

## Morrison Center Volunteers

# *Curtain Call*

May 2022



## From our Executive Director



Hello Volunteers!

I appreciate your dedication to the Morrison Center this past year. We have had a lot of shows and many yet to come.

On Friday, June 10th, we have an evening of fun, entertainment, and celebration. The inaugural **Idaho High School Theater Awards** will take place on the Morrison Center stage and celebrate the best in Idaho High School Musical Theater! We have already announced the winners for Outstanding Actor/Actress in Supporting and Lead Roles, Outstanding Musical Theater Production, Outstanding Ensemble, and the Velma V. Morrison Educator of the Year.

The Awards Showcase on June 10th will be a showcase from Idaho High School students, choreographed by Ray Mercer from **Disney's The Lion King on Broadway**, and the Awards ceremony is modeled after the Tony Awards®. At this ceremony, we will announce two winners, one male and one female, who will get the opportunity to compete at the National Jimmy Awards in New York City! The Idaho High School Theater Awards Showcase is the first of its kind in Idaho, and we are excited to have our new Director of Arts Education, Luke Lords, leading the way with this program.

Thank you again for your continued hard work at the Morrison Center.

*Laura Kendall*

Executive Director  
Velma V. Morrison Center for Performing Arts

## From our MC Volunteer Presidents

It is hard to believe that it is almost the end of the 2021-22 season – a season jammed packed with 24 shows of Hamilton, many rescheduled shows due to the COVID closure, and numerous new shows added to the schedule. All resulting in more shows than we've ever had before and doing it with fewer

volunteers. Thank you for going the extra mile and doing your part to create a positive experience for our Morrison Center patrons. Needless to say, it has been a difficult year in many ways, but we remained flexible, and we DID IT!



The good news...we have a lighter schedule this summer in July and August. We have no shows scheduled from August 8- Sept 7. However, that doesn't mean that something won't get booked, but for now the MC has it closed for production upgrades.

In September, we kick off the 2022-23 Broadway Series with *Come from Away*, followed by *Jesus Christ Superstar* in October, *Hairspray* in March, *Pretty Woman* in April, and *Aladdin* in June. You can count on the schedule once again being packed with great entertainment. But for now, we are focusing on finishing this season with a bang! Broadway's *Dear Evan Hansen* is June 21-26, and we still need lots of help covering those shows.

We are looking forward to seeing all of you at the Annual Dinner as we celebrate a year well done! Hopefully, everyone has RSVP'd with your dinner selection for our Annual Banquet and Business Meeting on Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup> at the beautiful Stueckle Sky Center at Albertson's Stadium. The deadline is May 31<sup>st</sup>. Please contact the MCV Receptions Committee at [rsvp@velmasangels.org](mailto:rsvp@velmasangels.org) or call Carol McGee at 208-631-8515 if you need help, you can also click [HERE](#) to RSVP. Remember, if you RSVP and do not attend the dinner, we still must pay for your meal. If something comes up that you cannot attend, please call Carol to cancel.

As part of our Annual Business Meeting, we will be voting on a few proposed Bylaw changes that will help the Board function more efficiently. You will receive a blast the week of May 23rd explaining these changes. We will also be electing our 2022-23 officers. Please see Slate of Officers article below.

Also, you probably have heard, we are implementing on-line membership renewals and are encouraging everyone to renew prior to the annual dinner. If you do so, your 2022-23 parking passes will be ready to be picked up at the dinner. If you have any questions regarding membership, please contact Felicity at [membership@velmasangels.org](mailto:membership@velmasangels.org).

This is our last newsletter as your Presidents. We are honored to have served as your Presidents as we navigated the COVID closure and all the changes that came with re-opening in September. Thank you for your suggestions, your flexibility, and your commitment to the Morrison Center Volunteers. Most of all, thank you for your continual support and encouragement. It has been a team effort!

*We believe... How You Do Anything, Is How You Do Everything!*

In Joy and Gratitude,  
Rick & Elaine Grossaint  
MCV Co-Presidents, 2020-22

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## *Are we really halfway through the year?*

Jessica Morse



*Are we really halfway through the year?*

All I can say is THANK YOU! It has been a whirlwind year and busy. We have had sold-out shows, double-shows, cancellations, student performances, etc. If we thought 2020 was the year the world shut down, 2022 is the year everything opened back up. Your willingness to adapt to

the changing protocols, masks/no-masks, concessions on/concessions off continues to impress me. Thank you. It is no easy feat making changes on the fly, all while staying positive and contributing to a welcoming environment, and you all have done this seamlessly.

We are at the halfway point and have a great season to come. June we close out our 2021-2022 Broadway in Boise season with *Dear Evan Hansen*. We soon will be announcing our MC Presents Series that will include something for everyone. And, of course, let's not forget about the legendary performance just announced, Bob Dylan, in June.

Thank you again for all you do at the Morrison Center. We appreciate you!

Jessica Morse  
Venue Services Manager

## 2022-23 slate of officers

We are excited to present our Slate of Officers for the upcoming year that will be voted on at our Annual Dinner and Business Meeting, June 12<sup>th</sup>.



**President – Kim Krutz**

Kim has served in lots of different roles during her past 13 years as a MC volunteer. Besides being an usher, she has served as the Newsletter Editor, MCV Board Secretary, and is the current Vice President. Last year, Kim retired from a 38-year career as a nurse. While at St. Luke's, Kim was a clinical nurse specializing in orthopedics. Because of her position, she has experience developing policies and procedures and educating others. For fun, she enjoys playing games and celebrating with friends and family, traveling, hiking, making cards, and attending musical programs. Kim loves the buzz of excitement before each MC performance.



**Vice President – Sue Bolen**

Sue has been a volunteer at the Morrison Center since 1992. She remembers joining the volunteers because of the opportunities it provided to participate and see things that she otherwise would have never been able to do being a single parent. Today, you will most likely find her behind the Hearing Assistance counter. It is the perfect place for her since she considers herself a people person and loves to watch and interact with the wide range of people who visit the Morrison Center. Sue has a long history with the Episcopalian Church providing leadership skills at the local, state, and international levels.



**Secretary – Kristen Jacobs**

This will be Kristen’s second term as the MCV Board Secretary. She started volunteering at the Morrison Center at the end of 2004. Initially, it was something she did with her mother-in-law and now she volunteers with her husband. She has also been an Usher scheduler for about seven years. In her early career she worked as a CPA in the public accounting field. Now she works for Oracle. She has been with Oracle for 22 years and is based in San Francisco but works from a home office here in Boise. She also plays as much tennis as possible, beads, and volunteers with the Idaho Foodbank and Boise Adaptive Recreation.



**Treasurer – Regina Smith**

This is Regina’s first year as a volunteer at the MC, and she has jumped in with both feet, first as an usher and now also as your next Treasurer. Regina retired from a 20-year career as a Quick Books Instructor with her primary means of commute being airports. She also has an accounting degree and loves to fix things, make things right, and considers herself a perfectionist. Regina and her husband moved to Boise in 1996 from Maryland. She has always loved the theater and entertainment and enjoyed the availability on the East Coast. She remembers coming to the Morrison Center and talking with a door usher about their experiences and thought this might be a wonderful way for her to enjoy the theater once again from a different view. She especially loves interacting with the Patrons.

## **Membership Update Felicity Arnold**



**Please welcome the following new members who joined between February 1st and April 30th**

Virginia Bruce  
Christine Drick  
Suzanne Flanegan  
Warren Greaves  
Sharon Keeler  
Cathy Lewis  
Seamus & Lisa Madigan  
Vince Matthews (returning volunteer)

Patty Moulton  
Alan & Donna Porter  
Carol Reagle  
Woody Richards  
James Richardson  
Amanda Sills  
Maria Tapias  
Nancy Walker

## **Membership Renewals for Next Season**

It is time to renew your membership for the 2022-23 season.

NOTE: There will be NO membership renewals at the Annual Meeting and Dinner this year.

EMERITUS members should contact [membership@velmasangels.org](mailto:membership@velmasangels.org) or call 208-342-2821 to renew

ALL OTHER MEMBERS should have received an e-mail from Constant Contact inviting them to renew

This year, in addition to mailing in renewals, we have added some online options.

1. Complete a form online and pay with a personal PayPal account
2. Complete a form online and pay with a card via PayPal (no personal PayPal account needed)
3. Complete a form online and mail in a check

The online options do allow members in the same household to renew in a single transaction.

There is a small fee for options 1 and 2 - \$0.75 for the first member, plus \$0.25 for each additional family member.

If you haven't already renewed for 2022-23 you may use either of the following links:

Complete **[ONLINE RENEWAL NOW](#)**

Download a renewal form **[HERE](#)**

Felicity Arnold  
Membership Chair



We are always looking for new ideas of inexpensive volunteer treats. If you have any suggestions, please add them to the Suggestion Box in the Founder's Room. Thank you.

## Usher Corner

Sue Payne & Marylou Ragan



Marylou and I are so pleased so many Ushers are back working the shows at the Morrison Center. We also welcome all the new ushers who have joined us,

We really do appreciate you as we have had so many shows this fall and winter including some comedians whose language is not always as pleasant as it could be.

However, these shows along with the sale of refreshments bring in money to the Morrison Center so they can continue to help support our local programs from the Boise Philharmonic and Idaho Ballet and Opera.

We are also very pleased that our volunteers can sit in empty seats in the auditorium to watch the show if the show is not sold out.

A further note about clean-up of the hall is that the ushers do not need to clean up after a show. The only thing we will do is walk the rows for Lost and Found items. Remember to have a plastic glove in your pocket!

One last item: 2 of our Schedulers are retiring so we will need a couple of new ones. If anyone is interested, please come and talk to us.

Sue Payne & Marylou Ragan  
Usher/Guide Co-Chairs

## Giftshop

### Mary Christensen

Greetings From the Giftshop!

As we approach the end of a successful year at the Gift Shop it is a good time to look back and reflect on how far we have come. Gift Shop volunteers have given everything they could to ensure success including working on non-show days, through delayed openings, several moves, and adjustments. Success of the Gift Shop depended on them stepping up to a challenge. Their hard work, flexibility, and fortitude is greatly appreciated.

We are appreciative of the Morrison Center staff, both back of house who helped us through the early days of the season, and the front of house who did everything they could to help in our success; all of whom we now consider friends.

The support from all volunteers and the board has also been wonderful, positive and very much appreciated. And finally, thanks to all of you who have shopped during the year!

Wishing you the best summer ever and hope you visit us again soon!

Mary Christensen  
Gift Shop Chair

## Hearing Assist

### Denise Hunt

#### **Hearing Assist is looking for more volunteers.**

We assign audio receiving devices and give out booster seats. Training is on-the-job. Perks of the position are being able to sit down while doing the job and being able to leave early when no receiving units are assigned. If you want to know more, the next time you volunteer, drop by the ticket office where Hearing Assist is located, and talk with the volunteer there to get an overview of the job. Then, if you're interested, contact Denise Hunt at [denisehunt38@gmail.com](mailto:denisehunt38@gmail.com) or call.

Denise Hunt  
Hearing Assist Scheduler  
208-761-4191

**ROSE AWARDS Celebration**



One of our Morrison Center Volunteers was honored as a finalist in the “Volunteer” category in April at the sixth annual Rose Awards Celebration held at Centre on the Grove. The ROSE (Recognition of Service Excellence) Awards honors individuals in the tourism and hospitality industry who positively enhance a visitor’s experience during their stay in the Boise area. The Awards cover several categories and are presented to the individual who distinguish themselves through enthusiasm and exemplary service.

Following was the nomination letter submitted for  
Rick Grossaint

Rick holds dual roles at the Morrison Center as a volunteer and as a House Manager. This unique role allows Rick insight into our patrons' needs and he consistently brings great ideas to enhance our audience experience at the Morrison Center.

Rick has been a volunteer for the Morrison Center for many years and always brings a great historical perspective while always looking forward towards the future! His positivity and ability to embrace change is infectious and elevates the attitudes of both staff and volunteers.

It has been a tough year in the Events Industry with reopening after an 18-month closure and the changing COVID landscape but Rick approaches each day with a positive outlook and sees challenges as opportunities to improve.

Everyday Rick inspires us with his good work and his positive attitude. He prioritizes the team over self and is supportive and kind with his words. These qualities are invaluable, and we couldn't do it without him.

Thank you, Rick, for representing the Morrison Center Volunteers and being in the top 3 finalist! And thank you to the Morrison Center Staff for recognizing the service of the volunteers and nominating Rick for this honor.

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**Phone**

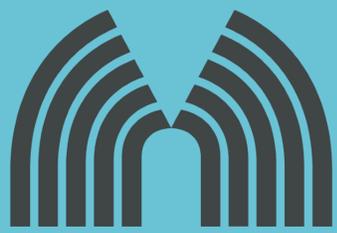
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