



Dear Friends,

I hope you're doing well and enjoying the winter season. Over the past 16 years, Highwood has experienced tremendous growth - quadrupling in size since 2014, with rapidly expanding budgets, and building a solid foundation of participants, patrons, and community support. With over 20 employees and dozens of artists under contract, we provide arts programming to 40 local schools, mount over 300 performances annually, offer hundreds of hours of classes, and provide thousands of hours of space rentals to community arts groups and members.

Highwood is on the cusp of its next phase. In the coming year, we will be pursuing exciting opportunities that are emerging to expand and improve our physical space, so that we can continue our growth trajectory and further our mission. We have built a large, strong community over our 16 years and, as we move into this coming phase, we must rely on the financial support of our community to enable us to turn these opportunities into reality.

**When making your year-end contribution this year, I encourage you to think about what Highwood means to you. To me, Highwood means opportunity.** Highwood's mission has always been ambitious - to build community through theatre - but at its core, Highwood provides valuable **opportunities** for many, many members of our community, of all ages. This is not just an opportunity to be in a show, learn about technical theatre, or have theatre arts offerings available in your school, but also the opportunity to be valued, express one's creativity, and be heard without judgment. We strive to provide the opportunity to contribute to making our larger community a more caring, accepting, creative place. In the coming year we seek to ensure that we can bring that opportunity to the broader community, as we already have to the Highwood community. Our goal is to:

- Continue to lead the way in creating an Arts Center dedicated to **providing fully accessible space, education, and cultural amenities.**
- Provide a home for virtually **every artistic medium** - from visual and performing, to technical, digital, and photographic arts.
- Expand our ability to welcome **dozens more arts organizations**, groups, artists, and schools every year to use our space for free or at rates well below market, as we create a **stronger, more integrated arts community.**
- Expand our ability to provide **field trips to local students** by accommodating larger and more groups, introducing them to the arts and providing an exciting and unique, hands-on technical theatre and arts experience.
- Continue to expand our ability to be a **complete arts resource** providing student and professional productions; classes and educational programs; school programs; performance, event, and work space; technical theatre services and equipment rentals; and much more.

To pull a phrase from *West Side Story* - Highwood's biggest production to date: *"Come on, something, come on in; Don't be shy, meet a guy pull up a chair; The air is humming; And something great is coming."* We at Highwood are passionate about our work and our mission. Please support us as we continue to **build a bigger and better community and provide opportunity every day and across all art forms.**

Sincerely,

Kevin Kearney, Executive Director

THEATRE AND OFFICES  
914 Silver Spring Avenue  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

MAILING ADDRESS  
1434 Highwood Drive  
McLean, VA 22101

[www.thehighwoodtheatre.org](http://www.thehighwoodtheatre.org) | [info@thehighwoodtheatre.org](mailto:info@thehighwoodtheatre.org) | (p) 301-587-0697