

# The Pillars Campaign

Ensuring a Bright Future for  
Ensemble Theatre Cincinnati



OUR WORK

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OUR PLACE

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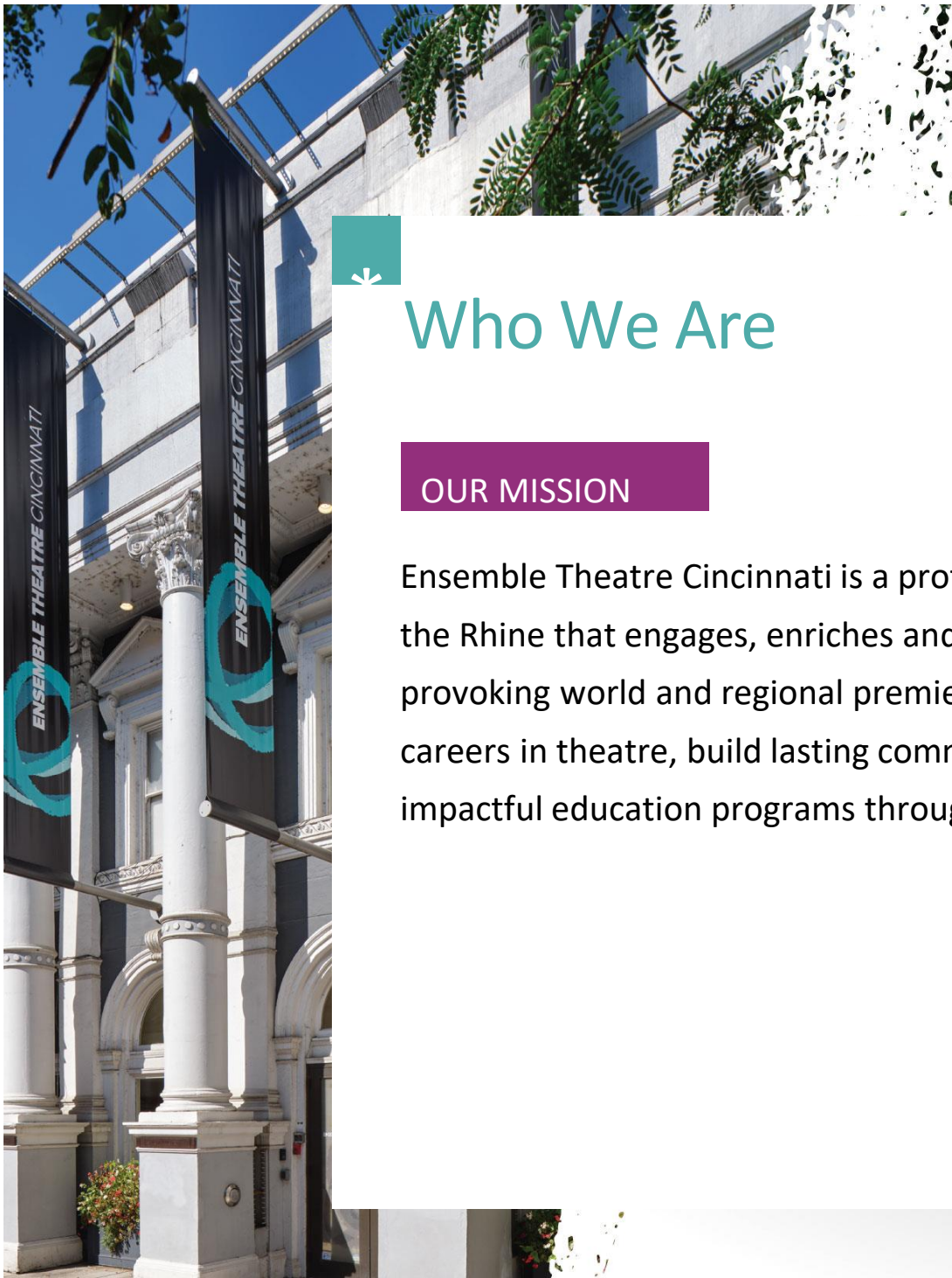


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OUR PEOPLE

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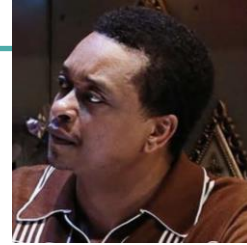
OUR FUTURE



## Who We Are

### OUR MISSION

Ensemble Theatre Cincinnati is a professional theatre rooted in historic Over the Rhine that engages, enriches and inspires audiences through thought-provoking world and regional premiere productions. We create and sustain careers in theatre, build lasting community partnerships, and share impactful education programs throughout our region.



# Our Impact

# 2,000+

## STUDENTS

**FAIRY GODMOTHER PROGRAM**  
Children\* from schools across the region see ETC's holiday production for free. Transportation, take-home activities, and study guides to integrate themes into curriculum enhance the experience.



# 297

## NIGHTS

**SUSTAINING VIBRANCY** ETC theatre-goers add to the dynamic energy in OTR, dining, shopping and more.

\*95% students qualify for National School Lunch.

# 40%

## OF APPRENTICES STAY

**BUILDING A VIBRANT ARTS ECOSYSTEM** ETC is the only theatre in the region with a professional apprentice company.



# 276

## PREMIERES

**SEE IT HERE FIRST**  
New theatre finds a home at ETC— world and regional premieres are part of our DNA.

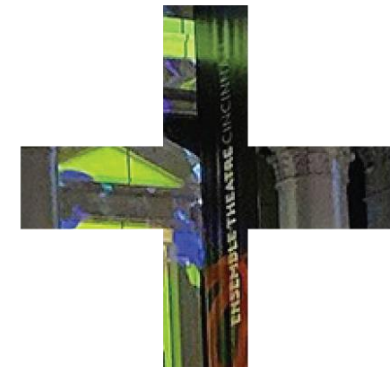
# 38

**YEARS OF PRODUCTIONS**

**THAT ENLIGHTEN, ENERGIZE & INSPIRE**

# 97%

**SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL RATE**



# 4,128

## ACTORS

**EMPOWERING THE PROFESSION** ETC's stage has been a haven for equity actors since its founding.

# Why Now?



## THE PILLARS CAMPAIGN WILL . . .

- Ignite and enhance essential programming
- Support retention and development of theatre talent
- Expand our patron and donor base with fresh insights and strategic targeting
- Provide exceptional audience experiences
- Strengthen our community partnerships
- Elevate our award-winning education programs

. . . A COMBINED \$10 MILLION INVESTMENT

Ensuring that ETC is thriving for generations to come.



# Our Vision

IT'S SEPTEMBER 9, 2026

A crisp hint of fall is in the air. On Vine Street in Over the Rhine, a lively crowd gathers outside Ensemble Theatre Cincinnati. Tonight marks the opening of ETC's 41st season, and the atmosphere buzzes with excitement over a dazzling new play by one of Cincinnati's cherished playwrights.

The street glimmers with ETC's lobby glow, while nearby restaurants hum as pre-theatre diners settle their checks. Inside the theatre, young professionals experiencing ETC for the first time mingle with longtime subscribers. Backstage, a talented professional cast prepares to take the stage, joined by two eager ETC apprentices making their debut.

Soon, Producing Artistic Director D. Lynn Meyers will greet the audience. Then, the curtain will rise—ushering in a new era of inspiring stories and transformative theatre.

# Our Work

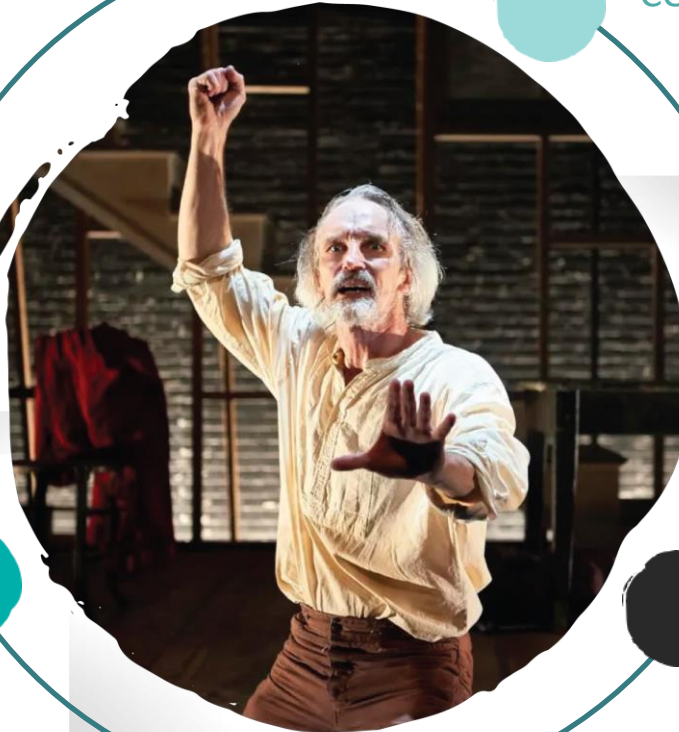
## PILLAR 1

### ACCLAIMED & ORIGINAL

Award-winning productions of topical theatrical works by the best playwrights of our time.

### BUILDING ARTS CAREERS (& LIVES) IN CINCINNATI

Providing employment and opportunities for theatre professionals, empowering them to build a career—and a life—here.



### OPENING UP WORLDS, STARTING CONVERSATIONS

Emphasis on theatre that connects us to a broad range of human experience, promoting conversations and reflection.

### LAUNCHING ARTISTS

The ETC Apprentice Program has been the introduction point for many theatre artists regional and nationally. Education programs that captivate and develop young people build our arts ecosystem.

“

The Apprentice Program has given me the opportunity to expand my skill set not only as an actor but as a theatre-maker. The apprenticeship has given me a peek into the professional theatre industry that I one day hope to join and change!

AMIRA F. JACKSON (Apprentice 2024-2025)

”

# Our Place

## PILLAR 2

### A LEADER IN OVER THE RHINE'S RESURGENCE

Ensemble's commitment to OTR began well before the current renaissance, providing a catalyst for community revitalization.

### A CORNERSTONE OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD

We are a foundation of Over the Rhine, a vibrant center for culture and community.



### SPANNING HALF A CITY BLOCK

Our enlarged footprint increases street-life and retail activity with performances and events from September through June.

### RENOVATED TO MEET TODAY'S NEEDS

Our restored 19th-century complex adds to the charm of the ETC experience and serves as the hub for all our theatre operations, including workshops, events, and more.



Ensemble Theatre's very existence played a significant role in our decision to locate our business at 12th and Vine in OTR. We wanted to be part of the vibe, the community, and the excitement brought to the neighborhood by Ensemble Theatre.

CAROLYN DEININGER, MiCA 12/v Owner



# Our People

## PILLAR 3

### YEAR-ROUND ARTS EMPLOYMENT

ETC employs 50+ theatre pros year-round and has hired nearly 300 additional professionals since 2021.

### THEATRE LUMINARIES

Notable playwrights produced at ETC include Dominique Morisseau, Lynn Nottage, Theresa Rebeck, Jeanine Tesori, Warren Leight, Moises Kaufman, Steven Dietz and Doug Wright.



### HOME-GROWN, WORLD-CLASS TALENT

Our talented designers, directors and actors could work anywhere in the country—we're proud they've chosen ETC as their home theatre.

### LOYAL SEASON SUBSCRIBERS

80% of our dedicated season-ticket holders renew each year before the next season is announced.

# Our Future

## PILLAR 4

### LOOKING FORWARD

The Pillars Campaign ensures that future generations will enjoy ETC as much as we do today.

### MORE INNOVATIVE AND ORIGINAL WORKS

The Pillars Campaign will support the production of the best contemporary theatre has to offer.



### BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE FOUNDATION

The Pillars Campaign will seed an endowment fund to capture legacy investments and build a foundation for sustainability.

### CELEBRATING OUR 40th

The Pillars Campaign will lead into ETC's 40th anniversary and set the stage with exciting theatre for many years to come.

“ YOU are the fuel for our bright future. ”



CAMPAIGN LAUNCHES WITH

# \$1 MILLION

LEAD GIFT FROM HARRY AND LINDA FATH

**100%** of the members of our Board of Directors have pledged to the Pillars Campaign.



## A Letter from D. Lynn Meyers

For 30 years I have stood before you at the start of every performance. Now I reach out to you about the Ensemble Theatre Cincinnati at a transformative moment. Our Pillars Campaign, with its \$10 Million Vision for the Future, is an opportunity to shape what's next. This campaign builds on our successes and ensures we continue to inspire and connect with our region. By presenting Pulitzer and Tony Award-winning plays, along with local premieres and commissioned works, we are creating the future of our art form. Your support will help expand our reach, enrich our programs, and attract exceptional talent, while nurturing the next generation of artists and audiences. Together, we can preserve ETC's legacy and create a vibrant future.



# How to Give

TAX ID: 31-1220252

## One-Time Gift or Monthly Contribution

Donate by check or money order, payable to “Ensemble Theatre Cincinnati” and mail to 1127 Vine St., Cincinnati, OH 45202

Make your [pledge to ETC](#) for payment at a later date or over time, balance due by 6/30/2026

Donate [stock](#) instead of cash—a convenient way to support ETC that can have many benefits for you

Give a [gift in honor](#) or memory of someone as a way to pay tribute to their life

Give through your [Donor Advised Fund](#) which provides favorable tax benefits

Make theatre your legacy by including ETC in your will or trust, or as a beneficiary of a retirement plan asset

If you are [over 70.5](#), you can make a [tax-free Qualified Charitable Distribution](#) from an Individual Retirement Account (IRA) to ETC.



## Contact Information

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