



BEST LOCAL THEATRE GROUP

10 years in a row!
Fairfield County Weekly
Annual Readers' Poll

BEST PERFORMING ARTS GROUP
2008 through 2023
StamfordPlus Magazine

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REPORT TO CITY OF STAMFORD – 4/14/26

Thank you to all of our City leaders who have continued to support the Sterling Farms Theatre Complex since its founding in 1972!

Prior to the Covid disruption, the number of performances scheduled during the 2019-2020 season was 186 with 44 weekends of programming. This year we have gotten back up to 158.

We continue to offer our Sumer Youth Theatre program (summer 2026 – CHARLIE & THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY) for just a \$50 registration fee compared to nearby towns: Fairfield - \$225 / Wilton - \$500 / Westport - \$775 / Greenwich - \$1,350. Last year we provided a Sensory Friendly performance of the youth production and will continue that this year.

Enrollment in our educational programming has continued to grow...limited only by space, at abot 7% more this year. We continue to offer our classes on par or less than similar area programs. Bridgeport: 24 hours program \$885 / Norwalk: 12 hours -\$350 /Ours 8 weeks – 14 hours - \$280

We will continue bringing free children's programming to the Ferguson Library main branch as part of our outreach to communities that have limited access to traveling to Sterling Farms.

Our budget for FY 2026-2027 is predicted to be \$1.4M. (Due to the schedule of securing licensing rights for shows, our annual budget process ramps up early-May through late June.) The contracted City support toward Utilities, Security, etc. of \$95,000 will help cover anticipated gas, electric, oil, phone and security costs of \$120,000. Increasing energy costs are a major concern for us as well and would welcome LED lighting upgrades across these four buildings. **With the Kweskin stage completely open to the sky, the installation of solar panels could be a worthwhile venture.**

As always, our four, 100+ year-old buildings continue to need work –electrical issues / upgrades are needed in our scene shop barn and the silo attached to The Dressing Room Theatre still has a major water problem. Water leaks over the Kweskin stage continue to be a safety hazard during performances.

We would love to consider a more permanent structure for our outdoor Shakespeare productions since our 22 year-old structure was destroyed by a microburst in June.

As our staffing needs grow, a second story addition to our office would be extremely helpful. The scene shop/storage barn hasn't been painted in more than 30 years, and the paint is peeling off the Dressing Room Theatre.

We remain honored to manage the theatre operations for The City of Stamford and are most appreciative of the support from you.

Most sincerely,

Lou Ursone
Executive Director



2026 -2027 SEASON (Unnofficial)

OUTDOOR – A MIDSUMMER NIGHT’S DREAM - July
KWESKIN – CHARLIE & THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY – August
KWESKIN – PETER PAN GOES WRONG – September / October
DRESSING ROOM THEATRE – THE GREAT BEYOND– October/November
KWESKIN – Oliver – October/November
KWESKIN – A CHRISTMAS CAROL – November/December
DRESSING ROOM THEATRE –MERRY MULRRY ST MUSICAL - December
DRESSING ROOM THEATRE – MURDER AMONG FRIENDS – January
KWESKIN – ALL SHOOK UP - February
DRESSING ROOM THEATRE – TUESDAYS WITH MORRIE - March
KWESKIN – HELLO, DOLLY – April
DRESSING ROOM THEATRE - TBA - May
KWESKIN – LITTLE WOMEN - June

Plus

Concerts, Comedy Nights and other special events.

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