



belle fourche area
Community Theater



2024

ANNUAL REPORT



The Best Christmas Pageant Ever: The Musical

MISSION STATEMENT

Our Mission is to stimulate, promote, teach, and develop interest in the theater arts. We strive to share in providing cultural opportunities that serve the educational and entertainment needs of our community. And so, we welcome and provide opportunities of participation for all volunteers interested in the theater arts.

DIVERSITY STATEMENT

We are proud to create art with our community and have a commitment to celebrate and welcome all participants, volunteers, and patrons to our program regardless of perceived or actual race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, gender identity, sexual orientation, or disability.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

Nathan Schreier

SECRETARY

Heather Pittman

MEMBER-AT-LARGE

Michael Meemken

VICE-PRESIDENT

Nathan Thompson

TREASURER

Kelsey Gronlund

MEMBER-AT-LARGE

Sharon Thompson

MEMBER-AT-LARGE

Allan Schreier

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Derek Olson



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

In 2024, BFACT put on one of our most ambitious and successful seasons to date, while also growing as an organization and solidifying our standing as an entity that will bring theater to our community for many years to come.

We started the year with our first ever BFACT Board Retreat. We spent a day together in workshops where we discussed our ambitions for BFACT; developed big, but attainable goals; and learned how to better utilize the skills of each board member to bring out the best for this organization.

One of our primary goals after this was to create our first ever strategic plan. A well thought-out and executed strategic plan is a hallmark of successful non-profit organizations. The board decided that I should chair and create a strategic planning committee to accomplish this goal. To fill this committee, we enlisted board members, BFACT volunteers, and representatives from outside organizations. The committee launched with an all-day workshop where we learned in-depth about strategic plans and how they are created. We ended the day by taking the first steps in this lengthy process which will be completed midway through our 2025 season.

One of our other core goals was to grow volunteer engagement, especially with participation in our committees that assist our executive direction and allow BFACT to function; committees that support our fundraising efforts, public relations, and volunteering engagement. We had success in drawing in new volunteers, and we saw many new faces grace the stage with us this year. As for the committees, we made strides in improving engagement, but we are still seeking more people to get involved. We have a lot to build upon as we move into this very exciting 15th anniversary season for BFACT.

I want to give a heartfelt thank you to Derek Olson, our Executive Director, to every board member, and to all of our volunteers who make BFACT what it is. I am excited to see what 2025 brings, and I look forward to celebrating this anniversary all year long.

Nathan Schreier

BFACT President

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Yet another great year in the books for Belle Fourche Area Community Theater (BFACT). We had some great shows to offer, but this year we branched out and did some different things to build theater awareness and cultivate theater talent in our area. I believe we have grown as an organization, not just putting on plays - but we have begun to put systems and/or structure into place that will ensure this organization will be growing and thriving for the foreseeable future, regardless of who is on the Board of Directors. We also added on to our board a couple more members who weren't a part of us in previous years, and have started planning for the future in a more strategic way than had been done in the past.

We started off in March with, "Break a Leg" which is our night of one-acts. This was a great display of our local talent growing, as 2 of the 3 shows featured community members who had not directed before. All 3 of the short plays were hysterically acted and well directed. For more information on these plays, please go to our website www.bellefourcheact.com and click on "previous shows". A couple of these performances are even found on youtube!

In June we performed the classic murder mystery, "Murder on the Orient Express". This was a tremendous work to tackle, but everyone worked very hard and did very well (I know I had a lot of fun!). This play was very well directed

and wonderfully executed by our community members who came from here in Belle Fourche and Spearfish, and some of our cast & crew drove all the way from Deadwood to participate! We were interviewed by the Black Hills Pioneer, and had a photo-op on site at the 1880 Train in Hill City, SD - so there was good exposure to the Black Hills as a whole. Anyone who came to any of our 4 performances of this classic work said they found it very entertaining. I will forever remember my time on the ever-moving set of this amazing play we presented!

In August we put on the live radio play "Sherlock Holmes & the West End Horror." This was also directed by a community member who hadn't directed much before, but he did a very good job. It took place at Venue 519, which has always been a good venue for us on these smaller projects. Everyone who came said they really enjoyed the play.

In October we were a part of "Getting Our Acts Together", which was a great display of the local theater groups coming together and having some fun. There was a great turnout as usual and all the good folks from Spearfish, Sturgis, Lead and our local residents here in Belle Fourche showed up and showed off. There were lots of laughs and even some tears.

In December we had a ton of fun with, "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever: The Musical". Many families participated in this production and



had a great time. The kids did such a good job. I, for one, really enjoyed being able to just sit back and watch my family perform in this funny show.

This year we started off in January with a Writer's Workshop and Showcase, where local writers came out for the event and learned how to grow their craft. It was well attended and well ran.

In July we had an Acting Workshop were anyone who wanted to was welcome to come

and grow in their acting skills. This event was also well attended and well ran. Both of these events were great opportunities for both new people to theater and veterans to the craft to come out and hone their skills and get more involved.

I've really enjoyed working with this group, and being a part of this organization. 2024 was certainly a year to remember, but with our current & future plans rolling full-steam-ahead, 2025 will be one for the ages too!

Nathan Thompson

BFACT Vice-President

**OVER 1,244
TICKETS SOLD
THIS SEASON**

**OVER 90
VOLUNTEERS
PARTICIPATED**

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR'S REPORT

This year was filled with excitement and hope for the future of BFACT. Many returning members and new faces joined us in the five amazing productions of 2024. I had my directorial debut with "My Date With A Hitwoman" for the Break-a-leg: A Night of One Acts. It was a pleasure to work with an amazing cast and a fantastic script, by Executive Director Derek Olson. The next show, "Murder on the Orient Express", brought more new faces to the stage, and I put on a Russian accent as the Princess Dragomiroff. Finally, I worked as Music Director to our largest cast of new faces to join the stage in The Best Christmas Pagaent Ever: The Musical. The beginning of the year the

Sharon Thompson

BFACT Membership Chair

role of Volunteer/Membership Chair changed slightly, and we were working toward using a CRM for organizing our Volunteers. I met with the volunteer committee several times throughout the year. Some suggestions that we hope to employ in the future are volunteer specific outreach materials, a yearly volunteer fair/tour, and volunteer recognition which focuses on retention and years of service. Unfortunately, due to personal reasons, my ability to follow-up on many of these ideas fell short the later half of the year. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time on the BFACT board, and I wish to express my gratitude to the Board for the grace they have given me.

FUNDRAISING CHAIR'S REPORT

The fundraising committee consisted of Chair Person - Allan Schreier, Derek Olson, Nathan Schreier, and Margie Schreier.

The committee met on several occasions (2) to discuss goals and potential fundraising ideas. On several other occasions, phone conferences and informal meetings took place to follow up on the ongoing plans, answer questions, gain consensus on the desired course of action, and to make decisions. In my opinion, the fundraising activities were limited, so in the future, more meetings and fundraising activities would be desired. As chairperson, I believe the fundraising activities that were attempted or undertaken were conducted effectively and with general success.

In 2024 the fundraising committee did set the following goals.

A goal was to help with bake sales at theater presentations. Fundraising committee volunteers Allan and Margie assisted with bake sales by being present at the events. This freed up other committee members to have greater involvement with the theater shows. The rest of the committee and other volunteers also helped with bake sales.

A goal was to set up a food stand at the Downtown Thursday Nights in Belle Fourche. Having a food stand was well received by the DTN Committee. In what was a fairly last minute decision, it was decided to cancel the foodstand. The requirements by DTN included a food sales or health certificate, a sales tax license, and insurance. It was discovered that BFACT has none of these three things. It was learned that BFACT works somewhat under the umbrella of

the City of Belle Fourche in the Rec Center and Community Center for insurance and then the licensing from the script producers for sales tax. The lack of insurance was probably the biggest factor in deciding to cancel the food stand. It was a fortunate decision in the end. The next two DTN's that we were going to attend were hit by severe weather and thunderstorms. In the end, planning an outdoor event that involves a larger investment of money with perishable items/ inventory is probably not in the best interests of BFACT.

A goal was to continue with the traditional silent auction. The silent auction was held in conjunction with "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever: The Musical" production in December. I believe the silent auction can be considered a success. By my accounting, a total of \$1,321 was raised. There was \$60 in cash donations. Thirty-one items were collected and auctioned. The great majority of items were distributed and paid for at the final show. Four items were delivered after the show. One item remains undelivered and is a home decor item (gnome) with a bid of \$10. The person only provided an email address and as of yet, has not responded to emails. A special thanks again goes to Angela Hastings for donating 10 gift baskets.

A goal for 2025 would be to identify new or additional fundraising activities and to expand the activities we already have.

Another goal would be to improve the effectiveness, or maybe the mission, of the Fundraising Committee. Fundraising was discussed very little, if at all in the first few monthly BFACT meetings. In fairness, the whole

BFACT committee has a great deal of enthusiasm in pursuing multiple major objectives. The result was the monthly meeting agendas were utilized for other discussions. This is understandable as for 2025, sufficient funds were available thru grants and or sponsorships. These funds were made possible by the efforts of the Executive Director, Derek.

A final goal I have is to assist Derek with 2025 fundraising sponsorships. I do believe it is beneficial for BFACT to broaden its outreach by having the public associate with more of the BFACT committee.

All in all, I believe it was a successful year and look forward to expanding fundraising efforts and improving the effectiveness of the committee system.

Allan Schreier

BFACT Fundraising Chair

“Good evening. The story you are about to witness is one of romance and tragedy, primal murder, and the urge for revenge. What better way to spend a pleasant evening together?”

Hercule Poirot

Murder on the Orient Express



PUBLIC RELATIONS CHAIR'S REPORT

The Public Relations Committee over the last year focused on Social Media Posts and creating public awareness of any and all events going on in BFACT. We set some short term and Long term goals for the committee and we achieved some as well.

Short term goals:

- **Establish committee**
- Mike Meemken (Chair), Nathan Schreier, Derek Olson, Wesley Barnhouse, Stephanie Bussiere, Angela Hastings, and Whitney Bridgers
- **Video marketing of auditions and show**
- "Murder on the Orient Express"
- Establish Poster Hanging Team

Long Term Goals:

- **Presence at Downtown Thursday nights**
- Actors show up
- Customized tent
- **Advertise on Electronic sign by courthouse**
- **Create new ways to advertise**
- **Get on radio show again**

We handed out posters to many local businesses of auditions and show schedules for all BFACT shows and workshops. We established a committee of 7 members to help hand out posters making it more efficient. We did some

live Facebook videos backstage before shows to give our followers a look behind the scenes as well as director interviews throughout rehearsals. Our long term goals have been talked about at board meetings and will continue to be followed up with. Our presence on Social Meeting has grown over the last year here are the outreach numbers from Meta.

Michael Meemken
BFACT Marketing Chair



PAGE & PROFILE VISITS

FACEBOOK PAGE VISITS

15.3K Up **23.8%**
Over 2023

INSTAGRAM PROFILE VISITS

247 Up **268.7%**
Over 2023

SOCIAL MEDIA REACH

FACEBOOK PAGE REACH

39.1K Up **7.7%**
From 2023

INSTAGRAM REACH

782 Up **809.3%**
From 2023

“Neither of you know me so I am giving you this one pass. The next time either of you opens your mouth when I tell you not to, I’m going to punch you in throat.”

Serena

My Date With the Hitwoman

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The BFACT board met monthly in accordance with our bylaws for the 2024 fiscal year. All meeting minutes and agendas continue to be stored electronically in a shared Board of Directors folder on Google Drive as well as being made available to the membership and public through the BFACT website. It has been a pleasure to assist in board administration and record keeping and I look forward to continuing my duties in 2025.

Heather Pittman
BFACT Secretary





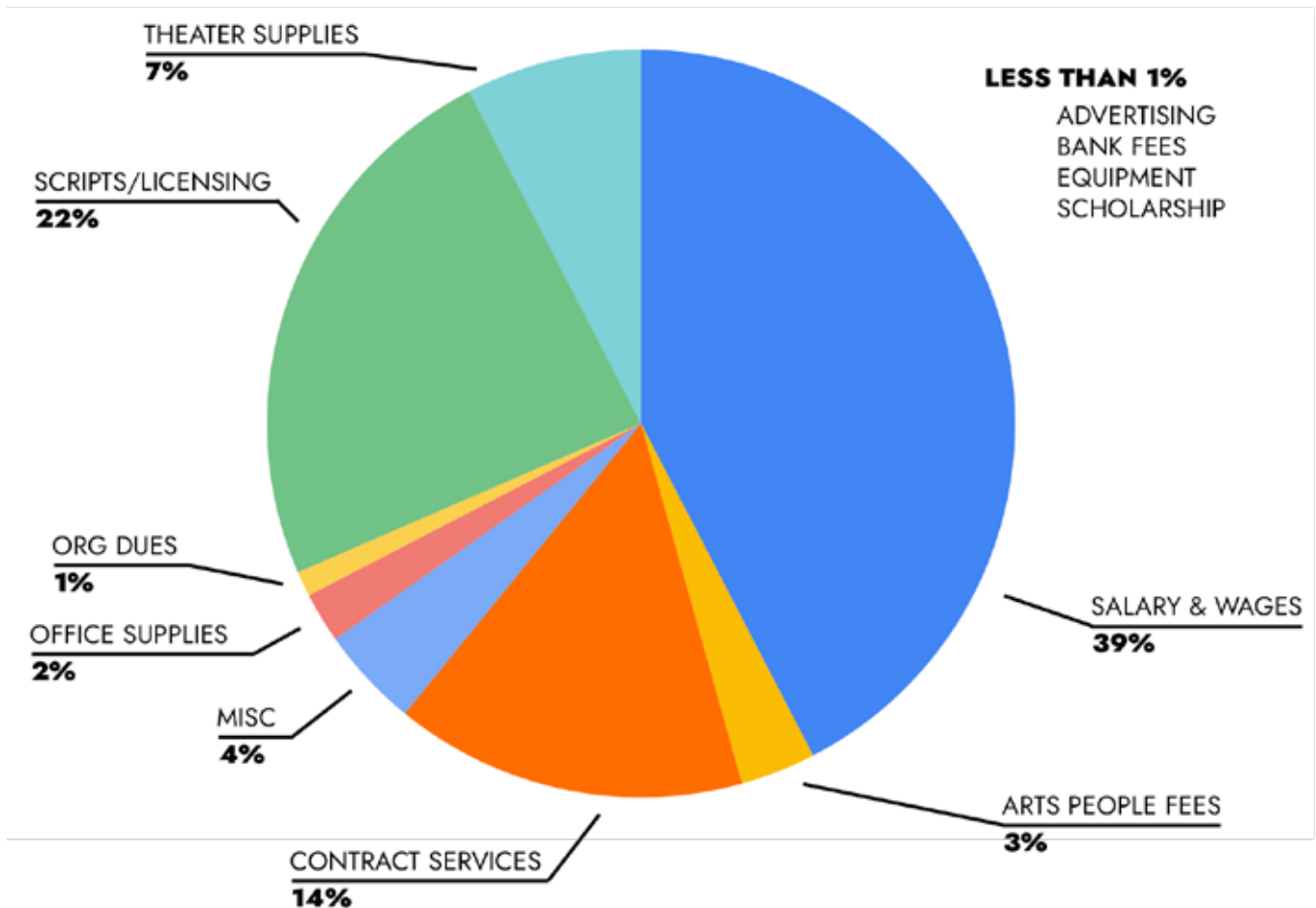
My Date With the Hitwoman

TREASURER'S REPORT

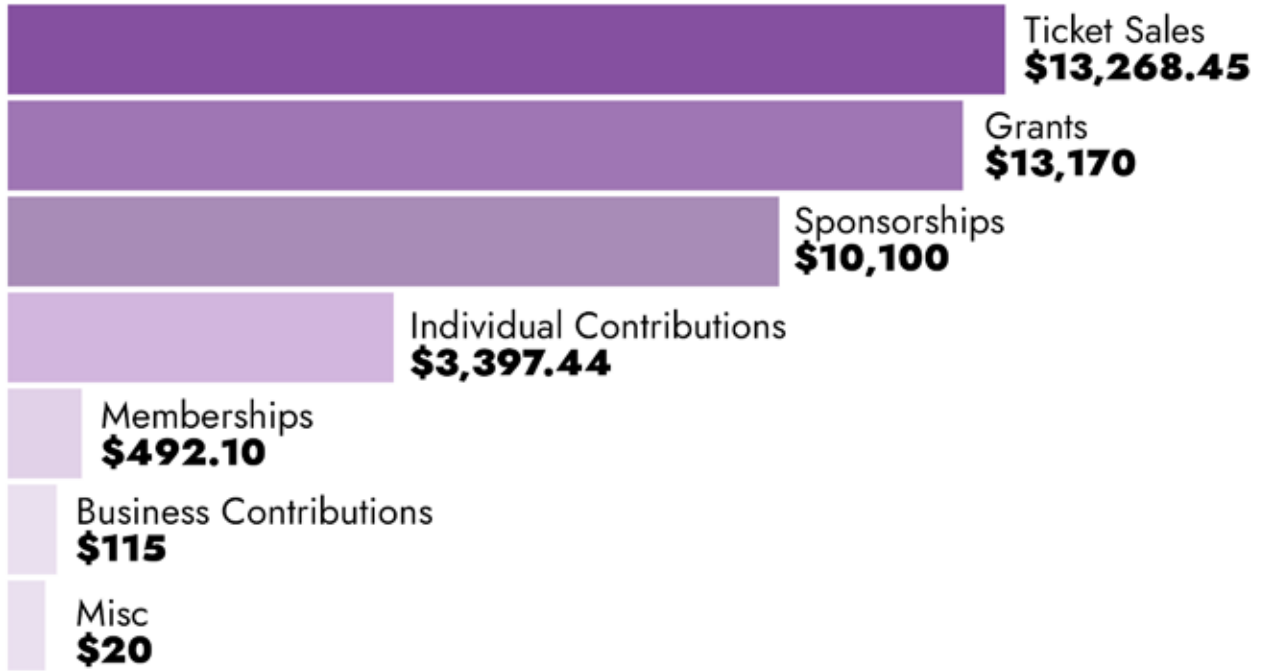
We would also like to thank our membership, volunteers, donors, the Belle Fourche community, and surrounding communities for the continued support. Thank you for the amazing year. We couldn't do this without you!

Kelsey Gronlund
BFACT Treasurer

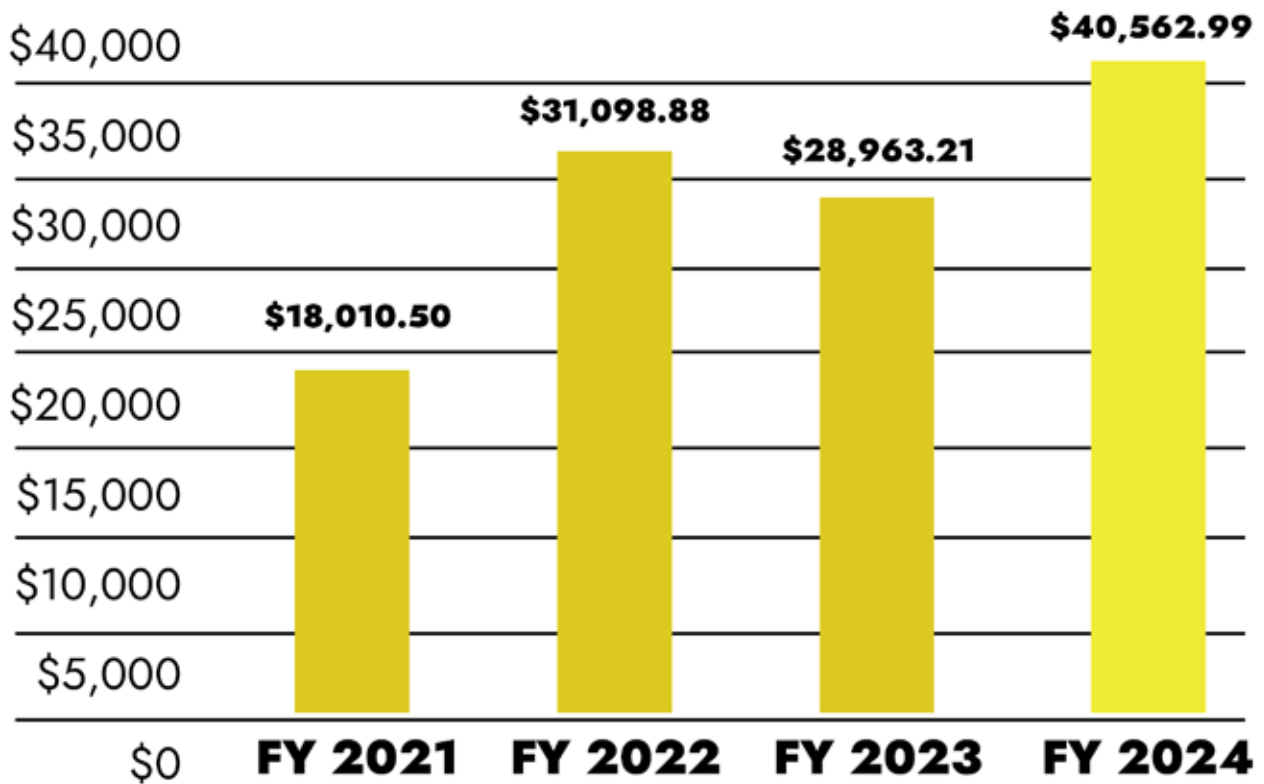
2024 EXPENSES



2024 REVENUES



REVENUE GROWTH BY YEAR



Balance Sheet

Belle Fourche Area Community Theater

As of Dec 31, 2024

Report Type: Accrual (Paid & Unpaid)

ACCOUNTS	Dec 31, 2024
Assets	
Cash and Bank	
Cash on Hand	-\$250.00
First Interstate Bank Checking	\$17,527.57
Total Cash and Bank	\$17,277.57
Other Current Assets	
PETTY CASH	\$200.00
Total Other Current Assets	\$200.00
Long-term Assets	
Total Long-term Assets	\$0.00
Total Assets	\$17,477.57
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Total Current Liabilities	\$0.00
Long-term Liabilities	
Total Long-term Liabilities	\$0.00
Total Liabilities	\$0.00
Equity	
Retained Earnings	
Profit for all prior years	\$12,532.16
Profit between Jan 1, 2024 and Dec 31, 2024	\$4,945.41
Total Retained Earnings	\$17,477.57
Total Equity	\$17,477.57



Those Tasty Tulips

Profit and Loss

Belle Fourche Area Community Theater

Date Range: Jan 01, 2024 to Dec 31, 2024

Report Type: Accrual (Paid & Unpaid)

ACCOUNTS	Jan 01, 2024 to Dec 31, 2024
Income	
Direct Public Support - Sponsorships	\$10,100.00
Direct Public Support - Business Contributions	\$115.00
Direct Public Support - Individual Contributions	\$3,397.44
Grants	\$13,170.00
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$20.00
Program Income - Membership Donations	\$492.10
Ticket Sales	\$13,268.45
Total Income	\$40,562.99
Total Cost of Goods Sold	
	\$0.00
Gross Profit	
As a percentage of Total Income	\$40,562.99 100.00%
Operating Expenses	
Advertising	\$151.84
Arts People Fees	\$1,009.11
Bank Fees	\$35.23
Contract Services	\$5,000.00
Equipment	\$146.29
Misc Expense	\$1,546.06
Operating Expenses	
Office Supplies	\$425.32
Organizational Dues	\$340.00
Payroll - Salary & Wages	\$13,832.00
Play Scripts/Royalties	\$7,843.77
Postage & Delivery	\$144.00
Printing and Reproduction	\$496.16
Rent Expense	\$2,045.50
SCHOLARSHIP	\$300.00
Theater Production Supplies	\$2,302.30
Total Operating Expenses	\$35,617.58
Net Profit	
As a percentage of Total Income	\$4,945.41 12.19%

Cash Flow

Belle Fourche Area Community Theater

Date Range: Jan 01, 2024 to Dec 31, 2024

CASH INFLOW AND OUTFLOW	Jan 01, 2024 to Dec 31, 2024
Operating Activities	
Sales	
PETTY CASH	-\$200.00
Direct Public Support - Sponsorships	\$10,100.00
Direct Public Support - Business Contributions	\$115.00
Direct Public Support - Individual Contributions	\$3,397.44
Grants	\$13,170.00
Miscellaneous Revenue	\$20.00
Program Income - Membership Donations	\$492.10
Ticket Sales	\$13,268.45
Total Sales	\$40,362.99
Purchases	
Advertising	-\$151.84
Arts People Fees	-\$1,009.11
Bank Fees	-\$35.23
Contract Services	-\$5,000.00
Equipment	-\$146.29
Misc Expense	-\$1,546.06
Office Supplies	-\$425.32
Organizational Dues	-\$340.00
Play Scripts/Royalties	-\$7,843.77
Postage & Delivery	-\$144.00
CASH INFLOW AND OUTFLOW	
Printing and Reproduction	-\$496.16
Rent Expense	-\$2,045.50
SCHOLARSHIP	-\$300.00
Theater Production Supplies	-\$2,302.30
Total Purchases	-\$21,785.58

Inventory	
Payroll	
Payroll – Salary & Wages	-\$13,832.00
Total Payroll	-\$13,832.00
Sales Taxes	
Other	
Net Cash from Operating Activities	\$4,745.41

Investing Activities	
Property, Plant, Equipment	
Other	
Net Cash from Investing Activities	\$0.00

Financing Activities	
Loans and Lines of Credit	
Owners and Shareholders	
Other	
Net Cash from Financing Activities	\$0.00

OVERVIEW

Starting Balance	
Cash on Hand	\$0.00
First Interstate Bank Checking	\$12,532.16
Total Starting Balance	\$12,532.16 As of 2024-01-01
Gross Cash Inflow	\$41,012.99
Gross Cash Outflow	\$36,267.58
Net Cash Change	\$4,745.41
Ending Balance	
Cash on Hand	-\$250.00
First Interstate Bank Checking	\$17,527.57
Total Ending Balance	\$17,277.57 As of 2024-12-31

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

I am so proud of the amazing 2024 season that BFACT held. We put on five tremendous productions with over 90 volunteers involved. The community was very supportive of this season and we had a great turnout for every show and even had our best single day ticket total since 2018's "Beauty and the Beast."

In 2024 we were wanting to expand our offerings and with that we held two free workshops for the area, one acting and one stage writing. With the stage writing workshop, all of the participants were given the option to have part of a script performed in a showcase with lots of actors from BHSU's theater department. This gave people a unique opportunity to see their scripts performed on stage in front of an audience.

The community was also very supportive with local business sponsorships. Our 2024

business sponsorship total has surpassed all previous seasons. We also received more in grant funds than ever. Coupled with great ticket sales from well attended shows has set BFACT up for an ambitious 2025 Season of shows and events.

2025 will be the 15th Season of BFACT and we have a huge celebration planned for the whole year. We have four main stage shows planned including "Is He Dead?" which is the first show BFACT produced back in 2010. We will also be putting on a production of the fantastical "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory." We will also be hosting a 90s Prom Fundraiser in March as well as a theater reunion float and BBQ over the 4th of July. There are many other events, workshops and shows planned for 2025 that will be announced soon so make sure to keep an eye out for more information.

Derek Olson

BFACT Executive Director

GRANT SUPPORT



Support is provided with funds from the South Dakota Community Foundation, everything we do wouldn't be possible without generous support from organizations like this.



South Dakota Arts Council support is provided with funds from the State of South Dakota, through the Department of Tourism, and the National Endowment for the Arts.



We want to thank the Black Hills Area Community Foundation for their generous grant support for programs in 2024 - 2025.

2025 SEASON

90s Prom Fundraiser

March 1

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

June 26 - 29

It's a Wonderful Life: Radio Drama

December 12 - 14

Getting Our Acts Together

March 29

Is He Dead?

September 12 - 14

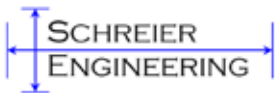
Plus more events & workshops

Check for dates

ASSISTANT-DIRECTOR SPONSORS



ACTOR SPONSORS



PATRON SPONSORS





Charlie's Masterpiece

CONTACT BELLE FOURCHE AREA COMMUNITY THEATER

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WEB: www.bellefourcheact.com

FACEBOOK: facebook.com/BFCTheater

INSTAGRAM: instagram.com/bf.act/

Belle Fourche Area Community Theater is a South Dakota Nonprofit Corporation (#31954) a 501(c)(3) exempt Public Charity



Sherlock Holmes & the West End Horror

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever has.”

Margaret Mead

American Anthropologist 1901 – 1978