Joy. Centerstage.
The Ordway: All about Joy

We at Ordway Center for the Performing Arts are, in the midst of trying economic times, dedicating ourselves to joy.

Joy is a part of all that we do. From our big Broadway shows to our local productions, from global artists to Twin Cities artists, we offer all of our performances to you with a spirit of joy and a belief in the vital importance of the arts.

The benefits of the arts go beyond mere entertainment. A performance that makes the audience laugh obviously generates joy, but a show or a song that brings tears can make an audience joyful for their own lives and grateful for the release of pent-up emotions. We know from formal research that arts education improves young people’s performance in other academic subjects as well as their social skills and self-esteem. In addition, the arts employ people, not just performers and directors, but carpenters, electricians, ushers, and servers. When you start to see and feel and hear the ways that the performing arts touch so many people’s lives, they sound less like a luxury and more like an essential part of life.

The Ordway could not bring you the joy that we do without support. As a non-profit organization, we rely on contributions from foundations, government agencies, corporations, and especially individuals. When we receive these gifts we are honored by these contributors’ belief in our work, and then we rededicate ourselves to producing joy.

Come along with us on this journey as we review a year full of performing arts, arts education, cross-cultural experiences, and, above all, joy.
Greetings from Ordway Center for the Performing Arts! As we complete another year of high-quality performing arts and community engagement, it is time to report to you on all of our accomplishments. At the top of the list is the fact that we have maintained our high quality of artistic and educational programming despite the most severe economic downturn in decades. Yes, we made changes and we made sacrifices in order to manage our budget, but we would never sacrifice quality. Art will always come first at the Ordway.

The Ordway is an active part of the community and has continued its community activities despite the economic uncertainty of the past year. Maintaining the high quality of programming has been at the forefront of everyone’s minds, board members, staff, and artists alike.

Thank you for helping us bring “Joy. Centerstage.” Come celebrate our 25th anniversary with us in 2010!

FROM THE PRESIDENT AND CEO
Patricia A. Mitchell

Having just completed my first year as Chair of the Ordway’s Board of Directors, I am filled with pride as I review the Theater Season, the World Music and Dance Series, the Flint Hills International Children’s Festival, and our Education and Community Engagement programming. Nothing is quite like live performance, and seeing the rain on stage during Singin’ in the Rain is unforgettable. So is hearing an activist like Vusi Mahlasela sing about the struggle for social justice in South Africa. So is seeing young people’s eyes light up at a dynamic performance by Ballet Hispanico.

The Ordway’s Theater Season, the World Music and Dance Series—and the Flint Hills International Children’s Festival—are more clearly under the Ordway banner now. The new program is designed to enable the university communities to integrate the Ordway’s theater, world music, and dance performances with relevant curricula at each university, Master classes, community events, and reduced ticket pricing will be available to participants.

CAMPUS CONNECTIONS
The Ordway’s Wallace Foundation Excellence Award

The Ordway Foundation is pleased to support the Ordway’s new Campus Connections program through a November 2008 Wallace Foundation Excellence Award. The initiative links the Ordway with the University of Saint Thomas and Macalester College and strives to build bridges between the Ordway and college students, faculty, staff, and alumni. Over a period of four years the objectives are to build the audiences and supporters of the future as the program integrates young adults more fully with the arts community and inspires young people to pursue artistic interests.

The new program is designed to enable the university communities to integrate the Ordway’s theater, world music, and dance performances with relevant curricula at each university, Master classes, community events, and reduced ticket pricing will be available to participants.

The Wallace Excellence Awards are part of the Wallace Foundation’s commitment to build current and future audiences by making the arts a part of more people’s lives. Awarded through a competitive process, the grants provide support to exemplary arts organizations in selected cities to pioneer, develop, and share effective ideas and practices to reach more people.

An important objective of this work is to help develop a “knowledge portfolio” of such practices that can benefit many other organizations. The Wallace Foundation also seeks to create “learning networks” in its target cities that can help elevate the visibility of participation-building in those cities and spread the lessons broadly. Since 2006, grants have gone to 54 arts organizations located in the six cities selected as Wallace Excellence Awards sites. In addition to the Twin Cities, Wallace is working in Boston, Chicago, Philadelphia, San Francisco, and Seattle.

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The Wallace Foundation, based in New York City, is named for DeWitt and Lila Acheson Wallace, founders of the Reader’s Digest Association. The foundation’s current focus is on strengthening education leadership to improve student achievement, improving out-of-school learning opportunities, and building appreciation and demand for the arts, all by supporting and sharing effective ideas and practices.

—Rory MacPherson, Senior Program Officer, The Wallace Foundation

FROM THE BOARD CHAIR
Sarah B. Harris

That banner is characterized by an important new message: “Joy. Centerstage.” This simple message captures the essence of why we do what we do. The arts are a source of joy and, just like equality and social justice, joy is a social value. We have chosen it as our guiding principle.

The following pages will refresh your memory or familiarize you with the many ways the Ordway put joy front and center in the past year. We look forward to another joyful year with all of our audience members (large and small), our artists (global and local), our partners (individual and institutional), and you.

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AUDIENCE AND ARTIST NUMBERS

AUDIENCES
Theater Season 158,735
World Music and Dance Series 12,024
Performing Arts Classrooms 28,303
Festival (ticketed and non-ticketed events) 50,006
Community Engagement 415
Master Classes and Workshops 529
Teachers 115
Concrete and Grass Festival 3,500
Honors Concert | Performance Art | Art Exhibition 1,364
Rentals (14 events) 3,896
Misc (5 events) 663
Arts Partners 115,943
TOTAL AUDIENCES 374,830

ORDWAY ARTISTS
Touring shows (Irving Berlin’s White Christmas, Oprah Winfrey Presents The Color Purple, Legally Blonde The Musical) 170
Ordway-produced shows (Yankee Doodle, Grey Gardens, Singin’ in the Rain) 149
World Music and Dance 120
Festival 140
Artists in Residence 35
TOTAL ARTISTS 614

STUDENT ARTISTS
TOTAL STUDENT ARTISTS 2,875

Our audiences are big. And they are small. Our shows are far out. And they are down home. Our artists are global. And they are local.

When you give to the Ordway, you support it all.
I thought The Color Purple was one of the best performances I have ever seen. The actors were brilliant and the set was spare enough that it only added and not detracted from the performances. My son, who is 15 years old and involved in community and school theatre programs, was also enamored with the show. At one point he said, ‘I think this is my favorite production that I have ever seen.’ He has seen Wicked, Rent, Les Misérables, and others, but this one really resonated with him. He truly adored Celie and Sophia...as I did, too!”
—Nancy Eike, a patron, Saint Paul

“Vusi’s performance was inspirational and invigorating. I fully expected to enjoy just listening to his guitar and vocals. However, I did not expect the pleasant surprise of the energy of Vusi, the band and the audience. It truly was a wonderful and moving performance. Well done Ordway!!!”
—Paul W. Ternes, a patron, Omaha, NE

“Ballet Hispanico gave a dynamic performance. As a recreational Latin Dance enthusiast, I really enjoyed hearing the music and seeing the nightclub scene re-enacted with highly trained dancers. The second half of the show, while not Latin Dance based, was even more dynamic than the first. I would enjoy seeing this group again!”
—Andrea Galdames, a patron, Saint Paul

PHOTO: PAUL KOLNIK
PHOTO: AARON FARRINGTON
PHOTO: EPATINOPHOTO.COM

The Ordway is the place for great theater. We have a way of making a splash (as when it actually rains on stage during Singin’ in the Rain)!

Did You Know

In addition to presenting well-known touring shows, we produce our own shows at the Ordway, like this season’s Grey Gardens, which we co-produced with Park Square Theatre. Local artisans, designers, and technicians created Yankee Doodle, Grey Gardens, and Singin’ in the Rain. Our purchases of set, costume, and prop materials helped support local businesses. We also provided opportunities for local high school and college students to work onstage and behind the scenes on these productions.

Our performance season features our World Music and Dance Series in addition to our Theater Season. Singers, songwriters, musicians, and dancers represent an array of different cultures and present a variety of genres. These performances reflect our increasingly diverse community while informing different cultures about each other.

We invite you to explore the many ways that the Ordway put joy centerstage during the 2008-2009 season.
The 2008-2009 Theater Season was a year of performances that explored the American Dream of equality, freedom, and possibility for each and every person.

- The Ordway produced a new musical, Yankee Doodle, about how George M. Cohan single-handedly brought together American popular songs, dances, and stories to create the American musical.
- Irving Berlin’s White Christmas, full of classic Berlin tunes, told the story of two former GI’s, now a song-and-dance team, who put on a show in a Vermont barn in order to save the inn run by their former commanding officer.
- Oprah Winfrey Presents The Color Purple fused a rousing musical score with Alice Walker’s Pulitzer Prize-winning story about love triumphing over adversity. The Ordway participated in producing the original production through our affiliation with the Independent Presenters Network (IPN).
- Co-produced with Park Square Theatre, Grey Gardens revealed the riches-to-rags saga of two eccentric relatives of Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy Onassis who experience disappointment, missed opportunities, and delusion.
- Legally Blonde The Musical brought Elle Woods from screen to stage with its story of triumph over stereotypes. The Ordway again participated in an original production through our affiliation with the IPN.
- Singin’ in the Rain, a true classic about the rise of “talkies” and a silent film star who successfully makes the transition while finding love and challenging a conceited (and untalented) co-star completed our Theater Season.

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The World Music and Dance Series showcased performing artists whose work is grounded in cultural traditions as well as contemporary forms.

- Poncho Sanchez and the Latin Jazz Band, hailed as the world’s most popular Latin jazz group, turned the Ordway into a dance hall for the night.
- Vusi Mahlasela moved audiences with songs and stories about the struggle for social justice in his homeland of South Africa.
- Jake Shimabukuro’s astounding performance on the ukulele showcased lightning-fast playing, a vast spectrum of musical styles, and big sound.
- The dance series brought the Twin Cities’ Katha Dance Theatre to our stage with a new work commissioned by the Ordway; Sundari Aur Nag, or Beauty and the Snake. This Indian folk tale resembles a story familiar to westerners, Beauty and the Beast.
- One of the United States’ most renowned choreographers, Ronald K. Brown, and Evidence: A Dance Company performed dance rooted in the African American experience and combining forms from Latin America, the Caribbean, and Africa along with modern and urban dance movement.
- Lula Washington Dance Theatre, from the inner city of Los Angeles, brought a mix of ballet, modern, and African dance traditions to the stage.
- Ballet Hispanico warmed up Saint Paul on a February night with pieces inspired by Latin dance, including Bailadium Night, bringing to life New York’s 1950s jazz scene.
EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

You May Know

The Ordway provides quality performing arts experiences for young people and comprehensive arts education experiences, too.

Did You Know

Our Education and Community Engagement programming is incredibly extensive and varied.

The core of our Education programming is our Performing Arts Classroom Series, special one-hour matinee performances by touring World Music and Dance artists designed for students in pre-kindergarten through twelfth grade.

The Ordway has programs in arts education: learning in the arts, instruction in the aesthetic of the art form. We also have arts integration: learning through the arts with course work in different academic disciplines such as math, science, and social studies integrated with complementary art forms.

Education activities include artist residencies in which experienced teaching artists work with a group of students—either in or out of a classroom setting—on a special art project.

Community Engagement programming offers Ordway patrons a spectrum of community events coinciding with each performance: master classes and workshops with touring artists, pre-show Ordway Extras (lecture/demonstrations presented by local artists and experts on topics related to the evening’s performance), post-show Q&A sessions, post-show parties, and community events that connect our audience members with visiting artists.

Ballet Hispanico’s engagement included A Night at the Palladium, a lively event at Saint Paul’s Cinema Ballroom. More than 170 patrons showed off their dance moves, took salsa lessons, and even shared the dance floor with Ballet Hispanico company members.

“The purpose of arts education is not to produce more artists, though that is a byproduct. The real purpose of arts education is to create complete human beings capable of leading successful and productive lives in a free society.”

—Dan Gioia, former Chair of the National Endowment for the Arts, speaking at the Stanford University Commencement on June 17, 2007
DANCE TO LEARN ARTS INTEGRATION PROGRAM

According to Perpich Center for Arts Education, dance is the least prevalent of the arts forms taught in Minnesota’s public schools. The Ordway is helping to address that situation through our Dance to Learn program. Developed and implemented in conjunction with Saint Paul Public Schools and Minneapolis Public Schools, Dance to Learn garnered the support of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and therefore national attention.

The Ordway works with students (predominantly 7th and 8th graders and select elementary students) from Clara Barton Open School, a public K-8 magnet school in Minneapolis, and Linwood-Monroe Arts Plus Pre K-8 in Saint Paul. Students work with teaching artists in dance and learn how the arts and concepts in movement connect to math and science, for example, by learning about and experiencing pivot points and balance. The program strengthens students’ skills in all areas and increases teachers’ comfort level in areas outside of their expertise.

ANNUAL LIAISON APPRECIATION EVENT AND EDUCATION AWARDS

Near the end of each academic year the Ordway hosts the Annual Liaison Appreciation Event. More than 130 educators and community partners attended on April 24, 2009. The event honors the efforts of advisors, school liaisons, field trip coordinators, and others for their participation in making Education and Community Engagement programs successful.

The reception included a presentation of the fourth annual Education Awards. Recognized for their contribution to the field of arts education were:

- The Fred C. and Katherine B. Andersen Foundation, for Philanthropy;
- Kay Smith, music specialist at Hayden Heights Elementary, for Education Service;
- Benjamin Lacina, Founding Education Director, and Jefferson Fietek, President, of the Youth Arts Initiative and Performing Arts Youth Conservatory in Saint Paul, for Community Commitment; and
- Lisa Tenhoff, Jill Johnson, and Shabaka McKey, leaders in the ARTbuilds architectural design program at Patrick Henry High School, Minneapolis Public Schools, for Vision.

SAINT PAUL CONSERVATORY FOR PERFORMING ARTISTS

Since 2005, the Ordway has been the official sponsor of the Saint Paul Conservatory for Performing Artists (SPCPA), a performing arts high school located in downtown Saint Paul. Aspiring pre-professional performing artists in the areas of instrumental and vocal music, theater, and dance are challenged both academically and artistically at this innovative charter school. Serving grades 9 through 12, the school has a capacity of 360 students. The Ordway and SPCPA partner in a variety of ways throughout the academic year, collaborating on professional development for educators, master classes with touring artists and students, and a field experience course through which students learn about arts administration careers.

At the Ordway, our audiences are big: our Main Hall seats 1,900 people. Our audiences are also small: they are kindergarteners and elementary school students, too. We believe in bringing the joy of all the arts to people of all ages.
Fantastic, I love the diversity of the performances.”
—Sarah Wagner, Festival Patron

“My kids were so thrilled and captivated.”
—Jane A. Bianchi, Second-Grade Teacher,
Cherry View Elementary School

“Stupendous! The children were enthralled!”
—DeNise Pellinen, Second-Grade Teacher,
Jefferson Community School

“We love coming to the Ordway...exceptional performances that we can afford and your reimbursement for the busing makes it attainable.”
—Kara Johnson, Volunteer Field Trip Coordinator, Southern Cross Christian Co-op & Homeschool

“The students were VERY excited about the whole adventure. Being out of the metro, we have many students who would never be able to be a part of something like this if it had not been for your grant funding. Many of our students have not traveled more than a 20-mile distance from home! This experience broadened their horizons beyond anything they could learn in school. There was noticeable growth in students just from a one-day experience. Thank you so much for including the out-state schools in your planning.”
—Nancy Arneson, Banfield Elementary School Teacher

You May Know
The Ordway presents the annual International Children’s Festival in partnership with Flint Hills Resources to bring the best performing arts the world has to offer to the children of Minnesota and the region. Performances have included puppetry, dance, music, drama, and acrobatics.

Did You Know
The Ordway strives to make the Festival accessible to children and families of all socioeconomic backgrounds. For school audiences, attending Tuesday through Friday, tickets are only $3 and bus transportation is free or highly subsidized. During the weekend public performances, tickets to indoor events cost $5 and performances on two outdoor stages as well as art-making activities in Rice Park and Landmark Plaza are free.
During the school week the Festival features performances for students in pre-kindergarten through twelfth grade, educational and art-making activities, and Global Arts Workshops, one-hour workshops led by Twin Cities artists. However, school-based Festival activities begin well before the Festival itself with several residencies and projects, including:

- the Public Art Project, a public art installation for which students research a theme and art form, learn about the form's tools and materials, design a project, and create a final work under instruction from a school arts specialist and professional visual artists;
- Digital Kids, a video documentary project for which students research Festival artists and art forms while gaining skills in interviewing and documentary film making;
- ARTbuilds, a project for which students design, plan, and build large public art sculptures on site during the school week; the sculptures are built from donated cans and boxes of food that are later given to a local food bank;
- the ARTwalk, a non-juried public exhibition of young artists' work collected from schools and community organizations across the state and displayed in the storefront and skyway windows of downtown Saint Paul during the month surrounding the Festival;
- the ARTcontest, for which young people from across Minnesota are invited to submit original artwork exploring their own visual representation of a theme and from which one entry from each grade level is selected for feature on the Festival Poster; and
- hands-on activities provided by our Education Partners and representatives of organizations and community groups from around the Twin Cities which supplement performances both inside the Ordway and in two adjacent parks;
- Master Classes taught by touring performing artists; and
- the ARTmoves Parade, for which children, adults, families, and other groups are invited to create banners, flags, puppets, musical instruments, and other materials to adorn bikes, trikes, wheelchairs, strollers, scooters, wagons, or other non-motorized vehicles (though wheelchairs may be motorized) to ride, walk, run, jump, float, fly, stroll, shake, rattle, and roll in a pageant of moving art pieces.

The 2009 K-12 Public Art Project was the beautiful Singing Garden. Working with composer Philip Blackburn, Patrick Henry High School teacher Liz Kotek and her students experimented with and recorded sounds from instruments made from fruits and vegetables to create music samples that were composed into The Singing Garden Soundtrack. Teacher Lisa Tenhoff led her students through a design exercise to artistically cover the speakers involved in the installation. Both teachers and their students helped install the Garden. For additional sonic experimentation, a Bird of Paradise plant grown by Preston Wright was wired with a brainwave sensor that sent electrical MIDI data to a MaxMSP patch programmed by J. Anthony Allen. The computer triggered samples of vegetable and plant-based sounds. By approaching, touching, and interacting with the leaves Festival-goers could hear how their actions affected the intelligent plant's response.

Featured performers at the 2009 Festival included:

- Cirque Mechanics' Birdhouse Factory, circus performed like never before in a factory where an errant bird creates mayhem in the machinery;
- The musical group Esta, blending an array of cultural music elements from around the world, especially the many different cultures present in both the rhythm of rock and the spirit of jazz;
- Sidi Goma, performing the joyful and exuberant devotional music and dance of the traditional rituals of the Sidi African-Indians from Gujarat, India; and
- Lalavision Physical Music, bringing science to life in their multi-sensory performance blending sculpture, illustration, music, and dance to explore and explain the process of plant pollination.

In 2009, the Festival featured for the first time free, outdoor performances by a headlining act. Four presentations by Sidi Goma drew approximately 1,200 audience members.
ORDWAY CIRCLE OF STARS

The Ordway Circle of Stars (OCOS) is the volunteer arm of Ordway Center for the Performing Arts. Since 1995, OCOS has raised over $3 million to donate to the Ordway’s programs and activities, with particular emphasis on the bus subsidy for school groups.

The Ordway Circle of Stars members volunteer their time for special events, such as the annual fundraising gala. The 2008 Gala was a black-tie event that featured a silent auction, a live auction, and an exclusive opportunity to view a dress rehearsal of Irving Berlin’s White Christmas.

Volunteers are active in the community, promoting Ordway performances and arts education, and they come from all walks of life. New members and volunteers for events are always needed, and we welcome your participation. We promise you a joyful experience!

"Our volunteer group works hard throughout the year to raise the funds necessary to bring more than 50,000 students to the Ordway annually. We believe in the importance of learning in and through the arts and we are committed to making that a reality for young people from all over Minnesota."

—Christopher Rush, President, Ordway Circle of Stars

INTERNS, APPRENTICES, AND VOLUNTEERS

Interns, apprentices, and other volunteers assist the Ordway throughout each year to keep our programs running smoothly while they gain hands-on experience in arts administration. The Ordway offers a broad range of meaningful experiences within the field, opening new doors, and broadening horizons for young adults interested in working in the arts.

Interns

The Ordway had 20 interns during fiscal year 2009. Interns provide a valuable service to a non-profit organization like the Ordway. Because so many of our interns are still in school, they help us keep abreast of emerging ideas about the arts and arts education being taught in the classroom and in their communities. The Ordway staff includes some former interns, and that has encouraged new interns to apply for positions.

Conservatory Apprenticeship Program

The Conservatory Apprenticeship Program (CAP) is a partnership between Ordway Center for the Performing Arts and the Saint Paul Conservatory for Performing Artists (SPCPA). The program allows students to explore opportunities in the arts through coursework, exposure and dialogue with community arts leaders, and in a semester-long, mentored field experience. The Ordway had 4 apprentices during our fiscal year 2009.

"If I don’t end up on the stage for the rest of my life, I can still be involved in the arts and in theater. [The apprenticeship] helped me kind of broaden my horizons . . . just knowing there are more options out there . . ."—Shannon Foy, the Festival Conservatory Apprentice at the Ordway, Saint Paul Conservatory for Performing Artists
The Sally Awards

The Sally Ordway Irvine Awards, founded by the Ordway’s donor, are presented annually to acknowledge achievement and contribution in the three areas for which Sally Ordway Irvine herself was recognized: Vision, Initiative, and Commitment. A fourth category, Education, was added in 1998 to acknowledge the importance of education in nurturing a passion for the arts in future generations.

In 2009, Sally Ordway Irvine Awards were bestowed on:

Mixed Blood Theatre, for Vision: Mixed Blood Theatre is a professional, multi-ethnic theatre promoting cultural pluralism and individual equality through artistic expression. Using theater as a vehicle for artistry, entertainment, education, and social change, Mixed Blood Theatre is a dynamic force that breaks down artificial barriers that keep people from successfully interacting.

St. Francis Music Center, for Education: St. Francis Music Center provides high quality education in nurturing a passion for the arts in future generations.

PRODUCER’S CIRCLE (Dollars $25,000-$49,999)

Allen and Carmen Angi - Judy Alley
Michael and Cheryl Allwin - John and Cheryl Armstrong
John and Mary Ludlow - Steven Sorensen

ANNUAL CONTRIBUTORS

SALLY’S CIRCLE ($2500+)

Alphonse and Susan Assistant - Marguerite and Michael Atkinson
James and Suzanne Hillis Brown - F. R. Bigelow Foundation
John and Carol Coombs - The Children’s Scholarship Fund
Mr. and Mrs. James T. Lilly - Mr. & Mrs. James T. Lilly Charitable Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. William W. Lilly - Lilly Family Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Michael & Mary Anne Martin - The Martin Family Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. John and Mary Ordway - Ordway Circle of Stars
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Ordway - Ordway Circle of Stars

ECO-

ANNUAL CONTRIBUTORS ($1000+)

Anne and Christian Armstrong - Vivian and Larry Armstrong
John and Sandra Berg - John M. and Elizabeth W. Baker
Jerry and Kay Bendel - Kay Kulp
Walter and Linda Beutel - Richard Gunderson
Michael and Linda Beutel - Peter Gilbertson
Kevin and Maureen Bigelow - F. R. Bigelow Foundation
Michael and Anne Bluhm - William Bluhm and Christine
Nancy Drake - Harry M. Drake
Gene and Sara Engelbert - Gene and Sara Engelbert Foundation
Annette and Andrew Engstrom - St. Cloud State University
Margaret and J. Kimball and Helen Whitney
Jack and Joyce Boss - Joy Centerstage
Lori Helmer - St. Francis Music Center

We live in a community that is really rich in culture and we would hate to see it go away. . . It's like a privilege to give back...”
—Terry Dircks, Ordway Contributor

ORDWAY PERFORMANCE ARTS CENTER

We gratefully honor the thoughtful contributions of the following donors to the Ordway’s artistic and educational programming by making a personal contribution to our Annual Fund. We salute our donors at every level, and acknowledge their vital role in bringing joy to our audiences throughout the year. Contributors are listed from July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009.

CARL S. JARUS, JR., MEMORIAL FUND

We gratefully acknowledge the leadership contributions of the following donors to the Ordway’s arts, education, and community engagement programs by making a personal contribution to the Ordway’s arts, education, and community engagement programs.

Individual Contributors

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INSTITUTIONAL CONTRIBUTORS
The Ordway is grateful for the generous support we receive from corporations, foundations, and government agencies. These institutions are valuable partners in our mission, helping us maintain high artistic standards and ensuring that our programs are accessible to the entire community.
January 1, 2010 marks the 25th anniversary of the Ordway’s opening to the public. We take pride in the depth and breadth of artistic expression that we have brought to our community. Since the beginning, the Ordway has been home to its Arts Partners, the Minnesota Opera, Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, and Schubert Club, all of which have grown and prospered over the intervening quarter century. The Ordway has also expanded its core role as a prominent producer and presenter of world music, dance, drama, and musical theater. Equally important, the Ordway has developed ambitious artistic initiatives designed to deepen our connection with audiences and the broader public through community engagement programs and educational partnerships. Among these are the Flint Hills International Children’s Festival, Performing Arts Classrooms, and in-school residencies which touch the lives of more than 50,000 young people annually. These and other initiatives have vastly expanded the universe of Ordway constituents and nurtured new audiences for the future. In celebration of the Ordway’s 25th Anniversary we will hold a Community Open House with free performances by all of the Arts Partners, tours, activities for children, and other events.