OUR MISSION
Stuart’s Opera House is the cornerstone of the historic Public Square in Nelsonville. It is dedicated to its role as a regional leader in the arts community, a center for public expression, and an economic development partner for Southeastern Ohio.

HISTORY
We envision Stuart’s Opera House as the cultural anchor and a center of expression on Nelsonville’s bustling and dynamic Public Square. It is a historic venue sought out by people of all ages, from all walks of life, and from near and far. Its well-earned reputation as an intimate, casual setting for continuous offerings of both familiar and innovative artistic performances and community events brings people back time and again.

Stuart’s Opera House is the cornerstone of the Nelsonville Historic Art District. A lovingly restored theatre that reflects its glory days in 1879 through 1924 when it was home to vaudeville, melodrama, and minstrel shows. Stuart’s closed and sat empty from 1924 through 1976. In 1977 a group formed a non-profit and started bringing the theatre back to life when a devastating fire nearly destroyed the building in 1980. Seventeen years later, in 1997, the opera house re-opened its doors and is once again home to local, regional, national and internationally acclaimed performances. Stuart’s Opera House now hosts over 75 events each year and is Southeastern Ohio’s favorite place to experience live performance.
STUART’S OPERA HOUSE AND THE NELSONVILLE MUSIC FESTIVAL DEPEND ON THE SUPPORT OF OUR DEDICATED VOLUNTEERS.

OVER 30,000 visitors every year, including participants in our Arts Education program, attendees at Stuart’s ticketed events, private rentals, and attendees at the Nelsonville Music Festival.

STUART’S OPERA HOUSE
800 HOURS VOLUNTEERED AT STUART’S OPERA HOUSE
DAN DONALDSON HAS VOLUNTEERED FOR 13 YEARS!

60+ VOLUNTEERS AT STUART’S OPERA HOUSE

500+ VOLUNTEERS AT THE NELSONVILLE MUSIC FESTIVAL

6,000 HOURS VOLUNTEERED AT THE NELSONVILLE MUSIC FESTIVAL

WE COULDN’T DO IT WITHOUT OUR VOLUNTEERS!

BOB BOILEN OF NPR MUSIC HOSTS TANK AND THE BANGAS FOR A PACKED HOUSE AT STUART’S OPERA HOUSE

2019 INCOME TOTAL: $1,882,762
\[ \text{Earned Income: 48% (Ticket Sales) + 13% (Alcohol) + 5% (Rental)} + \text{Grants: 14% + Donations: 17% + Merch: 3%} \]

2019 EXPENSES TOTAL: $1,830,641
\[ \text{Operating (artist fees, event supplies, advertising: 51%) + Payroll + Subcontracts: 33% + Admin: 16% + Fundraising: 31%} \]

NET INCOME $52,121

NELSONVILLE MUSIC FESTIVAL

THE NELSONVILLE MUSIC FESTIVAL IS OUR MOST IMPORTANT ANNUAL FUNDRAISER FOR STUART’S OPERA HOUSE. PROCEEDS FROM NMF ARE ESSENTIAL SUPPORT FOR OUR YEAR ROUND ARTS PROGRAM.

The Nelsonville Music Festival is a presentation of and fundraiser for Stuart’s Opera House. In its 15th year, the 2019 Nelsonville Music Festival took place from June 6-9, in Nelsonville, Ohio, featuring many musical acts in four days on multiple stages along with on-site camping, artisan vendors, kids activities, food, a beer garden, and more. Billboard has called Nelsonville Music Festival “one of the best kept secrets of the U.S. music festival circuit,” and in our 15th year NMF continued to gain fans who wanted a music festival with a more personal experience.

SOCIAL MEDIA AUDIENCE
Facebook 17,900+
Instagram 5,400+
Twitter 2,600+

AUDIENCE + MEDIA REACH
via Media Coverage 500,000 to 750,000
Digital Reach 100,000+
On-Site Reach 7,000 to 8,500 per day

Our Boxcar Stage is sponsored by the Ohio University Performing Arts and Concert Series, which makes the festival experience accessible to anyone.
The goal of our Arts Education Program is to offer an affordable, broad-based program focused on performing arts, targeting a diverse group of our regional community members.

Curriculum is developed by recognized leaders in their artistic fields then reviewed yearly by the Arts Education Director, instructors, and members of the Arts Ed Committee, which is made up of teachers, school board members, education administrators, and community members.

**ARTS EDUCATION PROGRAMS**

- After School Music Program (AMP)
- Music Production
- Appalachian Music Program
- Performing Art Camp
- Drama Club
- Southeast Ohio Musical Lending Library: in partnership with Arts West and the Federal Valley Resource Center
- Touring Theater Performances
- Artists in Residence
- Visiting Artists
- Creative Writing for Adults
- Poetry Out Loud

**DID YOU KNOW?**

Stuart’s employs Trimble Middle School’s full time music teacher. Stuart’s also supports teaching artists to conduct 4-6 week classes in Athens County schools and community organizations including Passion Works, Rising Appalachian Warriors Camp, Prism Youth Program, and the Southeast Ohio Musical Lending Library. In partnership with local school districts, teachers, artists, and funders, these residencies are provided for free.

“I saw a smile break across his face several times, with teeth even! And smiles are not something I have witnessed in a while...and they were so genuine and undeniable.”

- AMP parent after her son’s performance at the Nelsonville Music Festival
For twenty years, Stuart’s has been a community center for the arts. On average, Stuart’s provides 30,000 visitors with over 75 events a year, including concerts, theater performances, educational events, and private rentals.

In 2019, our historic theater featured The War and Treaty, the Columbus Symphony Orchestra, Hayes Carll, Tank & The Bangas, Patty Griffin, Bruce Cockburn, Thompson Square, ABC Players present: “Disney’s Frozen Jr.” and many more!

“One visit and you are part of the ‘family.’ Never met anyone who didn’t fall in love with Stuart’s after stopping by for a show or a tour. The new renovations have made it even better!”

- **40+** Private Rentals in 2019
- **75** Live Events
- **51%** Attendees from Southeast Ohio, including Athens + Nelsonville

The Columbus Symphony plays to a sold out crowd at Stuart’s.

The ABC Players perform Disney’s Frozen Jr. on the Stuart’s Stage.

Stuart’s hosts private events year round, including weddings, conferences, parties, and more!

Queen of Bluegrass Rhonda Vincent and The Rage perform for a sold out crowd.
THANK YOU

BECOME A MEMBER
Through becoming a member of Stuart’s Opera House you help us to ensure the continuation of quality arts programming in Athens County. Each level of membership entitles you to certain benefits and levels of recognition. Learn more at stuartsoperahouse.org.

SPECIAL THANKS
Everything we have been able to accomplish at Stuart’s is because of our incredible family of donors. Through donations, sustaining memberships, fundraising events, corporate partnerships, foundation grants, and major gifts, we are honored to be able to bring the arts to Athens County. Thank all our donors for helping make it possible for Stuart’s Opera House to serve the greater southeast Ohio community.

A special thanks to the following for their incredible generosity in supporting Stuart’s: Baird Brothers Foundation, Epstein Teicher Philanthropies, Osteopathic Heritage Foundations, Charles, G. O’Bleness Foundation, Ohio Arts Council, HAPCAP, Ohio Facilities Construction Commission, Sky Cone, and the Ohio Children’s Foundation.

THE BREEDERS PERFORM ON THE MAIN STAGE OF NMF19

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stuartsoperahouse.org
nelsonvillefest.org

Photos by Scotty Hall, Sarah Warda and Chris Croft
OUR ARTS EDUCATION PROGRAM WELCOMES STUDENTS TO OUR THEATER FOR A SPECIAL PERFORMANCE