



THE MUSIC AND DRAMA CLUB

Fall, 2025

Dear Members of The Music and Drama Club,

As I am writing this letter to you, the sun is brightly shining, and the sky is ever so blue.

It is with sadness that I acknowledge the passing of Meg Yancich this past August. Meg had been a member and Board member of Music and Drama including President and Vice President. A donation in her memory was made to our Endowment.

This year has the promise of beautiful, thought-provoking and possibly even fun programs. Several of the Club's Active members will be performing for us this year. At the first Tea earlier this month, Sarah May, one of our cherished Honorary members and a director at the Beck Center for the Arts, introduced us to two actors who performed a scene from "Andy Warhol in Iran" that is currently at the Beck Center until November 2, 2025. Carol Starre-Kmiecik will be performing at the November 13th Tea at the Mayfield Sand Ridge Club. Laura Lindauer and Marge Adler will perform at the always lovely Annual Scholarship Luncheon on December 11th at The Country Club. And our year isn't over yet!!

The Music and Drama Club website, musicdramacleve.org, continues to develop. The Club's website committee (yes, we have such a committee!) will be meeting this Fall. This committee includes Diane Adelson, our web developer, Dori Lieber and Sandi Vinicky. Plans are to continue to add more timely and relevant articles and topics.

As you review the list of members for the 2025-2027 Board, there are two new members to the Board: Katie Callahan (Recording Secretary) and Jane Swartz (Corresponding Secretary). They both are wonderful and hard-working additions to our Board.

Wishing you a beautiful autumn. See you at the November 13th Tea!

Sincerely,

Carol

Carol T. Zsulya
President





In Memoriam

Meg Yancich, “a singular beam of bright energy and wit,” passed away in August. She had been president in the early 2000’s and remained active during the following years. In fact, she had been serving as Vice President of Music and Drama when she became ill and died. Meg was also very active in her community, “attending over 1000 Cleveland Orchestra concerts” (Paul, her husband, was a percussionist with the Orchestra), was a member of two local garden clubs, and served on the Altar Guild at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church. Her inherent kindness, contagious laugh, intelligence, and

enthusiasm will never be forgotten. Meg will be missed.

Introducing our new members

Diane Adelson

In Diane’s own words:



I’ve been working in the IT world since 1981 in various capacities. Now that I’ve reached retirement age, I enjoy donating my time and skill set with many non-profit organizations developing new, rehabbing old, and trouble-shooting websites. It gives me great pleasure to support organizations who show a good heart and a genuine desire to make a positive contribution.

“When Dori (Lieber, a long-time friend) mentioned...that the Club was looking to develop a website,...I agreed to work pro-bono.” Diane “enjoyed a lovely lunch with Sandra Vinicky, Carol Zsulya, and Dori Lieber last November where we discussed the Club’s needs.”

It’s been a delightful year working with the website committee.”

I’m happy to have made new friends.”

Jane Faehrich

Jane is a “healthcare professional with over 30 years of experience in executive management, specializing in local organizations and large healthcare delivery systems.” She has presented internationally, authored numerous publications, and served on various boards, including Easter Seals and Center for the Arts. Jane served on the board of Cleveland Public Theater for over 20

years. She has a great appreciation for the Arts.

Renee Rogers

Renee is an RN who was the head nurse in emergency rooms. And she “loved it!” She also was on the Board of Trustees for the Cleveland Ballet, a member of the Opera Committee, and Ball Chairman for the Cleveland Orchestra. In addition, she served on the boards and committees for many of Cleveland’s other Arts institutions.

Omelia Thornton

Omelia specializes in accounting and holds a Small Business Enterprise Certification. She is President and CEO of First Invest, Inc., an accounting and tax service firm, located in downtown Cleveland, and Zippy Taxes, Inc., an accounting firm located in Rocky River. For the past several years Omelia has enjoyed attending some of our events.

News from our members

Caroline McClennan tells us about a trip she and her husband took this summer. Since his retirement he has been checking items off on his “bucket list.” One event was the Tatio in Edinburgh, Scotland. (For those of us who don’t know what this is, I “googled” it.) Briefly, it is “an outdoor performance held on the Esplanade of Edinburgh Castle...featuring military bands, dancers, and artists from around the world.” In addition Caroline and Morton visited a number of other sites in Scotland and also in London. Below are some of Caroline’s pictures which highlight their adventures.



These are from the Tatio.



They stayed on a riverboat on Taggs Island on the Thames River



Formal dinner at Rothiemurchus Estate, where the Lord of the Manor greeted them.

Debbie Neale wants members, especially those who attended the October Tea, to know a little more about the play, *Andy Warhol in Iran*, Sarah May, the director, began her career at Cleveland Play House and Karamu, before spending 10 years in New York, performing, directing, and developing programs for various theater venues. She returned to Cleveland, where she was instrumental in creating the Great Lakes Theater’s Shakespeare in the Schools program. Since then she has been a guest director at Beck and other area theaters. The play is a fictionalized portrait of a famous visit (which) leaves the audience asking: Who was the artist and who was the revolutionary? The artist had been commissioned to take Polaroids of the Shah’s wife, but he meets a young revolutionary who throws his plans into chaos and opens his eyes to reality. The play has received rave reviews. As one of our members said, “The actors had a blend of humor and seriousness in their dialogue and interactions...They presented the case of why they were trying to overthrow the existing regime without hitting you over the head with the usual progaganda.”

Dee Wirkiowski wants to share her love for the Cleveland Play House with those who feel the same enthusiasm. While reading an article in **AARP THE MAGAZINE**, (Sept. 2025), Dee was struck by the words of June Squibb, 95, who co-starred with and is the fellow Oscar nominee of Scarlett Johansson, in *Eleanor the Great*. Johansson is “interviewing” her co-star. She asks her, “You know every line of your character before you even start. That’s crazy. Where did your work ethic come from?” Squibb responds, “The Cleveland Playhouse...They pounded it into you...when I went to New York–Broadway–in the late ‘50s, I took all of that with me. It’s a decorum, a way of treating people, of treating your costume, everything. What I learned at the Playhouse is so much a part of me now.”

Carol Starre-Kmiecik will be performing as Amelia Earhart for a benefit supporting the International Women’s Air and Space Museum on November 6 at CLE Urban Winery. Music and Drama members will also be entertained by “Amelia Earhart” at our November 13 Tea at Mayfield Sand Ridge Club.



Music and Drama's new banner made its first public appearance at our October Tea at Judson Manor. The banner is the result of the collaboration and personal donations of time and money of Diane Adelson, Dori Lieber, and Linda Voloshen Spencer. But, indeed, it took a village. Carol Zsulya, Sandi Vinicky, Laura, Lindauer, and Barbara Daniel also contributed their insights to make this happen. It is a 36"x78" Traveling Banner, created on a frame, that can be rolled into a cylinder with a shoulder strap for easy carrying. Guests at Teas and Luncheons will be greeted by this gorgeous banner. The design on the banner mirrors our website logo. As Linda says, "... because of her talent and expertise using graphic effects, Diane added her magic to make our vision appear. She was our lifeline to our thoughts becoming reality."



March 2025 Luncheon
Sleepy Hollow Golf Course



Laura Beytas,
Luncheon Chair



Beck Center for the Arts actors,
presenting an excerpt from **Under a Baseball Sun**



*April 2025 Tea
Kirtland Country Club*

Amazing performances by MFA students from the Cleveland Play House/CWRU

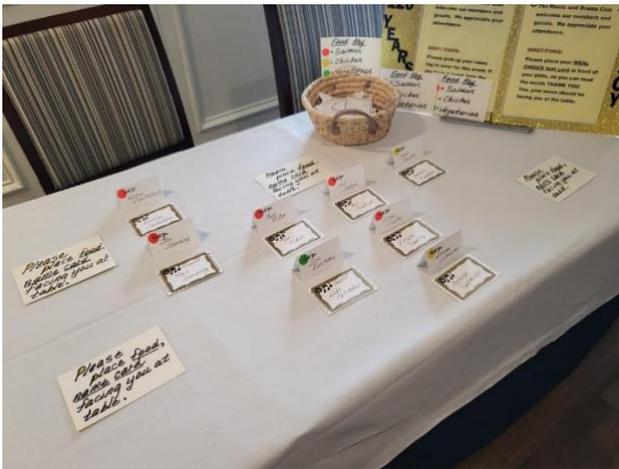




*May 2025 Luncheon
Cleveland Yachting Club*

The piece de resistance – Shannon Eller and her trio





And a beautiful finale to our 120th year



October 2025 Tea

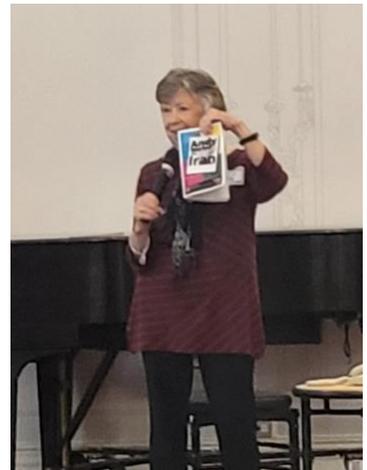
Judson Manor



Alice Zhang, CIM scholarship Recipient

Delightful presentation,

Magnificent musical expression...



Beck Center for the Arts - Excerpts from *Andy Warhol in Iran*

Superb acting, thought provoking drama...

Fall, 2025
Dee Wirkiowski
Media Co-Chair/Newsletter

