

Morrison Center Volunteers

Curtain Call

February 2021



From our Executive Director

Hello Volunteers!

I don't have too much of an update, but things are moving along as we anticipate opening this Fall. A lot must happen between now and then, but keep your fingers crossed everything stays on track.

We completed our new strategic plan and we are excited to share it with you. It will go live on our website in the next few weeks.

We are particularly proud of our new Vision and Mission Statement:

Vision: We amplify the performing arts so every Idahoan experiences inspiration, creativity, and connection.

Mission:

As Idaho's home for the arts, we present Broadway, touring entertainment, arts education, and community events. Through collaboration, partnerships, and inclusive engagement we create lifetime memories and impactful shared experiences that bring joy and meaning to people's lives.

Speaking of website - ours has gotten a refresh! We hope it is easier to navigate and view on mobile devices. We just announced the rescheduled Broadway season and launched our new website. Take a look, we have a fantastic season planned!

<https://www.morrisoncenter.com>

Finally, we have a new staff member that joined our box office team - Kennedy Sandau was a student worker with us and graduated in December. We are so excited to welcome her as a full-time staff member and Box Office Assistant.

Everyone at the Morrison Center is wishing you well and can't wait to see you back. Please take care and we will see you soon.

Warmly,

Laura Kendall, Executive Director
Velma V. Morrison Center for Performing Arts

From our MC Volunteer Presidents

We are nearing the one-year mark when Covid-19 shut the Morrison Center doors and our world changed. While reflecting over these unprecedented twelve months, we feel overwhelmed by our gratitude for each of you and the Morrison Center community. Of course, we are also mindful of the loss of life, illness, isolation, and heartache experienced by so many.

Perhaps, most agonizing has been the daily uncertainty. When will routines return? When will fear subside? When can we get together and enjoy each other's smiles, hugs, and warmth?

Although much longer than any of us anticipated, we are excitedly looking forward to the re-opening this Fall. The first part of May, we will start collecting Membership Dues for the 2021-22 season that will be due by June 30th. As you may remember, the 2020-21 dues were waived due to the pandemic. The good news is our membership dues will remain at \$10.

There will be new volunteer protocols, including no longer being able to share uniforms. See the "Volunteer Uniform update" for more information. **PLEASE DO NOT LET THE COST OF A UNIFORM DETER YOU FROM RENEWING YOUR MEMBERSHIP.** We are working hard to make sure that everyone who wants to volunteer has access to appropriate uniforms.

Since it will be about 18 months since any of us have worked a show and with new protocols in place, we will be conducting general re-orientation for everyone. It is anticipated that we will open only with ushers at first, followed by the gift shop and refreshments. Details will be forthcoming.

Next month we will continue introducing you to some of our MC volunteers. In March, we are highlighting the Refreshment Captains.

Until we once again can be together, be well and stay safe!

Rick & Elaine Grossaint
President's Morrison Center Volunteers

MC Volunteer Nominating Committee



Our Nominating Committee has been selected and approved. The committee consists of Elaine McAfee, chair, Annette Dillard, Denise Hunt, Marilyn Fordham, and John Sloan.

This year, the committee will be looking for volunteers willing to serve on the Morrison Center Board as **Secretary** or **Vice**

President. Both positions are 1-year terms with the option of 2 terms.

If either of these positions are of interest to you, or you have any questions regarding the duties of these positions, please reach out to our Past President, Elaine McAfee at belatorte@gmail.com. Being on the Board is a rewarding experience. We hope that you take a moment and consider the opportunity.

Volunteer Uniforms Update

In the year of the pandemic, it now appears that we may get back to working at the Morrison Center by the fall of 2021.

In preparation for this we have been researching what we need to do about shared uniforms - our jackets, vests, and aprons.

Research has shown that we are apparently the only venue in the country that shares clothing and because of the pandemic, we can no longer do this, so we are going to have to change things.

We have decided that we will give our ushering and gift shop volunteers the option to wear either a jacket or vest year-round. So, it will be your choice to decide if you want a jacket, or a vest. Our refreshment volunteers will wear the burgundy aprons. This will let us keep our burgundy color by which our patrons identify us to assist them at the MC.



We are also working on a plan for all ushers and gift shop volunteers to purchase a vest or jacket, and refreshment volunteers to purchase an apron. These will either be the ones we currently have been wearing or a new one. If you are willing to purchase a new one, of course, you can purchase one of each if you'd like. It will be the volunteer's responsibility to take their jacket, vest, or apron home with them and bring them back when working.

We are also going to purchase more name tags so that everyone has their own personal one.

We are working hard to make sure that everyone who wants to volunteer has access to appropriate uniforms. More information as we put the plan together.

Putting Your Talents to Work



You may just have the talent we are looking for. As you can imagine, it takes a lot of people doing a little to make any volunteer organization flourish. Over the last several months, you have had the opportunity to meet some of those people through our highlights. We have a few positions that we need.

Our **Membership Directory** is a huge resource for all of us. With Patrick Arnold stepping down from the position, we thought that if we divide the tasks of the Directory it might be more inviting. There are two basic tasks – one, taking pictures of the new volunteers or retakes for those that request and two, the organization of the directory using mail merge and Publisher. So, if you are a photographer who is itching to help or someone who knows the basics of Publisher and what mail merge is, then this may be the position for you. Patrick is willing to share what he has learned over the past several years of publishing the directory.

The **Curtain Call** has been our primary source of communication over this past year. We have published it monthly during this time, to stay connected. However, we will be going back to a quarterly newsletter for our 2021-2022 season. We use a program called Constant Contact which is very simple to use. We are looking for someone who can proof the articles that are submitted by our Board Members and format them into the template. If you have a journalism background and would like to do some writing also, that would be great but not required for the position. We know that some of you were English majors out there and this might be up your alley.

If you are interested in either of these positions, or need to know more before committing, please drop us an email at elainegrossaint@gmail.com or give us a call at home 208-375-2408. We need YOU! You very well may be our missing piece.

FAQ Broadway in Boise

On the new Morrison Center website, you will find 21/22 season ticket holder FAQs. Here are a few of those questions that we thought might be of special interest to our volunteers.

Will Broadway performances offer social distanced seating? Our priority continues to be the health and well-being of our cast, crew, staff, and audience. We are not able to offer Broadway shows with socially distanced houses. Broadway will not return to the Morrison Center until we are able to open with full houses.

If the pandemic continues, what will happen if we return to the theater? Will I have to wear a mask? The Morrison Center will follow CDC and governmental requirements when reopening. It is possible that a mask will be required.

What is happening at the Morrison Center now? The Morrison Center is providing classroom space for BSU, working with our local arts groups and artist to present livestream performances and updating our facility to support safety initiatives.

What is the Morrison center doing to ensure our safety? We are installing touchless technology for our facets and paper towel dispensers, ticketing, and concessions. New central air filters have been installed and settings have been altered to provide longer daily operating schedules that increase outside air supply and air changes per hour. We have updated our sanitization protocols and are actively working in collaboration with state and local government officials on a plan to re-open following local, state, and federal health guidelines.



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