A Stage to Engage

Insurance. Risk management. Creativity. You might not think those words belong together, but Lockton Insurance Brokers’ CEO and Center Theatre Group Corporate Circle member Timothy Noonan would disagree with you. He has built his company’s success on the belief that it takes creativity to solve problems and to conceive new ideas, products and services.

An Ahmanson Theatre subscriber for 12 years, Noonan puts theatre at the top of the list of his sources for creative inspiration, and here’s why.

THEATRE MATTERS “When so much of people’s time is spent in front of a computer screen, the simple function of gathering together with others for a common purpose and cultivating human connection is something that matters.”

THEATRE SHAPES NEW IDEAS “Theatre can be beautiful, funny, moving and thought-provoking. It often changes perspectives and offers a greater understanding and sense of community.”

THEATRE UNIFIES “Sharing a theatrical experience with my family, friends and clients affords us quality time together. This is the power of theatre, and this is what makes supporting CTG even more rewarding for my wife, Christina, and me.”

Seventy shows have graced the stage since Timothy and Christina Noonan’s first year as subscribers. Can you guess their favorite shows?

• This parody of American musical comedies of the 1920s starring Sutton Foster made its U.S. premiere at the Ahmanson before moving to Broadway and earning five Tony Awards.
• This jukebox musical brought audiences back to another era with the popular songs “December, 1963,” “Bye, Bye, Baby” and “Working My Way Back to You.”
• This play enjoyed a record-breaking, four-year stay at the Ahmanson.

Young People Engage With the Art at Student Matinees

When more than a thousand middle school students are seated in the Ahmanson Theatre, waves of energy undulate throughout the house. At the Target Young Audiences Program student matinee of Peter and the Starcatcher this past December, this energy percolated even before students entered the theatre. Outside on The Music Center Plaza, students exchanged memories of happiness by putting their messages into student-made treasure chests. The chests were created from recycled materials — by four local middle school classrooms working with Ann Closs-Farley, a professional Los Angeles artist. The schools included Jefferson Middle School, Kittridge Elementary School, Pilgrim School and Southeast Middle School.

Happy Memories

What’s your favorite memory of happiness? Before the student matinee, students shared their own:

“My favorite memory was when I got my first dog Sammy after begging for a lot of years.”

“My favorite memory was actually when I was seven years old and my cousins threw me into the cake and I was all covered.”

To see more photos and hear from more students, visit TheGrid.CenterTheatreGroup.org and search “young audiences.”

Center Theatre Group’s Target Young Audiences Program brings thousands of middle and high school students to the theatre every school year. To learn more, visit CenterTheatreGroup.org/YAP.