Children's Theatre Company

BEHIND THE CURTAIN BEYOND THE STAGE

2024-2025

REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

Gillian Jackson Han and Julia Ennen in Disney's *Frozen* by Kaitlin Randolph

A Note from Leadership

Dear Friends,

This has been an incredible year at Children's Theatre Company. As newly appointed co-leaders, our 2024-2025 Season was the first step into the next chapter at our institution, and we are so grateful that you are joining us on this journey.

Together, we introduced new works to audiences of all ages, giving them a first look at brand new stories from emerging artists. We gathered as a community to enjoy beloved classics and cherished traditions. We connected thousands of young people to the arts, both on stage and in classrooms, empowering them to work as a team, build their confidence, and develop skills that will serve them for years to come.

You made these extraordinary theatre experiences possible—thank you. In this special edition of *Behind the Curtain, Beyond the Stage*, we are pleased to introduce CTC's 2024-2025 Report to Our Community. We hope the work highlighted here will remind you of the difference your generosity makes every day, on stage and off.

Your continued partnership in our mission means that CTC can serve as a national leader in theatre for young people, and we can't wait to see what we accomplish together in the season to come. Thank you for your dedication to providing accessible, transformational theatre for children and families. We are so grateful to have you as a member of our CTC community.

Rick Dildine
Artistic Director

Ryan French
Managing Director

Our Vision for the Next Generation

Mission: To create extraordinary theatre experiences that educate, challenge, and inspire young people and their communities.

Vision: To create a better world with, for, and through young people.

Values: Excellence, Respect, Imagination, Inclusion

> **"Having CTC in our life is priceless, and I truly believe my daughter's childhood is being shaped with such cultural and artistic richness...I feel so incredibly lucky to be able to give her these experiences."**
> **–CTC Patron and Parent**

Photo of Rick Dildine and Ryan French by Lauren B. Photography

Our Year in Review

See everything your partnership made possible—onstage and off.

Introducing Young People to the Arts

Through CTC's Opening ACT program, every Minneapolis Public Schools 2nd grader attended a performance of Zip Zap Circus' *MOYA* at no cost to schools and families. For many students, Opening ACT is their first opportunity to experience the magic of live theatre. Originally sponsored by a corporate grant, this cornerstone of CTC's mission is now entirely supported by our generous community of individual donors.

"My students have had the opportunity to attend plays at CTC. They have benefited enormously! I am grateful for all you do in expanding their minds and exploring important issues in their lives."

–Twin Cities public school teacher

Photo of Zip Zap Circus' *MOYA* by Glen Stubbe Photography

Sharing New Stories

CTC's 2024-2025 Season featured two world premiere productions, introducing new works to our community. The world premiere of *Drawing Lessons* opened on the Cargill Stage and was the debut production from the groundbreaking Generation Now partnership. In the spring, the rolling world premiere production of *Milo Imagines the World* opened on the UnitedHealth Group Stage.

Photo of Cortlan Gosa in *Milo Imagines the World* by Glen Stubbe Photography

A Holiday Tradition

We celebrated the 30th anniversary of *Dr. Seuss's How the Grinch Stole Christmas!* with a production directed by CTC Acting Company member Dean Holt. More than 50,000 people of all ages made CTC a part of their holiday tradition, creating cherished memories with loved ones that will last a lifetime.

Photo of Reed Sigmund and Elsa Dungan-Hawks in *Dr. Seuss's How the Grinch Stole Christmas* by Glen Stubbe Photography

The Next Step for Generation Now

CTC is privileged to be a partner in the Generation Now national theatre cohort, supporting the mission to develop multiple commissions by BIPOC artists. In addition to CTC, the cohort includes Penumbra (St. Paul, Minn.), Ma-Yi Theater Company (NYC), Latino Theater Company, and Native Voices (both in Los Angeles). Last fall, CTC was honored to host the first Generation Now Reading Series, which featured live readings of three plays in development.

"The [Generation Now] partners strongly believe that if we are to have an extraordinary theatre culture in this country, we must start young, and it must be intergenerational, inclusive, inspiring, transformative, and lifelong. Together we envision creating a lasting canon of work for multigenerational audiences."

–Generation Now Theatre Cohort

Olivia Lampert in *Drawing Lessons* by Kaitlin Randolph

Making the Arts Accessible for All

Each season, CTC's ACT Pass program provides low-cost tickets and educational scholarships to Theatre Arts Training classes for families who identify as low-income, ensuring our theatre is always a place of welcome for our entire community. In the 2024-2025 Season, more than 12,000 individuals accessed these discounted tickets and 211 students were awarded scholarships.

"The ACT Pass has made theatre affordable. It's given me the opportunity to take my children (and the children in my care) to see themselves represented on stage. We've taken the opportunity to see a variety of shows and the kids really look forward to it." –CTC Patron

A Record-Breaking Spring

CTC closed out the 2024-2025 Season with an original production of Disney's *Frozen*. Featuring beloved characters and songs, the production welcomed audience members of all ages to journey to the Kingdom of Arendelle. It became the best-selling spring musical in CTC's history, and welcomed 61,737 children and adults into the theatre to experience the magic.

Gillian Jackson Han and Julia Ennen in Disney's *Frozen* by Glen Stubbe Photography

YOUR GENEROSITY IN ACTION

"There is just so much value in students seeing stories about characters who represent them and emphasizing the importance of communicating in different ways...Being able to bring my students, I think it just makes them feel really important and makes them feel really seen." –Twin Cities School Teacher

47,618

children, teachers, and chaperones attended student matinee performances at little to no cost to schools and families.

$900,000+

was raised at the Curtain Call Ball in support of CTC's ACT Pass Program, which provides low-cost tickets and educational scholarships to families and individuals who identify as low-income.

190,385

adults and children of all ages attended public performances last season or participated in educational programming.

12,210

individuals with limited incomes received discounted tickets through the ACT Pass Program. This program continues to grow in demand year over year, with an 8% increase this year.

17,306

children attended their first CTC production.

212

artists were involved in CTC's 2024-2025 Season performances and new play development work.

2,356

individuals engaged with CTC through off-site workshops, library events, or school programming. This is a 92% increase in participation over the previous year.

1,476

students engaged with the arts through CTC's school residencies, with teaching artists traveling across the Twin Cities metro area.

509

Minnesota ZIP codes from across 79 counties were represented in audiences.

3,827

audience members attended Sensory Friendly Performances, keeping CTC performances accessible and enjoyable for all. This was a 57% increase over the previous year.

1,702

students enrolled in Theatre Arts Training camps and classes at CTC. Of those students, 211 received ACT Pass scholarships—a 25% increase over the previous year.

4,354

donor households made generous philanthropic contributions that supported CTC's mission on and off stage.

Audience photo by Pixel Dust Photography

Financials

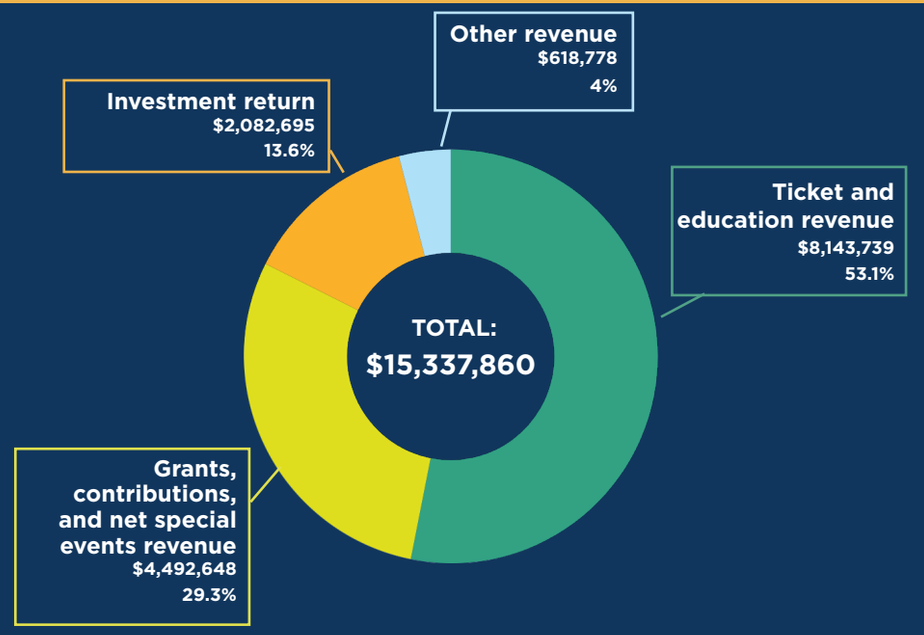
The CTC Board of Directors approved a deficit budget for CTC's 2024-2025 fiscal year. Like most not-for-profit theatres across the country, CTC continues to navigate the recovery period following the COVID-19 pandemic. Contributed income was 43% lower than the previous year, when CTC received two unexpected charitable gifts designated for the endowment totaling $4 million. The current $4.4 million in contributed revenue is comparable with post-pandemic fiscal years. Ticket revenue was the highest in theatre history thanks to the overwhelming box office success of Disney's *Frozen the Broadway Musical*; however, overall expenses continue to increase due to scale of programming, aging infrastructure in the 50-year-old facility, and inflationary pressures. CTC maintained our commitment to fiscal discipline and stewarding our resources by paying down a significant portion of debt thanks to donor designated funds. By the end of this fiscal year, CTC will be virtually debt-free.

Statement of Financial Position	2025	2024
Assets		
Cash and equivalents	897,126	2,776,384
Promises to give, net	1,274,713	1,320,663
Property, equipment, and leases, net	13,082,144	13,598,542
Investments	18,956,008	18,620,460
Other assets	321,949	511,595
Total Assets	**34,531,940**	**36,827,644**
Liabilities		
Accounts payable, accrued expenses, and lease liabilities	2,282,342	2,455,814
Deferred revenue	1,280,153	1,440,227
Term loan payable	178,232	438,782
Bonds payable	-	900,000
Total Liabilities	**3,740,727**	**5,234,823**
Net Assets		
Without donor restrictions	9,912,235	10,749,469
With donor restrictions	6,396,175	6,335,993
With donor restrictions, perpetual in nature	14,482,803	14,507,359
Total Net Assets	**30,791,213**	**31,592,821**
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	**34,531,940**	**36,827,644**

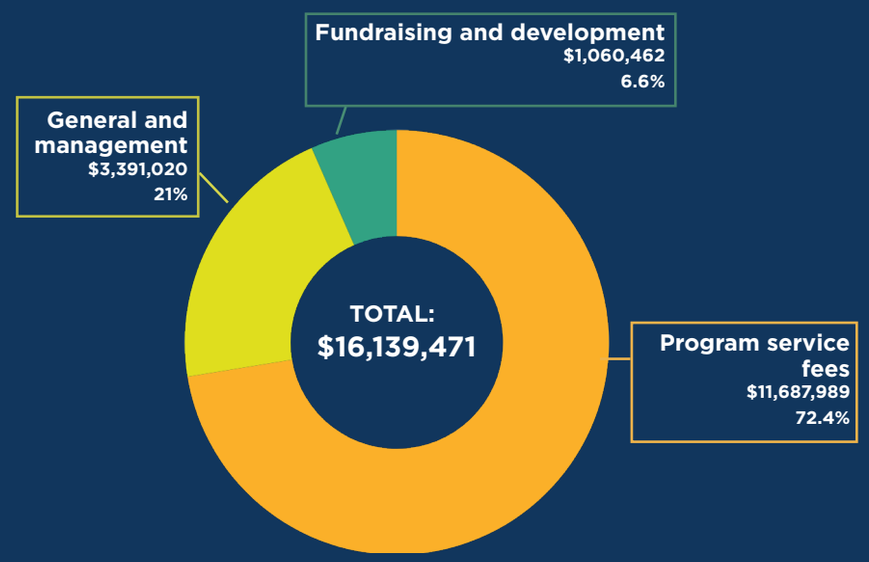
Statement of Activity	2025	2024
Revenue, Support, and Gains		
Ticket and education revenue	8,143,739	7,581,821
Grants, contributions, and net special events revenue	4,492,648	7,940,895
Investment return	2,082,695	2,280,646
Other revenue	618,778	611,837
Total	**15,337,860**	**18,415,199**
Expenses		
Program service fees	11,687,989	10,681,522
General and management	3,391,020	3,136,692
Fundraising and development	1,060,462	1,039,556
Total	**16,139,471**	**14,857,770**
Total Change in Net Assets	**(801,611)**	**3,557,429**

Statement of Activity

2024-2025 Revenue



2024-2025 Expenses



Our Generous Community

Individual and Family Foundation Gifts

As a nonprofit organization, CTC relies on your generosity to create extraordinary theatre experiences that educate, challenge, and inspire young people and their communities. We gratefully recognize the following donors and our entire donor community, who make everything we do possible.

The following gifts were made to the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025.

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Ruth and John Bergerson
Ron Frey and Steve Thompson ◊
Halloran Family Foundation
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Luke and Courtney Wippler
Gary Zywotko

KEY

◊ Member of CTC Board of Directors
● Former member of CTC Board of Directors

Corporate, Foundation, and Government Gifts

Our institutional giving partners provide annual support for Children's Theatre Company's productions and programs, including new play development, community engagement, and arts education. Corporate, foundation, and government supporters enjoy a special relationship with CTC, and we are proud to recognize them. The following annual, capital, and multi-year gifts were made for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2025.

$100,000 and Above

Hugh J. Andersen Foundation
Mellon Foundation
This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a Minnesota State Arts Board Operating Support grant, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.
The Shubert Foundation Inc.
United Health Foundation

$50,000 to $99,999

Ameriprise Financial
Cargill
Carlson Family Foundation
Ciresi Walburn Foundation
Delta
Knock inc
PNC Bank
Star Tribune
Treat & Company

$25,000 to $49,999

Best Buy
Dorsey always ahead
faegre drinker
National Endowment for the Arts arts.gov
Seidl Foundation
Travelers
usbank
Xcel Energy Responsible by Nature

$10,000 to $24,999

Accenture
BeEvents
Boss Foundation
Deloitte LLP
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Ernst & Young LLP
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$5,000 to $9,999

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Margaret Rivers Fund
Sit Investment Associates Foundation
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$2,500 to $4,999

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We Couldn't Do It Without You

As the nation's leading theatre for multigenerational audiences, we believe we can create a better world with, for, and through young people. **And we can do it because of you.** Nearly half of our annual budget as a nonprofit organization comes from philanthropic contributions like yours. It is thanks to you, our greatest friends and advocates, that we can develop extraordinary theatre experiences on our stages, in our classrooms, and in our community.

Whether young people are seeing a show at the theatre or enrolling in camps in our classrooms, every one of them can access the transformational power of the arts and come away from every opportunity feeling more curious, more empathetic, and more connected to the world around them.

Thank you for your commitment to the arts. Thank you for investing in our next generation. Thank you for supporting CTC.

childrenstheatre.org/give

Audience Photo by Pixel Dust Photography