



The Performing Arts Center, Purchase College • 735 Anderson Hill Road • Purchase, New York 10577
www.artscenter.org

For Immediate Release

August 2, 2021

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**THE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER, PURCHASE COLLEGE
RECEIVES SHUTTERED VENUE OPERATORS GRANT**

The million dollar award will help to offset losses incurred due to the COVID-19 pandemic

(Purchase, New York – August 2) The Performing Arts Center, Purchase College (The PAC) has been awarded a Shuttered Venue Operators Grant of \$1,062,742.41.

The Shuttered Venue Operators Grant (SVOG) program was established by the Economic Aid to Hard-Hit Small Businesses, Nonprofits, and Venues Act, and amended by the American Rescue Plan Act. The program includes over \$16 billion in grants to shuttered arts venues. It is administered by U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Office of Disaster Assistance.

The PAC's application process was spearheaded by Katherine King, Associate Director of Development at Purchase College, and completed with the active participation of The PAC's staff and campus partners. The proposal requested funds to offset losses incurred during the extended closure caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The award will be used for expenses related to the return to normal operations.

“Work on this grant application was truly a team effort,” comments Tracy Fitzpatrick, Interim Managing Director of The Performing Arts Center. “I’m grateful to everyone who helped make this transformative grant possible. Its effects will be long lasting and will help us reopen our theatres and bring world-class performing arts back to Purchase.”

While The PAC was closed to the public, they presented virtual arts programming and engagement activities for all ages via The PAC in Your Living Room initiative and actively supported the educational mission of Purchase College. The PAC's theatres and auxiliary spaces served as classrooms, allowing Conservatory students to practice their craft in person while

remaining safely socially distanced. The lobby hosted the campus COVID-19 testing center that served 1,300 students, faculty, and staff each week.

Purchase College President Dr. Milagros Peña said, "When the pandemic started, our Performing Arts Center, like so many other arts venues, closed to the public and focused on presenting online programs. We're grateful that during this time, the staff of The PAC opened their doors to our campus community and served as the site for socially distanced classes and COVID testing. The PAC welcomed our students, faculty, and staff and helped keep the community safe, but now it's time for them to do what they do best.

This grant will allow the PAC to recover and to prepare to present a robust, innovative season of performances. We look forward to gathering together to celebrate the power of resilience and the importance of the arts in Westchester's premiere arts venue when they are able to reopen to the community."

Learn more about the Shuttered Venue Operators Grant: <https://www.sba.gov/funding-programs/loans/covid-19-relief-options/shuttered-venue-operators-grant>

ABOUT THE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER, PURCHASE COLLEGE:

THE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER, PURCHASE COLLEGE (The PAC), a four-theatre complex, is the major professional, non-profit arts presenter in the Southeastern New York–Southwestern Connecticut region.

While The PAC's theatres have been closed to the public March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, The PAC has been operating as a safe learning space for Purchase College students and as a presenter of a broad range of virtual content that inspires, engages, and sparks critical conversations through their The PAC in Your Living Room initiative.

Learn more at: <https://www.artscenter.org>

Purchase College, 735 Anderson Hill Road, Purchase, NY, is located 28 miles northeast of New York City at the Connecticut border. The College, part of the State University of New York (SUNY), is an institution of public higher education encompassing the liberal arts and sciences, professional training in the performing and visual arts, continuing education, the Neuberger Museum of Art, and The Performing Arts Center.

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