

# Alaska Junior Theater Annual Report 2008-2009



# A message from the President

Dear Friends,

Alaska Junior Theater is healthy, growing and on the move! It has been an amazing season filled with fantastic performers and sold-out shows. On top of such successes in the theater, AJT was named the recipient of the 2009 Mayor's Arts Award for Outstanding Arts Organization! AJT continues to move along a well-charted course toward fulfillment of its vision "to bring the best professional, performing arts from around the world to Alaska's youth and family audiences."

Today, we offer subsidized tickets to age-appropriate school shows with direct ties to Alaska Content Standards, study guides and transportation for students. AJT reaches over 44,000 students and teachers and provides more than 3,800 full scholarships each year, ensuring each child has access to the wonderful world of live performance.

This year was remarkable! It was a year of continued reflection, continued progress and continued success even in the face of unstable economic climate. Through program development, we continue to make progress toward reaching our strategic goals. This fiscal year, AJT accomplished the following:

- Increased the number of scholarships for low income students and Title I schools
- Increased the number of corporate volunteers for school shows
- Continued outreach into smaller Alaskan towns such as Kenny Lake, Kenai and Healy
- The largest residency with Kahurangi Maori Dance Theatre of New Zealand with 17 outreach events reaching over 2,488 community members

AJT could not fulfill our mission without the valued support of you, our patrons, our volunteers, our sponsors and donors! Thank you for your continued support. By being involved with AJT, you enrich the lives of young people and families in our communities through performing arts.

Sincerely,

Dianne Hoffbauer  
President, Board of Directors

Lainie Dreas  
Executive Director



# About Alaska Junior Theater

Alaska Junior Theater is a private, nonprofit organization that has been bringing the best in professional theater from around the world to Alaska's young audiences for more than 28 years. Each year, more than 44,000 students attend a variety of live performances, which share the common educational goal of "bringing learning to life." For many students, AJT's school-time presentations are their only exposure to the performing arts.

## Supporting Education

Each show we present has a strong educational theme. Our shows are often able to inspire many students who cannot be reached in a more traditional classroom setting. Teachers also rely on our study guides to prepare their students for what they will see and to create classroom projects in history, social studies, geography, science and other fields. To augment our performances, we offer teacher and student performing arts workshops and master classes whenever they are available.

## Building a Stronger Community

AJT is committed to building a stronger community by presenting programs that offer different cultural perspectives to Alaska's children—thereby expanding their horizons, opening new worlds of insight into other cultures, and inspiring them to work towards overcoming barriers. We also offer a public family series, allowing all members of the family to enjoy high-quality entertainment together.

## Strengthening Partnerships throughout Alaska

AJT is strengthening partnerships to bring theater, music and dance performances to young people and families in smaller Alaskan communities. For the 2008-2009 season, AJT will build upon its relationships with rural school districts, cultural organizations and Alaska Native regional and village corporations to bring performances to Barrow, Bethel, Kenai, Glenallen and other towns.

## Creating Accessibility

AJT is committed to keeping ticket prices low, allowing children of all financial levels to attend a professional theater experience. Our low educational ticket price of \$6 in Anchorage includes not only a performance, but also bus transportation for students and teachers to and from the Alaska Center for the Performing Arts. This price covers half our costs of presenting the shows. To subsidize the remaining \$6 of each ticket, we actively fundraise and rely on the support of corporations, foundations and individuals with a strong community spirit to provide scholarship support. In addition, we fundraise to offer full scholarships, at \$12 each, to students with financial need. Since our inception, we have presented the best in the performing arts to almost 800,000 children and parents. On top of such successes in the theater, AJT was named the recipient of the 2009 Mayor's Arts Award for Outstanding Arts Organization.

## 2008-2009 Board of Directors

Diane Hoffbauer, President, Willow Crest Elementary  
Karen Boshell, First Vice President, Youth Arts Advocate  
Chrissy Bell, Second Vice President, Alaskan Aids Assistance Association  
Cassie Kosinski, Treasurer, Wells Fargo Investments  
Cathy Opinsky, Secretary, AT&T  
Martial Byrd, BP  
Josie Davidson, The Salvation Army  
Frank Hauser, ASD Music Supervisor  
Tina Johnson-Harris, Bartlett High School  
Teri Kostka, ConocoPhillips Alaska  
H. Marie Polito, Alyeska Pipeline  
Pam Robinson, Southcentral Foundation  
Denyce Treybig, BP  
Dawn Wilcox, Rogers Park Elementary School  
Lorrie & Morris Horning, Founders

## Staff

Lainie Dreas, Executive Director  
Kristin Jones, Marketing & PR Associate  
Sue Joyce, Education Associate



# Achievements

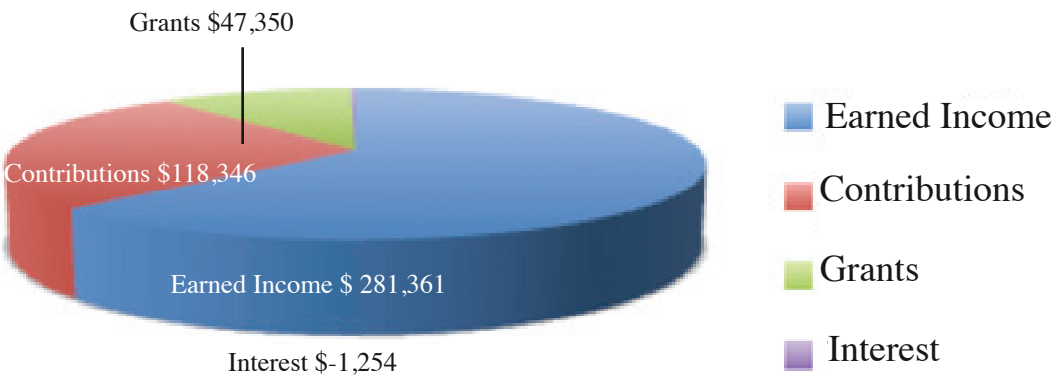
The mission of Alaska Junior Theater is to bring the best performing arts from around the world to Alaska's youth and family audiences.

During the 2008-2009 fiscal year, Alaska Junior Theater accomplished the following:

- Provided 3,820 student scholarships to school shows
- Raised the curtain on 50 performances
- Reached 51,835 students, teachers and family members through educational performances and outreach activities
- Partnered with 274 volunteers contributed 805 of hours to ensure all Alaskan youth have access to the performing arts
- Conducted 42 master classes, lectures or outreach events
- Allocated 811 complimentary tickets to public shows, a majority of which were given to social service organizations
- Distributed pre-performance study guides to 1,334 teachers in the Anchorage and Matanuska-Susitna School district teachers
- Sent AJT's visiting artists to Kenai, Kenny Lake and Healy. And block-booked our artists in Dillingham, Ketchikan, Valdez, Seldovia and Homer.
- In the nine days while in Anchorage, Kahurangi Maori Dance Theatre of New Zealand reach 2,488 people with 17 outreach events that did not include the school or public shows at the ACPA.
- We added school shows for *Madeline and the Bad Hat* and Kahurangi Maori Dance Theatre of New Zealand to meet the huge waitlist created by teacher demand. Soul Street Dance Company went to seven different Alaska towns as Alaska Junior Theater acted as an anchor and sponsor for other arts and education organizations.
- AJT received the 2009 Mayors Arts Awards for Outstanding Arts Organization. Black Violin's public show sold out completely with 2055 seats and we had to sent people away. The Annual Benefit Dinner rased a record amount in donations.

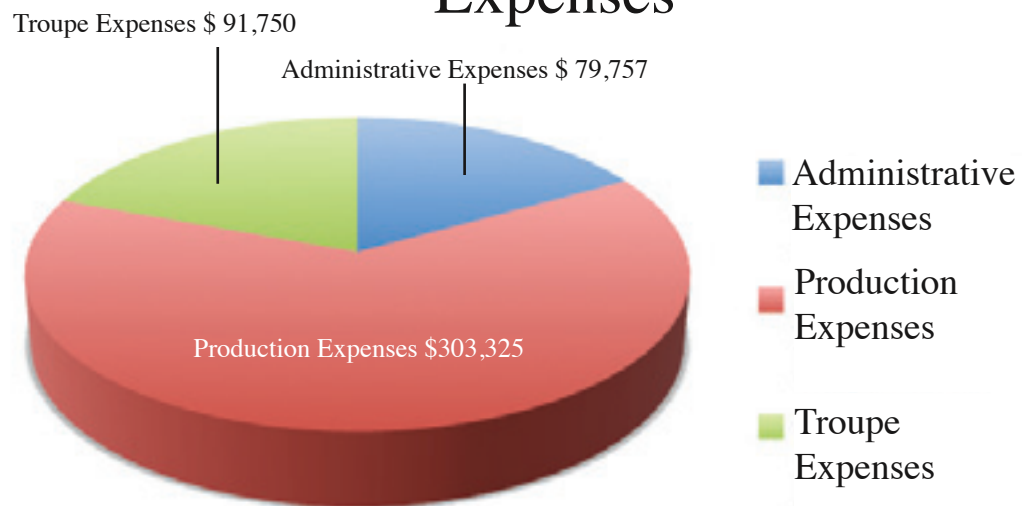
# Operating Budget

## Revenue



**Total Revenue \$ 445,803**

## Expenses



**Total Expenses \$ 474,832**

# 08-09 Support from the Community



\$20,000 - \$50,000



\$5,000 - \$19,999



Larry &  
Wilma Carr

ConocoPhillips

\$2,500 - \$4,999

Alaska Airlines • Anchorage Daily News • AVIS Rent-A-Car • BP • Crossroads Productions Light & Sound • First National Bank Alaska • GCI • Barnard and Rachel Gottstein • Hilton Los Cabos Beach and Golf Resort • May Jefford • Totem Ocean Trailer Express • WESTAF

\$1,000 - \$2,499

Alaska Fur Gallery • Anadarko Productions • Pita Jelly Benz • Martial Byrd • Lainie Dreas • Dianne Hoffbauer • Hula Hands • Lorrie and Morris Horning (AJT Founders) • Kinley's • Fishin' Rod's Kenai Charters • Paul and Dawn Wilcox

\$500 - \$999

Alaska Center for the Performing Arts • Bagoy's Florist • Brotherhood Inc. • Coca Cola of Alaska • Carol & Dennis Comeau • Vonnie Gaither • Tricia and Frank Hauser\* • Tina Johnson-Harris\* • Kari & Eddie Hebert\* • David & Cassie Kosinski\* • John & Cathy Opinsky\* • Dan & Marie Polito\* • Pam & Marc Robinson\* • Sorotimist International of Cook Inlet • Real Estate Unlimited • Clyde & Denyce Treybig\* • Kelly & Bret Tyner • Mike & Cherie Utsler

\$100 - \$499

Alaska Community Share • Alaska Community Land Trust • Allure Day Spa & Hair Design • Anonymous • Shannon & Chrissy Bell\* • Nate Benson • Ed & Emily Blahous • Karen & Dave Boshell\* • Yvonne D.J. & Tyrone Charles • Lucian Childs • Color Art Printing • Josie Davidson\* • Sharon & Jerry Fairley • Jacqueline Holzman, Frank Jeffries & Jordan Jeffries • Rod & Sandy Jones • Jim & Teri Kostka\* • Sheila Lankford • Richard & Louise Lazur • Gina & Ken Luckey • Jennifer Lynn • Carol Moonie & David Mannheim • Opal Myers • Ruth & Tom Nighswander • Jeff Oliver • Janet Platt • Rasmuson Foundation • Karen Rogers • Beth Rose & John Levy • Sacks Cafe & Restaurant • Side Street Espresso • Superstar Pastry Design • Merri Kae & Allen Vanderploeg • Natasha & Rudolph Von Imhof

## Friends of AJT

Anonymous • Matt & Megan Carle • Mike Colombie • Kimberly Copadis • Penny Crane • Laile Fairbairn • Rachel Gregory & Rhody Lauenders • Moira & Scott Halbert • Sheila Hall • Dave Herndon • Erik & Robin Hill • Kim Jaime • Lindsay JefferyFairley • Jackie Knue • Sheila Lankford • Ann Norton • Ellen Segal • Randee Shafer • Pat & Russell Stigall • Deborah Till • Josh Vincent • Mary & Steve Waltz • Mary Witthus & Tim Fulton

\*indicates AJT board