



BEMIDJI COMMUNITY THEATER
316 Beltrami Ave NW
Bemidji, MN 56601

Mission Statement:

To provide theater education and an opportunity for people to pursue their interests in theater through acting, directing, and stagecraft support activities in productions by and for community members.

As a non-profit corporation, for the last 40 years Bemidji Community Theater (BCT) has developed its programming so that now BCT:

- ✚ Offers six production a year: a children's show in the State Parks, three comedies or drama, and two large musicals on stage. The spring musical is designed for school matinees seen by approximately 2,000 children each year.
- ✚ Is developing the new BCT Performing Arts Center (purchased in September of 2018) for rehearsal, storage, scenic shop, workshops and smaller performances.
- ✚ Produces BCT Jr., a two-week children's theater camp, in conjunction with City Parks and Recreation for children ages 8-14, offering various levels of stagecraft and technical skills.
- ✚ Developed a "Playing it Forward" program to give back to the community and foster a spirit of volunteerism:
 - ❖ Made over 600 face masks for the community during the Covid-19 pandemic.
 - ❖ Collected food for the local food shelf
 - ❖ Made and sold items in boutique to support, Evergreen Youth and Family Services, St. Jude and MN Children's Hospitals, Elephant rescue in Tennessee and Thailand
 - ❖ Collected over 6000 books to donate to children attending the children's show
 - ❖ Sponsored Community activities during Christmas and the 4th of July
 - ❖ Collaborated with Beltrami County History Center and other organizations
- ✚ Is providing internship opportunities to allow young people to gain skills in areas such as Stage Management, Set Design and Painting, Set Construction, Costume Management, and Directing.
- ✚ Launched a "Studio Works" project to allow new writers and directors the opportunity to produce new and/or experimental works.
- ✚ Developed a Puppet Ambassador group using the puppets created for *Dragonsong*- training students, repairing puppets and developing scripts to take to community groups.
- ✚ Has established BCT Caroliers, a singing group available to area schools, churches, and nursing homes to provide entertainment and theater education, lead caroling during the holidays and generally promote community involvement.
- ✚ Is offering workshops, training classes, and other community involvement.
- ✚ Has developed Kidz Clubhouse to give theater kids an opportunity for ownership in theater activities such as Storybook Breakfast, the Easter Eggstravaganza and a Reader's Theater during Halloween.
- ✚ Developed Project Genesis-a combination memory/theater initiative that connects the energy of young people with mentors to venture into assisted living facilities to interview residents in developing camaraderie to unlock memories.
- ✚ Is collaborating with Sanford event Center to offer dinner theater opportunities.
- ✚ Developed radio theater for entertainment during the Covid -19 pandemic.