

JANUARY 2026

THE BALTIMORE BULLETIN



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VICTORIA PLAYERS CHILDREN'S THEATER UPDATES

The VPCT team put on a series of splendid shows before Christmas. Congratulations to the entire cast, crew, and gang of supporting adults for all the work put into The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe production! And of course a big thanks to all who came to the shows, and the show's sponsors:

- Baum Law Office
- Buckeye Automotive Family
- Christa Grover Insurance
- In Memory of Joe Jenkins
- The Law Firm of Emily Strang Tarbert
- Reidac Ltd. Roofing and Siding
- Sitterley Law LLC

The Cast of The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe (Amy Lynn photos)



THE LION, THE WITCH AND THE WARDROBE

Dec. 19-21 | Victoria Opera House

JACK WESTHOVEN AS **ASLAN**
JULIA PAINI **WHITE WITCH** HARRY WESTHOVEN **DWARF**
CARSYN COX **LUCY** REAGAN THOMAS **TUMNUS/ELF**
FRANCO WILLIAMSON **EDMUND** SHAYLEE McMANUS **MR. BEAVER**
NICHOLAS HENWOOD **PETER** RIANN LEE **MRS. BEAVER**
AUDREY BARR **SUSAN** KAMRYN WILSON **UNICORN**
JOCELYN GRIBEN **FENRIS ULF** LUKE WIDENER **CENTAUR**
& AUSTIN ENDSLEY AS **FATHER CHRISTMAS**

WOOD NYMPHS: KAITLYN McARTHUR, MADDIE MORRIS, BRIELLE SCHRADER, PAIGE SKELLEY, CLAIRE WESTHOVEN

ANIMALS 1-6: ARYA BAYLESS, SPENCER ROGERS, ARYA MAUGER, WREN DAWSON, BRIANNA BIGLER, BEN CHABOT

ENSEMBLE: ARYA BAYLESS, ASHER BEITMAN, RINOA BEITMAN, BRIANNA BIGLER, MORGAN BELVILLE, BEN CHABOT, LUKE DAVIS, WREN DAWSON, AUSTIN ENDSLEY, BROCK GALLAGHER, ARYA MAUGER, KAITLYN McARTHUR, CORA PATTERSON, SPENCER ROGERS, REAGAN THOMAS

Direction by: Jill Henwood

The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe is produced by special arrangement with The Dramatic Publishing Company of Woodstock, Illinois.

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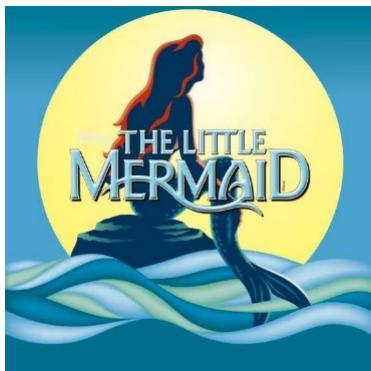
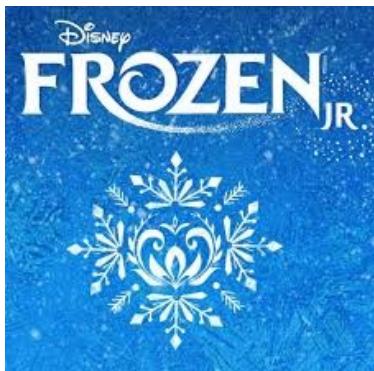
The Tech Crew for the holiday show.



It seems the VPCT never rests; their next show is already in the works. Don't miss Disney's Frozen Jr. at the Opera House June 4 - 7. Auditions will be announced soon for interested actors aged 6 - 18.

Chicago "Teen Edition" will wow the crowd in July. Shows for this large musical will be at Liberty Union High School. This show will feature actors aged 13 - 18. Follow VPCT on Facebook (Victoria Players Children's Theater) or Instagram (vpctheater) to keep up.

And live theater fans should also note that Liberty Union High School will be presenting Disney's Little Mermaid March 12 - 15. Look for VPCT alumni who are part of this production!



The Victoria Players Children's Theater is a program of the BDRC. Special thanks to the tireless volunteers who make our spectacular VPCT productions possible!

The VPCT Committee is:

- Ryan Westoven, Chair
- Jill Henwood, Artistic Director
- Danielle Bartos
- Max DeBaltzo
- Trish Hendershot
- Megan Hysell
- Brooke Schrader
- Melissa Sponseller
- Codi Williamson

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CIVIL WAR ERA MUSIC AT THE VICTORIA

On Sunday Feb. 1, the 73rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry Regiment Band will grace the Victoria's stage. This brass band plays music from the 19th century, accompanied by Civil War history. Band members wear infantry uniforms and play historically accurate instruments. Come and enjoy this unique show, starting at 3 PM. Admission is free!



IN COMMEMORATION OF AMERICA'S 250TH AND BALTIMORE'S BICENTENNIAL

— A —

FREE CONCERT

OF

CIVIL WAR MUSIC

*Authentic Arrangements Performed on
Original 19th Century Brass Instruments*

TO BE GIVEN BY THE

*73rd OHIO
VOLUNTEER INFANTRY
REGIMENT BAND*

J. M. Huffman, Jr., Bandmaster



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2026, 3 PM

THE VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE

101 South Main St., BALTIMORE, O.

COME EXPERIENCE THE SIGHTS AND SOUNDS OF A TRULY AUTHENTIC
CIVIL WAR BRASS BAND!

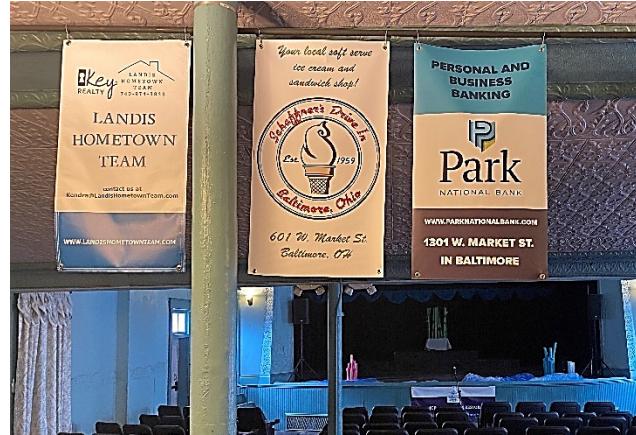
 Handicap accessible; parking available. For more information, please visit
<https://baltimoredowntownrestoration.com>

NEED A VENUE? RENT THE OPERA HOUSE FOR YOUR EVENT

No need to wait two years for your venue to be available! Make magical memories in this historic space. Contact the BDRC for wedding package options and rates. The VOH is also available for assorted parties, meetings, and rental events, offering flexible theater and ballroom spaces.

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THANK YOU TO OUR OPERA HOUSE SPONSORS

The restoration of Fairfield County's only historic Opera House is ongoing, and would not be happening without local support. The BDRC would like to thank last year's banner sponsors:

- Park National Bank
- Sherry Looney and the Loon Crew/Howard Hanna Realty
- Schaffner's Drive In
- Baum Law Office
- Landis Hometown Team/Key Realty
- VFW Post 3761



THE NOSTALGICS HOLIDAY SHOW SCORES A HIT

Nothing puts folks in the holiday mood like big band Christmas music! Lancaster's own Nostalgics Big Band returned to the Opera House stage on December 7 for a great afternoon of festive music. Look for more shows from The Nostalgics Big Band in 2026, starting in June!

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JILL, LEE, MARY & FRIENDS CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Jill Henwood, Mary Dupler, and Lee Crader were again joined by a group of very talented friends to share a great evening of Christmas music on Dec. 23. This annual yuletide show always touches the heart and keeps the foot tapping. Thanks so much to everyone who performed, attended, or donated during the evening.



Join us for an evening
of Christmas music.

Mary Dupler



Lee Crader



Jill Henwood



Christmas with Friends ~ Dec. 23, 7 p.m. ~ Victoria Opera House



KROGER REWARDS SUPPORT THE BDRC



Do you shop at Kroger? It's super easy to support the BDRC, VPCT, and Opera House by signing up for Kroger Community Rewards. Just go to Krogercommunityrewards.com, sign in with your Kroger Plus card, click enroll, and designate the BDRC (#KU440) as the organization you wish to support. Then Kroger sends us a quarterly check as a reward for your purchases.

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HOMETOWN HOLIDAYS VISITS

As part of the Village Hometown Holidays celebration, the Opera House was decked out with a selfie station on Dec. 6. Thanks to everyone who stopped in to take advantage. We hope some fun holiday memories were created! See you next Christmas!



COMING SOON: CONSTRUCTION AHEAD



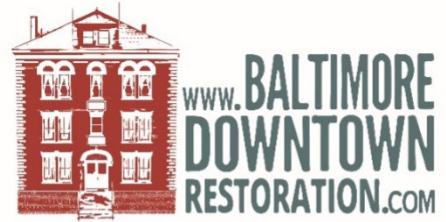
The Opera House will soon be buzzing with construction noise as new custom cabinetry is installed. The audio booth area in the theater has been cobbled together with assorted structures. All that will be replaced with a proper audio booth area. In addition, the makeshift concession stand will be replaced with coordinating concession stand cabinets. We are so looking forward to these improvements!

Special thanks to the Fairfield County Foundation's Ann Chess Fund, and to the Edward N. Sands Fund for Baltimore. Grants from these two amazing charitable funds will make this work possible.



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NEW WINDOW WORK COMPLETED

The third phase of window replacement in the Victoria Opera House has been completed! The last of the cracked, leaky, peeling old windows were replaced by Rosati Windows in January. This was the final phase of the project. Our sincere thanks to Mayor Rick Ellas and the Village Council for funding and supporting this project. Maintaining the building's exterior envelope will help ensure that the Opera House stands for many more years as a downtown landmark and center of activity.

THE GROOVE CITY BIG BAND IS COMING TO TOWN

We're excited to announce that The Groove City Big Band will be performing at the Opera House on Saturday, April 11. The Groove City Big Band is a 21-piece jazz orchestra established in 2023 in Grove City, Ohio, comprised of music educators, composers, arrangers, professional musicians, and Marching 110 alumni.



While the GCBB loves to play the standards that have stood the test of time, they cover songs across the entire jazz spectrum. From Latin to rock to jazz fusion—and, of course, swing—the GCBB is devoted to exploring different styles with their old-school charm, ensuring there's something for everyone at their shows.

Don't miss this 7 PM show! Admission is free, with donations accepted at the door.

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BDRC BOARD ELECTIONS HELD

The BDRC is a 501 c 3 nonprofit corporation. The group has a board of directors from the community, and elects officers annually. Without the countless hours and dedicated efforts of these people, the BDRC and Opera House would cease to function.

The Board meets at the Victoria Opera House on the third Thursday, 7 PM, Jan. – Nov. of each year. Visitors are always welcome, and we have volunteer opportunities year round. Learn more or get involved by dropping us a line at baltimoredowntownrestoration@gmail.com.

Board and Officers for 2026

- Steve Cothrel, Director
- Brandy McCreery, Assistant Director
- Andrew Todd, Secretary
- Michele Morrone, Treasurer
- Beth Volpe, Board Member
- Angi Miller, Board Member
- Kathy Roshon, Board Member
- Ryan Westhoven, Board Member & VPCT Chair
- Joe Machado, Board Member
- Jill Henwood, Board Member & VPCT Artistic Director
- Melissa Pickens, Board Member

TOP SECRET!

We're planning a special event in the Opera House for members, donors, and sponsors in April! Stay tuned for details



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THANKS FOR SUPPORTING THE BDRC

As a volunteer run 501 (c) 3 non-profit, the BDRC depends on revenue from donations, memberships, sponsorships, and events to operate. This is what makes all our programming and the ongoing restoration of the Victoria Opera House possible!

Memberships are available at different levels, and all new and renewed members score great custom swag. In addition, anyone who contributes \$500 or more per year has an annual recognition plaque hung in the Victoria Opera House. Look for updates for 2026 in the new year.

Finally, annual sponsorships for the following programs and more are available.

- Victoria Players Children's Theater
- Victoria Opera House Restoration
- Flag Fund (flags on Main & Market St.)
- Holiday Decorations

KEEP UP WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

The BDRC and its many programs are on Facebook at:

- Baltimore Downtown Restoration
- Victoria Opera House
- Victoria Players Children's Theater – VPCT
- Instagram: vpctheater

And of course, our website is up to speed with current events and programs. Questions? Email us at:

- baltimoredowntownrestoration@gmail.com
- vpctheater@gmail.com

PO Box 74, Baltimore, OH 43105

Email: baltimoredowntownrestoration@gmail.com

The Baltimore Bulletin is a periodic publication of the Baltimore Downtown Restoration Committee, a volunteer run 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization.

