



August 2025

Volume 2, No. 8



Welcome to Arts Center Task Force's newsletter, where you can find the latest news about the Mid-Columbia Performing Arts Center (MCPAC)!

Our mission remains unwavering: to create a home for the performing arts. An environment for artistic expression and innovation. We strive to enhance our community's cultural access, quality of life for all ages, and economic vitality. Thanks to our donors, volunteers, and the dedication of our incredible team, we've made substantial progress toward beginning construction on the MCPAC.



ED Talks - Thoughts from the Executive Director

Ed Talks: Thoughts from the Executive Director

Collaboration Creates Impact

When arts organizations collaborate, something extraordinary happens: the impact multiplies. While each group has its own unique voice, mission, and artistic style, partnerships between nonprofit performing arts producers create opportunities to share resources, amplify reach, and serve the community in ways no single group could accomplish alone.

These collaborations may take many forms—co-presented productions, shared educational programs, or festivals that highlight multiple art forms. Each effort allows organizations to remain true to their individual identities while also enriching the region's cultural life. Audiences are introduced to new genres, new voices, and new experiences, creating a cycle of discovery that benefits everyone.

Pooling resources is another advantage. Sharing venues, technical crews, marketing channels, or administrative tools helps each organization stretch limited resources further. This efficiency means more energy can be directed where it belongs—on creating and presenting inspiring art.

Partnerships also build a stronger collective voice. Together, arts organizations can advocate more effectively for funding, civic support, and recognition of the arts as essential to community

well-being. A unified chorus speaks louder than isolated efforts ever could.

At their heart, collaborations are about community. By working side by side—while also maintaining their individuality—arts organizations demonstrate resilience, creativity, and a commitment to building a richer, more vibrant region.

Introducing Our New Partner: [Mid-Columbia Opera](#)

We are excited to welcome the Mid-Columbia Opera as the newest member of our arts family, joining the Mid-Columbia Symphony, Ballet, Mastersingers, and Mid-Columbia Musical Theatre as recognized partners.

Led by President and founder Mitzi Holmes, Mid-Columbia Opera has recently taken the important step of becoming an official 501(c)(3) nonprofit, meeting a key requirement for partnership. Though their nonprofit status is new, the organization is built on years of dedication to opera in the Mid-Columbia and a strong history of community engagement.

The Opera is passionately dedicated to sharing the beauty and artistry of opera, while creating exceptional performance opportunities for singers and collaborating with educators to inspire students in the classical performing arts.

Their purpose is simple and inspiring: to ignite a love for opera in people of all ages and backgrounds, making it a vibrant part of life in the Mid-Columbia region. Through full productions, engaging educational programs, and unexpected performances in the community, they are bringing opera's passion and storytelling to new audiences.

We are delighted to welcome Mid-Columbia Opera into our circle of partners and look forward to the many ways our collaboration will enrich the cultural life of our community. To learn more about their vision and programs, visit midcolumbiaopera.org or follow them on Facebook.



Join Us in Shaping the Future of the Arts!



We're looking for passionate individuals to join our team! Whether you're ready to take a seat on our board or contribute to a committee, there's a place for you.

Committees meet monthly (or as needed). You don't need to be a board member to join a committee!

Our Committees-

Fundraising
Marketing/Communications
Operations
Facilities
Finance

Board membership is application-based and offers a rewarding opportunity to help guide our nonprofit's vision and impact. Board members have opportunities to attend partner performances and experience the art and culture of performing arts in our community.

No performing experience? No problem! All you need is enthusiasm and a desire to advocate

for the arts in our community. Be part of the movement that will create a vibrant hub for artistic expression and cultural innovation.

Ready to make a difference? Join us today!

Email - amber@artscentertaskforce.com for more information.

Become a Recurring Donor



Consider Becoming a Recurring Donor!

Recurring donations provide critical, sustaining support for ACTF and put us in an excellent position to meet significant milestones toward building the Mid-Columbia Performing Arts Center.

Recurring monthly donations are incredibly valuable to our organization as they provide a stable and reliable source of funding allowing us to focus on our mission and plan for next steps with confidence. For questions about becoming a monthly recurring donor, contact us at info@artscentertaskforce.com.

Click the link below to set up your recurring donation with a credit card or checking account, and let the funds be automatically deducted each month - no need to remember or send in payments; your valuable support happens seamlessly.

[Click to sign up](#)

What the staff's been up to!



August 8, 2025

*Richland Farmers Market
Listening Sessions*

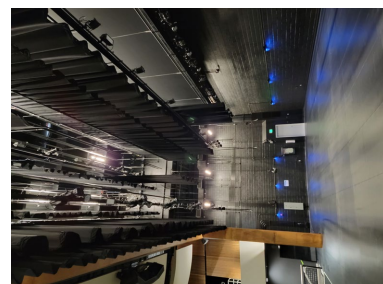
Did you spot us at the Richland Farmers Market a couple weeks back? Our team of volunteers and staff had a great time being a vendor at the market and interacting with the community as another leg of our listening campaign. Keep your eyes on us for our next stop in the community!

August 12, 2025

*Donuts & Development
TRIDEC*

Both Executive Director Blake Smith and Operations Director Amber Maiden attended the August session of Donuts and Development hosted by [TRIDEC](#).

This month they had guest speakers from [CCPco](#), [Visit Tri-Cities](#), [Lulu's](#), and [Greenies](#) to speak about the upcoming [Iron Man 70.3](#) happening on September 21, 2025 in Richland. Attendees heard about the route for this years race, road closures and over all details for the event as well as ways the community can get involved.





August 18 & 19, 2025
Sageview & Orion High School
Ribbon Cutting

The staff attended both ribbon cuttings for the new Sageview and Orion high schools in Pasco. As they toured the facilities they were also given a backstage tour of the auditorium at Sageview along with board member Joel Rogo. The facility won't be available for rent to the public till 2026 but the team made great connections with the music program director for Pasco School District and look forward to collaborating with them soon.



August 21, 2025

Spuds & Suds
REACH Foundation

Executive Director Blake Smith attended the Spuds & Suds REACH Foundation Annual Fundraiser last night. With a beautiful backdrop of the Columbia River! Our friends at the REACH did a wonderful job and our team was ecstatic to attend.

Team Development

Operations Director Amber Maiden Joins Leadership Tri-Cities Board

We're excited to share that our Operations Director, **Amber Maiden**, has joined the [Leadership Tri-](#)

Cities Board of Directors as the new **Director of Communications**. Amber's journey with Leadership Tri-Cities has been one of continued growth and dedication, and this next step is a natural extension of her passion for building connections and strengthening our community.

The **Arts Center Task Force** is also proud to be a supporter and sponsor of **Leadership Tri-Cities** and their mission to provide immersive learning experiences that bring education, awareness, and leadership development to our region.



Public Presentations

If you'd like us to speak to your club or organization, please contact us at
Info@artscentertaskforce.com



The Studio on Symons Street

Need event, rehearsal, small performance, podcast and/or meeting space? Check out ACTF's [Studio on Symons Street](#) at 704 Symons in Richland. We have a wide range of video and audio equipment available for recordings, including a green screen and lighting equipment.

Contact Amber Maiden, Operations Director, for details and tours.

Amber@artscentertaskforce.com



ARTS CENTER TASK FORCE

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