

PORTLAND CENTER STAGE AT THE ARMORY

Education & Community Programs

2021-2022 Report



Regional Arts &
Culture Council



JAMES E. AND MARION L.
MILLER
FOUNDATION

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Photo: Espacio Flamenco at JAW. Photo by Alec Lugo.



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Student Matinees

Our student matinee program aims to greatly increase the number of young people who experience high-quality, professional theater. The program offers deeply subsidized tickets, including free tickets for schools with 50% or more qualifying for free or reduced lunch and nonprofit organizations. Stage Door also provides online resource guides, building tours, post-show Q&A with artists, and in-school student workshops – all for free – to help educators incorporate theater into classroom curricula.

“Thank you for such a wonderful experience yesterday. The performance of *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime* exceeded all our expectations. Our Southridge kids had a great time, and we were super impressed with the attention and enthusiasm of all the other schools present. Most of all we are so grateful for your staff’s generosity and versatility at every step of this two-year-long process. Thank you for making yesterday so special.”

– Ashley Jetton and Jeff Corso, Southridge High School



Students Served

4,998 students attended a play

3,336 received a free ticket

501 participated in a workshop

380 went on a building tour

168 groups saw a play

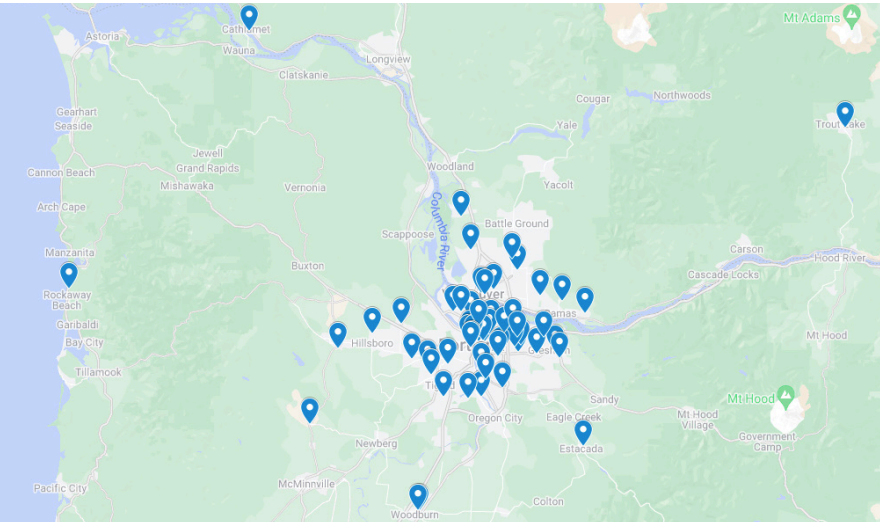
2,579 Resource Guide downloads*

On a scale of one to five, 88.9% of youth responded with a 4 or 5 when asked if they were absorbed by and enjoyed the performance.

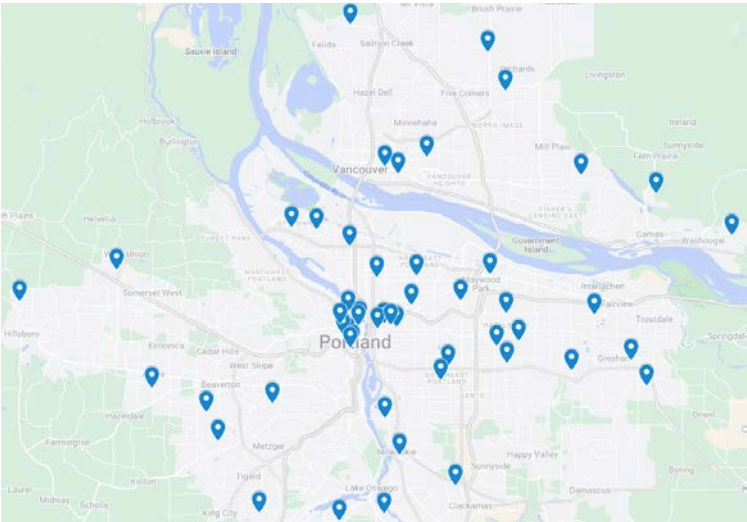
92.6% responded they learned something about other people’s experiences that are different from their own.

*Our resource guide is available and accessed by patrons of all ages.

Schools/organizations served



Metro region schools/organizations served



Teen Playwrights

Designed to meet Oregon benchmarks for Arts and English/Language Arts, our Teen Playwrights’ residencies address theatrical conventions and dramatic structure, as well as writing and constructive critical response. The playwriting program culminates at the end of the school year with free, public readings of plays selected from all the residency sites, performed by professional actors. In addition, up to six Teen Playwright “graduates” are chosen to participate in PCS’s annual JAW New Play Festival, working alongside professionals from across the country as they work on new plays.

“You have changed kids’ lives...I am so grateful and honored to have been able to have our kids be included in this program this year & to have had 3 have their plays shared on a professional level. Those 3 kids are over the moon. Seriously.”

– Dr. Zena, McDaniel H.S.

“I’m an aspiring writer, so this class was kind of a dream for me... It was super, super fun.”

– Adison, McDaniel H.S.



High Schools and Number of Students Served

Alliance H.S. at Meek.....	13
McDaniel H.S.....	28
Roosevelt H.S.....	26
Mt. Scott Learning Center.....	15
Glencoe H.S.....	18
Ft. Vancouver H.S.....	23

Photos: JAW Teen Playwrights.
Photo credits: Clara-Liis Hillier and Kate Szrom





Teen Council & Teen Academy

Teen Theater Academy builds skills and confidence, while deepening the connection to the inspiring world of theater. Our teaching professionals, drawn from Portland's theater elite, provide pre-professional theater training focused on scene work, monologues, musical theater, devising and more. With many offerings in Summer, Teen Academy also offers classes throughout the school year.

Teen Council is composed of high school students who want a deeper involvement with professional theater and opportunities to take part in advanced theater experiences. Activities involve attending monthly workshops led by PCS professionals and select performances of our productions. Participation is always free and ongoing.

"Ella told me this has been the best summer camp ever. She does not want it to end. She described the last two weeks as a "breath of fresh air" and she felt completely comfortable sharing exactly who she is with everyone involved in the camp. This has been a very special two weeks for Ella." – Teen Academy parent, Crystal Ball

"The performance yesterday was unlike anything I have ever seen before and the workshop after was fun and informative. I learn something great to take with me every time I step into that space and as a young actor who wants to do theater as a career, I'm so grateful for these opportunities. Every time I see a new person there we have a connection through Theater and I've made some amazing friends!" – Shaelyn Gallagher, Teen Council Member



Students Served

78

Teens in seven Teen Academy Sessions

205

Teens participating in 10 Teen Council Events

30

Active Core Teen Council Members



Community Events

Portland Center Stage aims to create transcendent theatrical experiences and community programs that break down the barriers separating people.

Community Programs at PCS seek to elevate local artists, creatives, and experts. Our partnerships center Black, Indigenous, and other Communities of Color while prioritizing accessibility. Inspired by themes found in our productions, community programs explore parallels to what is happening in our community. From post-show discussions and First Thursday celebrations to pre-show performances and movie nights, PCS Community Programs are designed to enhance our audience's experience of the productions, build community, and serve as places of connection and conversation.

"Theatre Diaspora works specifically to make sure Asian American, Pacific Islander, and Native Hawaiian individuals feel welcome and safe to build connections within our community. The Portland Center Stage team went above and beyond making sure we had what we needed to do so. We are incredibly grateful!"

– Samson Syharath, Theatre Diaspora

"Thanks for giving me the opportunity to be on the perspectives panel. It was a magnificent production, filled with emotion, pain, hope and rebirth. It was an honor to work with you and to share the experience with my phenomenal daughter, Lenanne, and the world famous Mel Brown. BRAVO!" – Norman Sylvester

Community Served

3,543 attended a community event at Portland Center Stage

1,509 patrons came early for a pre-show Prologue

Engaged 35 organizations for partnership in programming – 25 were culturally specific or social justice focused.

Hired 45 artists/experts, 98% were people of color

Photos: Steps PDX and Latoya Lovely at JAW





Adult Classes

Taught by a diverse pool of talented professionals from throughout the region and beyond, our Adult Classes provide recurring opportunities for anyone interested in learning more about the living stage and other storytelling art forms.

“The many brilliant productions I’ve seen and doing improv and jazz dance in the rehearsal areas and the acting class taught by Vanessa, the actress from *Frida* on the main stage. That was definitely the most engaging and exhilarating class I’ve taken. It has so many variations in the activities we were doing. She was also extremely engaging and connected very well with her students.”

– Student of Noelle Simone’s Urban Jazz Dance Class



Photos by Kate Szrom and Mikey Mann.

Adults Served

369 adults enrolled for a space in one of our 30 classes offered.



Addendum A: Student Matinee Groups

Academy of International Studies
Alliance at Kenton and
Reconnection Center
Alliance High
Alliance High at Kenton
Alliance High at Meek
Aloha High School
Artists Rep Education
Benson High School
Buckman House
Burlingame Creek School
Camas High School
Chamber Music Northwest
Community Alternative
Learning Center (CALC)
Community Transition Program
da Vinci Arts
David Douglas Community
Transition Program
David Douglas High School
David Douglas High School
IRCO group
Dual Credit Program at PSU
Estacada Thespian Troupe
Fir Ridge Campus
Fort Vancouver

Glencoe High School
Grant High School
Harmony Academy
Heritage High School
Highland Park Middle School
Ilwaco High School
Kellogg Drama
Kellogg Middle School
Lakeridge and Lake Oswego
Lincoln High School
Lupine Experiential School
McDaniel High School
Metro Montessori Middle School
Metropolitan Learning Center
Milwaukie High School
Mt. Hood Conference Schools
Mt. Scott Learning Center
Neah-Kah-Nie
Oregon Children's Theater
Oregon Episcopal School (no Q&A)
Outside the Frame
P:ear
PACE
Parkrose Transition Program
PPS Community Transition Program
Prairie High School

Reynolds Learning Academy
Ridgefield High
Rogue Pack
Rogue Pack Theatre Collective
Roosevelt High School
Rosemary Anderson High School
Skyview High School
Southridge High School
Southridge High School
(Dual Language program)
Springwater Trail High School
St Mary's Academy
Sunridge Middle School
Tigard High School
Trout Lake School
Union High School
Upward Bound at PSU
(for high school students)
Wahkiakum High School
Washington School for the Deaf
Washougal High School
Woodburn Arts &
Communications Academy
Woodburn High School
Yamhill Carlton High School
Youth Progress



Addendum B: Community Partners

ARTS GROUPS/ ORGANIZATIONS

Steps PDX
Jesus Rodales group
NW Children's Theater
VNPRT
North Pole Studio
Cymaspace
Phame
100 Chopsticks
Ida B. Wells Choir
300 Watts
Brown Branch
Mndsgn
Love Boys
The Swing of Thingz
Noche Libre PDX
Big Yard Foundation
Latino Network /
Unid@s Program
Push/Fold dance
World Stage Theatre
Theater Diaspora
APANO

Fringe Artist Collective
The Circus Project
Laundry PDX
Rose City Drag

INDIVIDUALS/ ARTISTS/EXPERTS

Rich Hunter
Latoya Lovely
Onry
Alex Chiu
Curtis Cook
Maggie Maye
Shain Brenden
Mohanad Elshieky
Katie Nguyen
Emilly Prado
Vanessa Severo
Linneas Boland-Godbey
Angela Saenz
Pablo Rivarola
Emily Rapp Black
Akela Jaffi
David Fimbres

Graciela Teofield
Arvie Smith
Tom Lupton
Dean Wong
Lo Steele
Sarah Clarke
Nicole Wee
Mac Schonher
Sami Ma
Zi Alikhan
Melory Mirashrafi
Ash Shirazi
Logan Ridenour-Starnes
Carla Rossi
(Anthony Hudson)
Pepper Pepper
Moorea Masa
Milan Patel
Shalanda Simms
AnnaMarie Rose Meyer
Jermaine
Tahirha Memory
Vincent McGee
Jene Etheridge

Paulina Ramirez
Paul Susi
Machado Mijiga
Decimus Yarbrough
Barbie Wu
Tatiana Marina
Hernández de Hildner

GOVERNMENT, CIVIC & OTHER COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Sisters of the Road
Oregon Nurses
Association
APANO
Pueblo Unidos
Latino Network
Portland
Chinatown Museum
Central City Concern
Oregon Commission
for the Blind
Oregon Humanities