



Skagit County's Historic Performing & Cinematic Arts Center

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April 13, 2023

Dear Lincoln Theatre Members and Friends,

The time has come for me to retire as Executive Director of the Lincoln Theatre. My 25+ years with the organization, including 8 years as executive director, began as a volunteer in 1997, followed shortly after by being hired by the foundation's first executive director. During that time, I've been fortunate to have had the support of an Extraordinary Staff, the Lincoln Theatre Board of Directors, Members, and Volunteers, and together we took the organization from a scrappy theatre struggling to find its place in the arts community to being the Governor's Arts and Heritage Award Honoree for Organization in 2022.

I had a difficult time making this decision, but I feel good about where the foundation is headed, and confident we are on the road to a complete recovery after our extended COVID intermission. Our calendar is booked solid through the end of 2023, with both of our supporting community theater groups, TAG and META, returning for multiple productions this year, Skagit Theatre Camp and BrewFest on the Skagit continuing this summer, and a number of thrilling national touring acts already on the books for the season. Our dedicated staff and volunteers are well-equipped to handle day-to-day operations and our Board of Directors, both legacy and newly elected officers, is promising and invigorating.

I notified our board at the first of this year that I would continue in my position through June of 2023 to help with succession and would contribute as a consultant after that time as needed.

My heart will always belong to the Lincoln Theatre. It has been an honor and privilege to work with the Lincoln Community for all these years and I will always be grateful for the opportunity you have offered me. Now I am looking forward to my next challenge, and to the Lincoln's Centennial Celebration in 2026!

With gratitude,

Roger Gietzen

The mission of the Lincoln Theatre is to entertain, inform & inspire our diverse community through cinema, live performance & educational programs while preserving the historic Lincoln Theatre.

The 1926 Historic Lincoln Theatre is operated by the Lincoln Theatre Center Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, is owned by the City of Mount Vernon, and was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1989.