



Thomasville Music & Drama Troupe, Inc.

Post Office Box 284

Thomasville, Georgia 31799

October 15, 2020

Dear Friends of Troupe,

As we begin the Thomasville Music and Drama Troupe's 48th season, we are writing to thank you for your generous support as a Friend of Troupe over the years. As you know, the past seven months have been a challenging time and the Coronavirus Pandemic has affected each and every one of us in a multitude of ways. The performing arts community has been especially impacted due to the inability to gather in groups affecting performers and patrons alike. Our annual 2020 spring show was heartbreakingly cancelled due to the immediate following of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines for the protection of our student performers, staff and patrons.

Now as we approach the 2020 - 2021 season in the midst of a pandemic, Troupe's Board of Trustees were faced with the reality of the continued inherent risk associated with group activities that involve singing and the difficult decision was made to suspend fall auditions and returning memberships with the inevitable cancellation of the Christmas show. As a result, the inability to perform has resulted in the significant loss of supporting revenue that is especially difficult for a non-profit organization such as Troupe.

Up until this very unprecedented time in history and without prior fail, the Thomasville Music and Drama Troupe's regular program of musical performance education had continued throughout these 48 years with the ever-present professionalism that Fred and Winnie Allen brought with them in 1972. Pandemic or not, we are proud to persist and ultimately continue the tradition of providing an outstanding all-inclusive, cultural and performing arts experience for the youth of southwest Georgia. Despite the suspension of our fall season and what would have been the 42nd annual Christmas show, we are actively planning the 47th annual spring show for April 30, 2020.

In the best of times, the arts create connection, community, belonging, and joy. In the worst of times, the arts create all of that and more—and most of all, the arts create hope. It is by focusing on our mission that we strive to create hope during this time and to be ready for the day that we can once again turn on those bright stage lights and showcase our hard work for the enrichment of our student performers and community.

Now more than ever, Troupe needs your consideration and support. Simply return the enclosed card & envelope with your check or go to <http://thomasvillemusicanddramatroupe.com/support-troupe/> to make a donation using PayPal. Although we cannot offer associated tickets or sponsorship packages at this time, please know that your tax deductible donation during this unsettling time will ensure and allow Troupe to serve as a respite to our students eventually emerging from the physical and emotional constraints placed upon them by this global pandemic.

Sincerely,

Lisa Rudolph-Watson, M.D.

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President, Board of Trustees