

MISSION, VISION, AND IMPACT

Actors Theatre of Louisville unlocks human potential, builds community, and enriches quality of life by engaging people in theatre that reflects the wonder and complexity of our time.

We provide **access** to stories that represent myriad perspectives, nurture holistic **wellness**, **build bridges** across cultures, and create opportunities **for life-long learning**.

We strive to cultivate a space of belonging for all.

The Cast of *King John*. Photo by Audrey Cecil.

IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

17,032

People Engaged

1,418

Students Served

1,783

Free Tickets Provided

657

Members

\$17.23

Average Price Paid Per Ticket

6 Donation Partners

Items were collected at events for service organizations in need of canned goods, diapers, and more.

**GEOGRAPHIC
REGIONS SERVED**

- 41 KY Counties
- 34 States
- 3 Countries

40 Nonprofit
Partnerships

Appalachian Arts Alliance, Baptist Health, Bridgehaven Mental Health, Centerstage at the JCC, Chicken Coop Theatre, Commonwealth Theatre Company, Center for Women and Families, Donate Life, Fairness Campaign, Floyd County Library, Fund for the Arts, GoodMaps, Indian Ink Theatre Company, Jefferson Memorial Forest, Kentuckians for the Commonwealth, Kentucky Conservation Committee, Kentucky Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice, Kentucky Performing Arts, Kentucky Shakespeare, Kentucky Waterways Alliance, Looking for Lillith, Louisville Ballet, Louisville Classical Academy Chime Choir, Louisville Free Public Library, Greater Louisville Medical Society, Louisville Showing Up For Racial Justice, Louisville Urban League, Louisville Youth Group, Malayalee Association of Louisville, Mind's Eye Theatre, National Alliance on Mental Illness Louisville Chapter, National Puerto Rican Chamber of Commerce, Pandora Productions, Queer Kentucky, Redline Performing Arts, StageOne, University of Louisville Health, UP for Women and Children, upstart crow collective, Wellspring

73
Guest Artists
Employed

- 62% Women
- 58% BIPOC
- 27% LGBTQ+
- 14% Trans/
Non-binary
- 7% Disabled or
Neurodiverse

***Data is self-reported,
and self-reporting is
not required.**

ACCESS & BELONGING

Accessible Arts-Based Residencies

Contracted by the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts to create art with students with disabilities. Served 111 students from Kentucky School for the Blind, Kentucky School for the Deaf, Day Spring, Dreams With Wings, Waggener High School, Seneca High School, and duPont Manual High School.

“This was the first Shakespearean play that I have understood and also enjoyed.”

– *King John* Student Matinee Audience Member

Access Services

Provided captioning, ASL Interpretation, sensory items, Assisted Listening Devices, wheelchair accessible seating, and Audio Description.

Piloted “Access Performances” with targeted outreach to disabled audiences and services available for three shows, including a performance of *The After Show Show* featuring artists with disabilities.

Included in GoodMaps, a Blind and low-vision accessible navigation app.



Carmen Roman and Kate Wisniewski in *King John*. Photo by Audrey Cecil.

Gender Inclusion

Partnered with upstart crew collective to produce Shakespeare’s *King John*, centering a racially diverse cast of all women and non-binary performers.



Liz Mikel and Zachary J. Willis in *I AM DELIVERED'T*. Photo by Denisha McCauley.

Digital Inclusion

Partnered with The League of Live Stream Theater to offer high-quality live streamed performances of *I AM DELIVERED'T*, available globally.



Gaby Alicea and audience at Actors Theatre of Louisville. Photo by Gaby Alicea’s Team via Instagram.

Spanish Language Access

Partnered with the National Puerto Rican Chamber of Commerce to host acclaimed comedian Gaby Alicea.

INTERSECTION OF ARTS & WELLNESS

Mental Wellness

Partnered with the National Alliance on Mental Illness Louisville chapter during *Dracula* for an art gallery show, *Seeing The Invisible: Perspectives of Mental Health*. Featured 46 pieces by artists from across Kentuckiana and an original musical score composed by Gabriel Walker.

Partnered with Seven Counties Services for *semi;colon*, a storytelling event focused on suicide prevention.



Metamorphosis by Renee Golway from *Seeing The Invisible: Perspectives of Mental Health* art gallery.

Spiritual Wellness

Produced the world premiere of *I AM DELIVERED'T* by Jonathan Norton, exploring the intersectionality of Blackness, Queerness, and Christianity.

Hosted a community conversation with faith leaders and mental health professionals living and working at the intersections.

"We went to *I AM DELIVERED'T* as a small group of girls and laughed so hard we were slapping each other's legs. We didn't know how much we needed comedy and joy TOGETHER with each other. We also cried due to the incredibly moving performance and gifted actors."

– *I AM DELIVERED'T*
Audience Member

CROSS-CULTURAL BRIDGING

Welcoming Everyone to a New Kind of Party

Partnered with Indian Ink Theatre Company to celebrate Onam, an Indian Harvest festival, with *Mrs Krishnan's Party*, a joyful interactive comedy. Also partnered with the Malayalee Association of Louisville and donated extra food to the Hope Buss.



Justin Rogers dancing with the audience in *Mrs Krishnan's Party*. Photo by Jon Cherry.

"I LOVED the interactive experience of *Mrs K's Party*! I really think this is a fantastic new way for audiences to experience theatre. Thank you for bringing such a creative, fresh, and unusual play to Louisville."

– *Mrs Krishnan's Party* Audience Member

CROSS-CULTURAL BRIDGING (CONTINUED)

Bridging Cultures through Loving

Loving and Loving by Beto O'Byrne and Meropi Peponides built connections with 11 mixed-race Louisvillians, weaving their stories with the civil rights history of Loving v. Virginia, the Supreme Court case that legalized interracial marriage in the United States.



Shane Kenyon and Nemuna Ceesay in *Loving and Loving*.
Photo by Yunier Ramirez.

"Every American history class in the area should see this. I don't have the words to express how moving and well done this was."
— *Loving and Loving* Audience Member

LEARNING AND CREATIVE ENGAGEMENT

New Voices Summer Intensive

Twelve students had the opportunity to use music, poetry, and theatre to tell their own original stories with the mentorship of award-winning theatre ensemble UNIVERSES.

"I learned that I actually know how to write. I didn't know I could do that...UNIVERSES changed my life for the better."
— New Voices Summer Intensive Participant

Life-Long Learning with the Borrowed Wisdom Book Club

Partnered with the Louisville Free Public Library to host a conversation group, led by Executive Artistic Director Robert Barry Fleming to discuss books related to our mission.



Assumption High School students talking with the cast of *King John*.

Student & Educator Opportunities

Students from Assumption High School preparing for their own Shakespeare production especially loved *King John*. Following a student matinee, they had the chance to ask the artists questions during an impromptu lobby gathering and post-show conversation.

Young people learning arts criticism through Louisville Youth Group and Arts Angle Vantage had the opportunity to see *I AM DELIVERED'T* and engage in a special post-show Q&A with the playwright, director, and one of the actors. After the experience, they each wrote their own reviews.

CREATING A COMMUNITY COMMONS

THE AFTER SHOW SHOW

Launched a late-night cabaret series, hosted by local Drag Queens Dusty Ray Bottoms and May O'Nays, featuring 45 local, touring, and youth performers.

OPENING OUR DOORS

Increased engagement through rentals, partnerships, and co-created events, including: Candlelight Concerts with FeverUp, local musician Adam Thomas's tribute to Joni Mitchell, and our first major motion picture rental.

PUBLIC PERSPECTIVES

Initiated a Community Response Series that invites attendees or participants to write an original reflection on their experience at events.

GRASSROOTS EFFORTS

Participated in 11 events throughout the region, including Louisville Pride, Keepers of the Dream, JCPS Theatre Conference and MindFest, meeting thousands of community members.

Alex Hartz in *The After Show Show*. Photo by Jo Hall (@uraverajejo).



THANK YOU!



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ACTORS

THEATRE OF LOUISVILLE

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Justin Rogers and Kalyani Nagarajan serve dahl to the audience in *Mrs Krishnan's Party*. Photo by Jon Cherry.