

April 14, 2020

To the Spring Valley Stagehands supporters:

The Spring Valley Stagehands Community Theatre organization feels that our role in this region of Wisconsin is to produce quality and thoughtful live-theatre entertainment, to encourage participation through a theatrical outlet for varied talents, and to create a safe and inclusive environment for our performers, crews, and audiences.

Together, all of us are living through a unique challenge with the declared pandemic of COVID-19 (coronavirus). During the next month or more, the world will be affected in ways that most of us have never experienced.

We want to let you know that the Stagehands take our social role very seriously. We are following the guidelines of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ([cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov)) and the World Health Organization ([who.int](https://www.who.int)), which emphasizes the need to keep work, schools, and communities safe. One safeguard is to postpone meetings of groups of people in relatively close quarters. Another is to continue to clean and disinfect the environment regularly and thoroughly.

To those guidelines, we have made the difficult decision to postpone our current production of "HOW I BECAME A PIRATE" until such time as it is deemed safe for social gatherings. We are tentatively planning on late April and early May, in the hopes that the dramatic steps that our local, state, and national governmental agencies - as well as local businesses, individuals, clubs, and organizations - are implementing will reap a decline in the spread of this real and serious threat to friends, neighbors, and ourselves.

The Spring Valley Stagehands relies almost entirely on small donations and ticket sales to continue to exist. If you have already purchased a ticket for "HOW I BECAME A PIRATE", please consider donating that amount back to the Stagehands Theatre. Alternatively, the Spring Valley Stagehands is happy to issue a refund back to your credit card for the tickets you reserved. Please contact us at: carterannturner@gmail.com to claim your refund or we will be reaching out over the next week.

We urge you to follow the Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommendations that can help prevent the spread of illness:

- Wash your hands often and for at least 20 seconds with soap and warm water.
- Cover your cough and sneezes.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Those who are sick or feel unwell should stay home.

We will continue with our production as soon as we feel convinced that it is socially safe to do so. The cast is disappointed to be so close to performances and then to put it all on hold for a while. We know we have a fun, fantastic show to share with you. We hope you will join us when we reopen.

As always, we hope you know how very thankful we are for your support.
Stay safe and stay well.

The Spring Valley Stagehands Community Theatre