



# THE Marquee

From the Desk of Vonnie Corsini, Executive Director August 2022 / ISSUE FIVE / VOL 4

**50 percent of your gift is returned!** Yes. You read that correctly. So, act fast. Credits will be awarded on a “First come, first served” basis. CFTF has received \$300,000 in 50-50 Kansas Community Service Tax Credits. If a donor makes a gift of \$5,000 or more (the limit is a \$100,000 gift) between now and December 2022, the State of Kansas will return 50% of the gift next spring (2023) when you file your state income tax return. A person or business is eligible. If you have no tax liability, the State of Kansas will write a check back to you equal to 50% of the gift. The gift must be received by the CFTF on or before December of this year. Kansas Tax Form K-60 must be used to claim the credit if you make a gift to the CFTF. Speak with your accountant today!



**The CFTF was one of only 29** non-profit organizations selected to receive Community Service Tax Credits. This year, we were among only 5 of the applicants to receive these tax credits that were not a health or human service organization. The other 4 were two libraries and two community colleges. This award demonstrates the role the state sees the Colonial

Fox playing in allowing the state to continue attracting new businesses to invest in Kansas by improving the quality of life in our community.

**“A Community Keystone” is our phrase** for communicating the value and importance of a renovated and operating Colonial Fox Theatre. Historic theatres in cities like Pittsburg are building community and serving as places that bring people of all ages together to experience the arts, to be entertained, and to celebrate together. They entertain, drive commerce, and develop ever greater community pride as they create a location to grow the local arts and cultural community. Downtown Salina and Emporia are examples of the impact historic theatres have made. The Colonial Fox Theatre project can be a “keystone” strengthening Pittsburg’s downtown, our city and the region.

**We extend our sympathies to the families of our dear friends** Alvin Rittenhouse, Richard Simpson, John Kreissler, Barbara Cooper, and Wilma McQuade. They will be missed by their families and by our community.

**Kansas has seven restored and operating historic theatres.** The Burford Theater (Arkansas City – 2018) • The Columbian Theatre (Wamego – 1994) • Granada Theatre (Emporia – 2010) • CL Hoover Opera House (Junction City – 2008) • McPherson Opera House (McPherson – 2010) • Watson Stiefel Theatre (Salina – 2003) • Hutchinson Fox Theatre (Hutchinson – 1999).

The power of these restored historic theatres for a downtown is that they attract tens of thousands of visitors. With the prospect of daily patrons and consistent foot traffic, additional businesses started following the opening



of these theatres in their respective downtowns. These include restaurants, breweries, art galleries, and specialty stores like custom chocolates, and coffee houses. Additionally, investment was made in downtown apartment complexes with first-floor professional and retail locations. Business interests have invested tens of millions of dollars in these various downtowns. An open and operating historic CFT can be the driving force behind Pittsburg's downtown economy, attracting pedestrian traffic and patrons for the downtown businesses.

**Olive Street Presents Trout Fishing in America!** At the Bicknell Center on September 30<sup>th</sup>, *Trout Fishing in America* will be performing at 7:00 p.m. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. Day-of-performance tickets are \$25. Tickets purchased in advance are \$20 each. An American musical duo from Houston, Texas, *Trout Fishing in America* is known for its musical style, with albums alternating between folk rock and children's music largely composed by the duo themselves. They have been nominated three times for a Grammy Award. For more information, visit [olivestreetpresents.org](http://olivestreetpresents.org).



#### QUESTIONS?

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The MARQUEE is provided to individuals and businesses who help advance the cause of philanthropy through the renovation and operation of the Colonial Fox Theatre.