



# WE NEED YOU

## Help us continue bringing art to our community!

### STAFF

Megan Charland  
Artistic Programming Director

Jerrod Olsen  
Director of Operations

Kailey Maher  
Community Engagement  
& Development Manager

Mollie Ward  
Clay Studio Manager

Elsa Koop-Angelicola  
Gallery & Events Coordinator

Winosha Steele  
Education Coordinator  
& Arts Educator

Ally Baker  
Communications Coordinator

Angelika Morris  
Welcome Center Team Member

Sommerleigh D'Elia  
Welcome Center Team Member

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Dear Friend of the Arts,

Over the past years you have been an integral part of the Strand Center for the Arts, and we want to thank you so much for your continued support. Your commitment helps us fulfill our mission to Enrich, Energize and Engage our community through the arts.

During a period of time where similar arts organizations are struggling, we have seen exciting growth at the Strand thanks to the support of our community. Across our campus, more than 22,000 of you showed up to our programming this past year. You are the reason we show up everyday.

As a uniquely multidisciplinary center, we are constantly looking at ways to inspire our community while maximizing the use of our campus. One of the many highlights of our educational programming this year was the launch of a new 2-day class in collaboration with Smiling Dog Forge, Metalsmithing at the Strand: Handforged Knives. With a great turnout for our first season of Handforged Knives—36 students from the North Country, Vermont and Massachusetts—we're already looking forward to our 2024 season! This year we also offered an all-new Introduction to Stone Carving workshop taught by our very own Kailey Maher. These outdoor workshops on our front lawn helped expand our educational offerings while bringing new faces to the center, delighting both students and onlookers alike in downtown Plattsburgh.

2023 brought even more collaborations with community organizations and theatre groups to enrich and diversify our robust programming in the Strand's historic theatre. A perfect example is the wildly successful Stuff the Strand, a

*—continued on back—*



## YES! You can count on my support.

Enclosed is my tax deductible charitable gift of:

\$1,000  \$500  \$250  \$100  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Cash

Check (payable to Strand Center for the Arts)

Credit Card  Visa  Mastercard  Other

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Exp. (MM/YY): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Please remit to 23 Brinkerhoff Street, Plattsburgh, NY 12901



*THANK YOU!! -The Strand Center Team*



partnership with the Plattsburgh Noon Kiwanis Club, from which we collected nearly three tons of food, diapers and baby formula to benefit local food shelves in our community. Ongoing collaborations with Adirondack Regional Theatre and Lake Placid Center for the Arts continue and we've added presentations by Artistry Community Theatre to offer more opportunities for our community to utilize our one-of-a-kind stage.

New initiatives launched last year have grown in popularity in 2023, including our Art Club after-school program; monthly Artist Salon series; FIRST® LEGO® League for grades PreK-8; and private music lessons in our Music Studio. All of this, in addition to our Theatre, Gallery, Clay Studio, Youth Summer Camps, and Artisan Markets make the Strand Center for the Arts truly one-of-a-kind in the North Country - a place for everyone to enjoy and create.

As a key part of our community for over 23 years, we continue to see the amazing impact our center has on the lives of people just like you. From bringing the arts to children and adults in our region, to the positive economic impact on our local businesses, the Strand plays a vital role. Like most non-profits, we rely on generous donations and sponsorships from our community to keep us alive and vibrant.

If you have donated in the past, thank you from the bottom of our hearts! **Please know that your donations, no matter the size, make a huge impact.** We ask that you think of the Strand Center for the Arts this giving season. You'll find a donation form on the front of this letter, or you can donate online at: [StrandCenter.org/donate](https://StrandCenter.org/donate)

With our deepest gratitude,

Megan Charland  
Artistic Programming Director

Jerrod Olsen  
Director of Operations

Tom McNichols  
Board President

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## What do you want to see from us in 2024?

**Please use the space below to share your ideas with us:**