



# THE CROSWELL IN 2020



## A STRONG START ●●●●●

While the year didn't turn out the way we expected, 2020 got off to a good beginning...

- Our all-area high school musical, *Frozen Jr.*, gave young actors a chance to play some beloved characters and became the Croswell's best-attended high school show ever.
- Our production of the comedy *It's Only a Play* in February had the audience in stitches!
- The cast of *Captain of the Crossing Guards*, a children's musical written by Toledo artists Gretchen Zyndorf and David Jex, put together a fantastic production. Unfortunately, the shutdown began just before opening night.

## AN IMMEDIATE SHIFT ●●●●●

The pandemic caused an immediate shutdown of all Croswell programming, but with the help of many friends and community partners, we were able to regroup and continue carrying out our mission of creating art and bringing people together!

- In June, we partnered with the City of Adrian to create *The Croswell Out-of-Doors*, a socially distanced outdoor event with performers spread throughout downtown ... everyone from violinists to singers, from dancers to circus artists, joining together to help bring Downtown Adrian back to life!
- Our rescheduled production of the one-woman play *Every Brilliant Thing* took place under the Farmers Market Pavilion.
- We teamed up with the city again in August for an outdoor showing of *Sonic the Hedgehog* in Heritage Park.
- Many friends joined us for a series of outdoor events in the courtyard behind the Croswell, featuring an eclectic range of entertainment from Broadway classics to drag bingo to '80s rock!



### 2020 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Pam Adair  
Jeff Adams

John Bacarella  
Brenda Baker  
Clarke Baldwin  
Steve Benz

BJ Bernard  
Cary Carrico  
Julianne Dolan  
Belinda Ellsworth

Matt Hammond  
Denise Hein  
Stephen Kiersey  
Brittanie Kuhr

Christopher Phillips  
Emory Schmidt  
Todd Wilson



## GOING ONLINE ... AND OVER THE AIR!

In addition to outdoor entertainment, we created opportunities to share art and music in every way we could ...



We created a Facebook group, *The Great Big Long-Distance Croswell Show*, for members of our community to share performances from their own homes.



We dug into our archives to present *Streaming Sundays*, a weekly series revisiting some favorite Croswell shows from the past.

“When the doors of the Croswell were closed, the streaming of the Croswell was open. And Sunday nights with Jere and Kyrie online was just absolutely a lifeline.”

— Mark DiPietro



Magician Stuart MacDonald presented an interactive online show, *Richard Preston's Cocktail Capers*, via Zoom.



At Christmas, we partnered with WLEN 103.9 to air the Croswell's first-ever radio Christmas special, featuring internationally acclaimed opera singer Leah Crocetto.

## CROSWELL MOMENTS

Throughout the year, many members of the Croswell community shared their thoughts about what makes the Croswell special!



“The Croswell is love, laughter, family, acceptance. It’s a place to go when you have nowhere to go. The community we live in, we’re very blessed.”

— Chris Sancho,  
2020 Virtual Great Big Night

“...a place where nobody tells her who to be, what she needs to be or how good she needs to be...she just gets to be herself and that’s what the Croswell meant to me and that’s what I felt like when I was there.”

—Sophia Bernard  
2020 Giving Tuesday



## THANK YOU!

The pandemic had a huge impact on performing arts organizations around the world, and the Croswell was no different. We went from 33,359 tickets sold in 2019 — our highest number ever — to less than 5,000. There’s only one reason we are able to be looking optimistically to the future right now, and that’s the support of our community! A total of 930 individuals, families, and businesses helped us stay afloat by donating to the Croswell in 2020. We are proud to say that’s a record for the Croswell, and we are humbled by your confidence in this theater!