burkett & Ms. Margaret C. Lombardo
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Dr. Myron Diftler & Dr. Trevor Power
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Jana & Bert Lohse
Ms. Angela Lutz & Mrs. Posey Saenz
David & Wanda Marcell
Alexandra & James Marshall
Nancy F. Martin
Lindsey & Scott McReaken
Ms. Trini Mendenhall
Susan Mitchell
Phil & Joan Morabito
Dawn Neal & Michael Corripio
Beverly & Staman Ogilvie
Sara & Bret Oliver, PwC
Kay M. Onstead
Jane & Harry Pefanis
Mr. Robert Perkins & Dr. Joanna Lyman
Sara Perry
Mr. Robert Pilegge
Mr. Doug Pitcock
Julie & Tom Pradel
Jim & Sue Roberson
Dennis & Nataliya Scheib
Julie & Joel Schweers
Helen & Jim Shaffer
Patricia & Jeffrey Sheets
Mr. & Mrs. Yogesh Sheth
Aerin & Quentin Smith
Kristina & Paul Somerville
Sandy & Randy Stille
Marsha & David Taylor
Meredith & Rafi Tcholakian
Andrea & Trent Tellepsen
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen M. Trauber
Bridget & Tom Tomlinson
Mrs. Lynda Underwood
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew F. Veres
Julia & Bruce Vincent
Kim & John Watson
Sara & Rick Watts
Mr. Charles Williams
Mr. & Mrs. John Williamson
Mr. Mark & Mrs. Denise Woods
Patricia Yatauro

Morning Star

Margaret & George Basu
Ms. Julia Batdorf
Ms. Ann Bayless & Mr. Al Brende
Mr. Rick Chern
Mark & Kay Clavenna
Mark & Kay Victor Costa
Elaine Balaglia Croucher & Brant Croucher
Ms. June Deadrick
Mr. & Mrs. Jorge Hernandez
Stephanie & Randy Holcombe
Jack & Annis Bowen Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. J. B. Jones
Sherri & Tommy Lott
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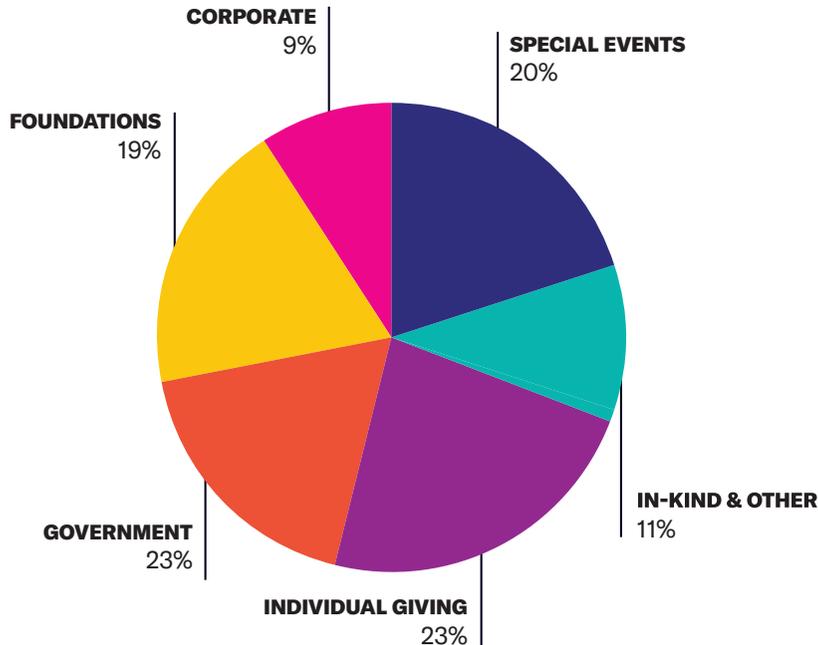
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FRIDAY, APRIL 5, 2024

Honoring Donna Vallone and Chaired by June Deadrick

TOMMY TUNE AWARDS CEREMONY

THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 2024

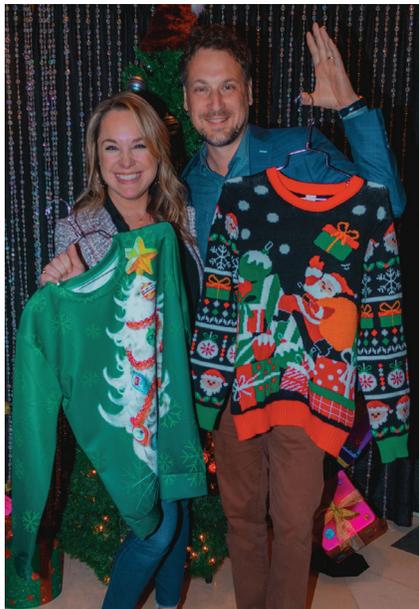
2024 LIGHTS UP GALA

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2024

ANNUAL FUND MEMBERSHIP

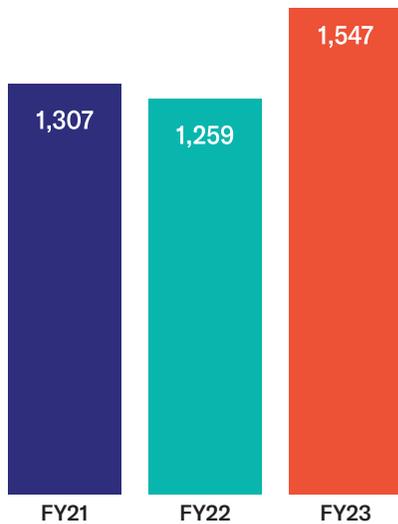
During the pandemic pause, our leadership was inspired to revisit our benefits program to maximize donor access to TUTS productions and year-round programming. This pivot allows you to actively engage with the things you love most at TUTS, aside from subscriber perks.

Our premier in-show donor experience, **Stargazers Salon**, is available pre-show and at intermission for every mainstage performance. Exciting new events like **Tech Talks** and **More Than Song and Dance** offer donors the chance to delve into the artform of musical theatre and its rich history. Additionally, we celebrated the **Season Announcement** with an exclusive performance prior to the public announcement. We've also brought back some favorite donor benefits: drink tickets for TUTS productions are available at the Sol and Morning Star levels!



Elaine Balagia Croucher and Brant Croucher at the Season Announcement Event. Photo Credit: Ruben Vela

ANNUAL FUND MEMBERSHIPS PER YEAR



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Theatre Under The Stars is fortunate to have three pillars of support in the form of affinity groups devoted to building and sustaining the mission of TUTS to enrich lives through innovative musical theatre, inclusive educational curriculums, and dynamic community engagement. Scan the QR code to learn more about our affinity groups!

- **The Leading Ladies** are a dynamic group of vibrant women with a shared passion for musical theatre and a commitment to Theatre Under The Star's educational and community engagement efforts through volunteering, fundraising, and social awareness.

Leading Ladies



- **The Company** seeks to attract an energetic community of well-networked, philanthropic musical theatre lovers in Houston's arts and culture scene who support the inclusive and diverse programming of TUTS through advocacy, awareness, community relations, and financial support.

The Company

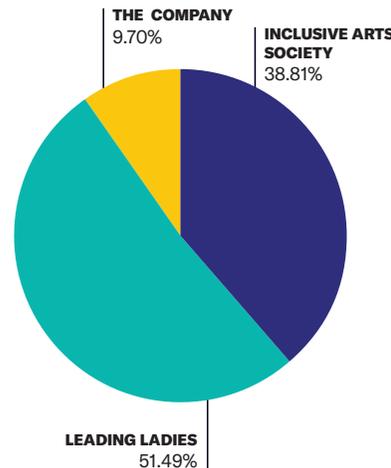


- **The Inclusive Arts Society (IAS)** is committed to breaking down barriers to the craft of musical theatre by collectively supporting and advocating for the practice of equity, diversity, and inclusion across all areas of our organization; bring together diverse peoples, cultures, traditions, and ideas.

IAS



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Leading Ladies Lister Carbon, Shanteria Williams, Julie Schweers, Jennifer Lamb, Dawn Neal, Susan Fontenot, Jennifer Block, and Susan Hawes at the Sweeney Todd cast meet-and-greet. Photo credit: Ruben Vela

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The cast of TUTO's Spring 2023 Production of RENT
Photo Credit: Melissa Taylor