

Save Our Season - Save OSF

 osfashland.prospect2.com/index.php



Dear OSF Supporters,

In 1935, at the height of the Great Depression, Angus Bowmer launched the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. It wasn't easy, but with a lot of help from our community, the little festival in Ashland survived and thrived. When World War II shut OSF down for a few years, the community rallied together once again, leading to the theatre's triumphant return after the war. Nearly 90 years after its inception, the Oregon Shakespeare Festival is a leader of the national theatre community and one of the most respected institutions in the field. During that time, OSF has hosted extraordinary talent – actors, writers, directors, producers, costumers, and all the other amazing professionals needed to bring dreams on the written page to full and vibrant life.

More important than the awards and the history and the long list of artists who have made OSF home over the decades, we have been buoyed by the support and love of generations of theatregoers both here in Ashland and around the country. We have laughed and cried, loved and lost, struggled and celebrated together. People who first came here with their grandparents are now bringing their grandchildren. Students who came here for a performance with their schools decades ago are now volunteers, donors, patrons, and performers – all cherished members of the OSF family.

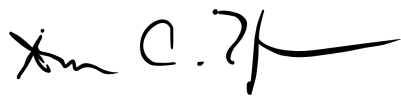
Right now, OSF is in crisis, and we are not alone. All across the theatre industry, attendance and donations are down significantly. Because we are a destination theatre where people often have to spend thousands of dollars to reach our stages, we have been especially hard hit by the twin impacts of COVID and inflation.

We see the path forward to sustained success, but we need your help to get there. We have set an ambitious goal of raising \$2.5 million dollars over the next four months in order to save our season and to help us continue producing the world-class theatre that keeps you coming back home to OSF year after year. We know it is a heavy lift, and a big ask of our supporters, but we have seen what we can do when we all come together in times of need. Whether it's moving up your annual giving or making one-time gifts to help us through this crisis, whatever you can afford to give, we need you to give now.

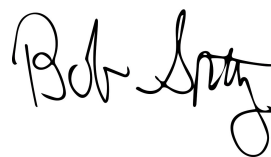
Nearly 90 years ago, Angus Bowmer had a vision of what could be built here. Over the decades that followed, countless members of our community have stepped up to help build that dream into a reality. OSF is a house that community built—and it will be you, our community, who ensures its legacy endures.

We need you more now than ever to ensure that we reach this critical fundraising goal. We appreciate your help and your support, and we look forward to welcoming you, your children, and your children's children's children back home to Ashland for generations to come.

With Gratitude,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Diane Yu", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Diane Yu, Board Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bob Speltz", with a stylized, cursive script.

Bob Speltz, Board Member