

ANTAEUS

Theatre Company

2019 ANNUAL REPORT



THE TRANSFORMATIVE POWER OF LIVE THEATER

Letter from the Chairman

The 2018/19 Season at Antaeus marked a significant turning point in our storied history.

We were thrilled to receive seven LA Drama Critics Circle Awards – the most of any theater in 2019. We achieved the long-awaited milestone of producing work in our Black Box space with the monthly Classic Sundays reading series, and the LAB RESULTS festival showcasing new works from our Playwrights Lab. We were also given the opportunity to connect with new audiences when our award-winning 2017/18 production, *Native Son*, was selected by Center Theatre Group for an encore run at the Kirk Douglas Theatre as part of their 2019 Block Party.

We are exceedingly proud of all that has been accomplished thus far, and with our 30th anniversary season just around the corner in 2020/21, we are excited to share with you the many new challenges and adventures ahead.

Antaeus Theatre Company is a unique community where dedicated artists illuminate diverse human experiences through performance, training and outreach; an actor-driven theater, rooted in values of creative freedom and artistic excellence; a sanctuary for performers and audiences alike.

We all come to Antaeus because, in so many ways, it offers a quality of theater you rarely find anywhere else. It's why my wife Kiki and I were first drawn to this organization so many years ago. It's why our names are on the front of the building, and it's why I'm excited to share our progress with you at the end of this remarkable year.

Over the following pages, we'll share highlights from our 2018/19 season, along with a bit of our roadmap for what comes next.

Finally, I thank you, on behalf of the Antaeus Board of Directors, Company and staff, for being an important part of our community. We wouldn't be where we are today without your support, and we're grateful you've joined us for this exciting journey.

Sincerely,



David Gindler
Chairman of the Board of Directors
Antaeus Theatre Company



TABLE of CONTENTS

Letter from the Chairman	2
About Antaeus	4
Season Highlights	6
Antaeus Academy	8
Arts Education	9
Community Engagement	10
Strategic Plan	12
Financials	13
Our Supporters	14
Board & Staff	18



Geoffrey Wade Photography

HISTORY & PROGRAMS

Over nearly three decades since our founding as a cooperative theater ensemble in 1991, Antaeus has developed a reputation as a highly-trained Company of professional artists with a rare capacity to create complex and timeless works of theater. In early 2017, Antaeus opened the doors to our new home in Downtown Glendale, the Kiki & David Gindler Performing Arts Center. We now present an annual subscription season of four productions, and offer sold-out readings in our Black Box theater year-round. We train and mentor professional actors in our renowned Antaeus Academy, invest in L.A.'s thriving pool of playwriting talent through our Playwrights Lab, and our Arts Education program works with students at four partner sites in underserved communities.

OUR VALUES

ARTISTIC EXCELLENCE Some of the finest artists in the American theater call Antaeus their home. We believe in excellence and strive for greatness. We believe in taking creative risks and working above and beyond our comfort zones in order to create experiences that stimulate, inspire, and challenge our audiences.

COMPANY We are a community built by artists who have chosen to contribute their vast array of talents to Antaeus. Our dedication to the larger group is our strength, and makes the whole greater than the sum of its parts.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT Theater is a profoundly social act. Antaeus is a gathering place where actors and audiences can come together for a shared experience. We recognize it is important to engage our audiences on and off the stage. Using theater as a catalyst, we stimulate important conversations to nurture understanding and create empathy.

INCLUSIVITY We are committed to creating a welcoming environment and deeper inclusion within our company. Antaeus strives for diversity through Company membership, Board membership, staff, non-traditional casting, choice of artistic material, and through our community outreach. We are a space where all voices are heard.

RESPECT We are committed to actively communicating by both listening and hearing without prejudice; we value each other's opinions. We approach our conversations with empathy, generosity, and a collaborative spirit to build a lasting foundation that honors our commitments to each other and the company.

ARTISTIC GROWTH We have a thirst for knowledge and are committed to growing as artists. Grounded in classical text and training, we are an artistic home where professional actors can continue to work on their craft amongst their peers. We inspire the next generation of theater artists through performance, education, and outreach.

ACCOUNTABILITY Antaeus builds trust through mutual respect and integrity in all of our interactions. We keep our word and honor our commitments to the company, the community, our audiences, and each other.

PROFESSIONALISM Antaeus is a leader in the professional arts community, which is reflected in the quality and vision of our artists, staff, and board members.

MISSION

Antaeus is an actor-driven theater company that explores and produces timely and timeless works, grounded in our passion for the Classics. We illuminate diverse human experiences through performance, training and outreach. **We believe in the transformative power of live theater.**

2018/19 SEASON

CRITICAL ACCLAIM



THE LITTLE FOXES

October 18 - December 10, 2018

*"[Director, Cameron Watson] has a particular skill for calibrating the emotional clockwork of a group scene. His actors [are] just as entertaining in the background as they are at center stage. John Iacovelli's sets are almost always spectacular, but the perfection of this one attests to how thoughtfully the Antaeus team conceived and realized this **mesmerizing**, subtly topical revival."*

— Margaret Gray, LA Times

LA DRAMA CRITICS CIRCLE WINNER:
Best Revival, Featured Performance (Rob Nagle),
Set Design (John Iacovelli), and Best Ensemble



THE CRIPPLE OF INISHMAAN

January 17 - March 11, 2019

*"This **superb cast** under the **excellent direction** of Steven Robman, brings the play to vivid life with great humor and superb dialect work that captures the music of the Irish accent (kudos to dialect coach Lauren Lovett). The comedy is sharp and physical and keeps the audience giggling and guffawing except when affect takes command."*

— Paul Myrvold, Theatre Notes



DIANA OF DOBSON'S

April 11 - June 3, 2019

*"Abigail Marks more than fills the shoes of Diana with her **relentless command of the stage**, constantly speaking her quite honest mind ... Director Casey Stangl deftly guides her **talented cast** in a fast-talking, fast-paced journey of Diana's adventures."*

— Gil Kaan, Broadway World



NATIVE SON

April 18 - 28, 2019

*"**Razor-sharp focus** and clarity from director Andi Chapman and her **stellar Antaeus ensemble** steer us through wild leaps in time."*

— Philip Brandes, LA Times

**2019 Center Theatre Group
Block Party Selection:**

Selected for an encore presentation at CTG's annual festival celebrating the best theater in Los Angeles.



THE CAUCASIAN CHALK CIRCLE

July 5 - August 26, 2019

*"In sequences of **hauntingly beautiful physicality**, the ensemble forms the banks of a rippling stream or a treacherous mountain bridge. Representing the child as a doll, skillfully animated by Gabriela Bonet, is an inventive comic touch."*

— Philip Brandes, LA Times

BLACK BOX 2018/19

CLASSIC SUNDAYS

This signature monthly reading series of the most beloved classics in the theater canon sold out every performance in the 2018/19 Season. *Classic Sundays* debuted in Fall 2018, as the first project produced in our Black Box space.



LAB RESULTS

2018/19 was the inaugural year for our Playwrights Lab Festival, LAB RESULTS. The Playwrights Lab supports a select group of award-winning writers as they develop the classic plays of the future. The 2018/19 festival was such a success, two new works, *The Abuelas* and *Eight Nights*, were chosen to be fully-produced in our 2019/20 Season.



ARTS EDUCATION

Participants in the Antaeus Odyssey Artists' Workshop often come from challenging circumstances. Students at **Aggeler** are remanded to **Rancho San Antonio Boys Home** in lieu of incarceration at juvenile lockdown facilities. The **New Village Girls Academy** population includes teen mothers, foster youth, victims of abuse and assault, and others needing an individualized approach to their education. **Hoover** is a Title-I public school where the majority of students receive free or reduced-price lunch. **Homeboy Industries** provides a safe space for teens and adults who want to leave gang life and start fresh. Participants often have a history of trauma, and for many this is the first time they have been given a platform and encouraged to pursue creative self-expression.

“There’s a lot of support from the teachers, no matter what you write. It’s easier to talk about, when you know someone went through the same thing.” - Ben, 17, Aggeler Program Participant

“Knowing that our stories are meaningful, and our lives are meaningful, it means so much. Maybe it’s not a marquee thing, but I think these are the seeds we need to plant if we want a future of hope.”
- Elizabeth Berman,
Teaching Artist, Program Founder
and Donor

Using an adaptive curriculum pairing Shakespeare with rap and contemporary poetry, the text is a jumping off point for students to analyze themes that resonate in their own lives. Writing, speaking, and improvisation exercises allows students to experience the power of working as an ensemble. Students learn greater empathy for one another, and are empowered to find their own voices and speak their truth.

ANTAEUS ACADEMY

In our renowned Academy, skilled pedagogues and celebrated working actors provide high-level training for both aspiring theater artists honing essential skills and seasoned professionals fine-tuning their craft. Classes are offered in three sessions running year-round, with subjects ranging from “The Incomparable Noel Coward” to “Theater of Discomfort” shared with roughly 200 students every year.

ARTS EDUCATION BY THE NUMBERS

4 PROGRAMS

AGGELER WITH RANCHO SAN ANTONIO BOYS HOME	NEW VILLAGE GIRLS ACADEMY	HERBERT HOOVER HIGH SCHOOL	HOMEBOY INDUSTRIES
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198
STUDENTS:

84% Low Income

79% Identify as People of Color

Student / Teacher Ratio: **4 to 1**



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Antaeus is more than the award-winning work seen on our stage. In addition to engaging students in the classroom, we seek to create educational opportunities for people of all ages, including talkbacks and post-show discussions. Antaeus welcomes a diverse audience from across the greater Los Angeles area, with **annual attendance of approximately 10,000**. As an anchor of Downtown Glendale's Art and Entertainment District, we have built strong relationships with the City of Glendale, Glendale Unified School District, and the Armenian Dramatic Arts Alliance, to help us better engage and reflect our neighborhood.

The mission and programming at Antaeus remain driven by a belief that theater changes lives and communities for the better. As such, community engagement is a mission-aligned, core tenant of our company values. In 2019/20, Antaeus will work to build community by increasing access through ticket subsidy programs, with an emphasis on serving our immediate local community and welcoming constituents of all backgrounds. We are deeply committed to the values of cultural equity and inclusion, and 35% of tickets are offered to community members for free, or at a reduced cost, in order to **break down barriers** normally associated with theater attendance.

STRATEGIC PLAN

One of the major accomplishments of the 2018/19 season took place off stage, as the leadership of Antaeus came together to develop a Strategic Plan, charting a path for the organization’s future. While the mission and spirit of Antaeus have remained constant throughout our history, our operations are in the latter stages of a radical metamorphosis.

We have already begun to focus our efforts on the ambitious objectives of our new Strategic Plan, as we build on the momentum of the last two years, which have truly marked a turning point in the history of Antaeus Theatre Company.

In addition to our ongoing commitment to the classics, new programming initiatives in the 2019/20 season and beyond will further our strategic goals on several fronts:

- **Producing new work developed in our Playwrights Lab** underscores our commitment to nurturing local writing talent, while presenting something unique and valuable to our community, and supporting an evolving definition of what it means to be “classical” theater.
- Supporting our Company members, and maintaining our culture by upholding our reputation for **extraordinary** and **rare** theatrical experiences.
- Presenting plays that feature **diverse perspectives** and address **complex and socially relevant** issues will create new opportunities to engage and enrich a growing audience.

Behind the scenes, we will continue to roll-out new initiatives in support of our mission and strategic goals. Above all, everything we share this season will demonstrate our core commitment to artistic excellence, providing opportunities for audiences to experience transformative theater, and **cementing our leadership position in the Los Angeles theater ecosystem.**



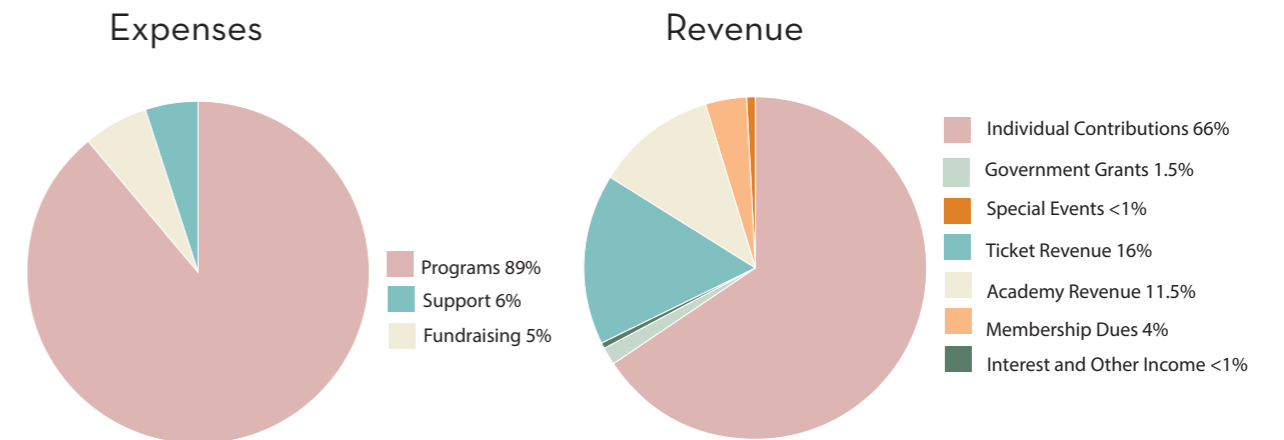
Statement of Financial Position

Financial Data from 2017/18 Audit

ASSETS	
Current Assets:	
Cash	\$94,394
Unconditional Promises to Give, current (net)	\$51,580
Prepaid Expenses	\$11,512
Total Current Assets	\$157,486
Property & Equipment, net	\$2,687,892
Other Assets:	
Unconditional Promises to give, net	\$21,143
Library	\$15,000
Total Other Assets:	\$36,143
TOTAL ASSETS:	\$2,881,521

LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	
Current Liabilities:	
Accounts Payable	\$2,867
Accrued Expenses	\$5,578
Line of Credit	\$339,142
Total Current Liabilities:	\$347,587
Net Assets:	
Unrestricted	\$2,464,673
Temporarily Restricted	\$69,261
Total Net Assets	\$2,533,934
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	\$2,881,521

2017/18 Season - Audited Financials: Expenses & Revenue



THANK YOU *to our* DONORS!

30th Anniversary Pledges

Thank you to the following donors for making commitments in support of our 30th Anniversary Campaign:

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Al Latham & Elaine Kramer
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Donations 9.1.18 through 9.11.19 (2018/19 Season)

Producer's & Director's Circle Donors ensure that we are never limited in our artistic pursuits.

This distinguished group of theater lovers provide us with vitally important support, and receive special recognition and exclusive benefits.

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\$50,000+

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**Gift directly supports
Arts Education programming
at Antaeus*

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**Gift directly supports
Arts Education programming
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**Thank
You!**



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Photography by Jenny Graham



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Thank you for being part of the Antaeus community during this transformational year!



ANTAEUS

Theatre Company

KIKI & DAVID GINDLER PERFORMING ARTS CENTER, 110 EAST BROADWAY, GLENDALE, CA 91205

www.antaeus.org / 818.506.5436 /    

Antaeus Theatre Company is a 501(c)3 Non-Profit Organization. Tax ID: 95-4548826