

SUPERIOR ARTS YOUTH THEATER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The SAYT Board serves to provide area youth with educational and performance opportunities, technical theater experiences, and growth through acting, musical theater, dance, and other performing arts disciplines while entertaining audiences with quality productions.

Sheetal Acharya Marquette Medical Doctor, Oncology Specialist

Sue Acocks Marquette Retired Public School Counselor

Volunteer Affiliations: City of Marquette Sister Cities

Gery Anderson Negaunee Retired Public School Instrumental Music Educator

Volunteer Affiliations: Director Negaunee City Band, Director Emeritus Michigan School & Band Association

Emma M. Bradley Chocolay Township 8th Grade Student at Bothwell Middle School

Volunteer Affiliations: Dawn Dott Dance Studio Competition Team, MSHS 2016-2017 Varsity Dance Team, National Junior Honor Society, Bothwell Middle School Track Team, Superior Arts Youth Theater Youth Advisory Committee

Steve Grugin-President Chocolay Township Director of Bands, Northern Michigan University

Volunteer Affiliations: Westerly Winds Big Band Music Director, Marquette Symphony Orchestra Board Principal Trombone and Artistic Advisory, Marquette City Band Director

Lisa Jahnke Marquette Retired Special Education Teacher

Volunteer Affiliations: Committee Member on the Marquette County Community Foundation, Marquette Area Public Schools Strategic Planning Committee, Committee Member Grant Hendrickson Golf Outing

Taylor Koski Marquette 11th Grade High School Student

Volunteer Affiliations: Redman Chorale, Superior Dance Academy, MSHS Orchestra, MSHS Drama

Monica Nordeen-Vice President Gwinn Assistant to the Superintendent and Human Resources
Marquette Alger Regional Education Service Agency (Intermediate School District)

Volunteer Affiliations: Lake Superior Theatre Board of Directors, NMU First Nighters Board Secretary, Michigan School Business Officials, Society for Human Resource Management, Upper Peninsula Human Resources Association

Karl Numinen Champion Attorney, Pence & Numinen

Volunteer Affiliations: Marquette Symphony Orchestra, Westerly Winds

Tami Seavoy-Secretary Chocolay Township Attorney

Volunteer Affiliations: Northern Michigan University (NMU) Board of Trustees, NMU Dean of School of Business Advisory Council, Roman Catholic Diocese of Marquette Finance Council- Vice Chair, Roman Catholic Diocese Legacy of Faith Board Member, Bay Cliff Health Camp Board Member, Volunteer Library Coordinator Father Marquette Catholic Central School System Library, NMU Student Leader Fellowship Mentor, NMU Foundation Search Committee, St. Michael Catholic Church Development Committee, St. Michael Catholic Church Stewardship Committee, St. Michael Catholic Church lector coordinator, Bay Cliff Health Camp Board of Directors, Bay Cliff Health Camp office of Secretary, Bay Cliff Health Camp Development Committee Chair, Bay Cliff Health Camp Finance Committee

David Shahbazi-Treasurer Marquette Township Family Practice Physician

Volunteer Affiliations: Marquette Symphony Orchestra, Noquemanon Trail Network, Michigan State University School of Medicine

Ansley Valentine Negaunee Director of Theatre, Professor Northern Michigan University

Volunteer Affiliations: Ethics & Cultural Diversity Committee, Executive Committee Communication & Performance Arts, College of Arts and Sciences Advisory Committee, Graduate Programs Committee Chair- NMU, Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival Region III Chair, Red Theatre Board Member-Chicago, IL, Sigma Chi International Fraternity, Evanston Balfour Leadership Training Workshop Committee Member, Scobey Spirit Initiative Committee Chair, Producing Director of the Summer Youth Musical Theater-Medina, OH

Board Representation of Diverse Communities: Iranian American (1), Indian American (1), Black/African American (1), Asian American (1), LGBT (1), White (10), Student 18 and Under (2), Seniors (2).

Geographical diversity is listed above. Our organization is representative of our local community demographics as evidenced in our demographics attachment.

Special Committees and Councils to the Board: Youth Advisory Council (14 youth members), Finance Committee (3 members), Fundraising Committee (5 members), Nominating Committee (3 members), Rehearsal and Performance Space Committee (3 members), Director Search Committee (8 members), Programming and Evaluation Committee (3 members)

History of Superior Arts Youth Theater and Lake Superior Youth Theatre

Our youth theatre program in Marquette has been based on the following belief: Young people gain confidence and learn commitment, responsibility, commitment and teamwork skills that are critical to their success in school and in life. The City of Marquette Arts and Culture Center Youth Theatre was founded through the City of Marquette Arts and Culture Center in 2001 as a program of the city. Reatha Tweedie, former Director of Arts and Culture for The City of Marquette, worked with staff member and NMU intern Nikke Nason to develop and produce youth theatre in Marquette. This program blossomed for the past 10 years under the direction of Nikke Nason.

The City of Marquette Arts and Culture Department was reorganized and approached Lake Superior Theatre's Board of Directors in September 2011 about taking on the youth theatre program under their umbrella as they the city did not have the staffing or administration to keep the program going. Many were verbal about the potential loss of this program. The Lake Superior Theatre Board of Directors voted on Thursday September 29, 2011 to continue this program for one year. During this year, the youth theatre formed an advisory board of directors, hired a local strategic planning consultant to work with Youth Theatre Advisory Committee to form a five year strategic plan to ensure the youth theatre's future sustainability. The program greatly developed over a two period providing high, quality youth theatre educational experiences for youth in Marquette County. As the board met every goal of the first strategic plan, they met again this winter to write another strategic plan. Out of this planning process, they restructured the staffing from two part-time positions of Executive Director and Artistic Director, into one full-time contractual position of Executive/Artistic Director and Business Manager of Lake Superior Theatre. This was the first full-time position that the theatre has been able to hire.

SUPERIOR ARTS YOUTH THEATER- ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORY AND GOVERNING BOARD

Under the 501 (c) 3 of Lake Superior Theatre, Lake Superior Youth Theatre (LSYT) operated from 2011-2015 as an autonomous program functioning independently in association with Lake Superior Theatre. As an independently operating program it had a separate mission statement, board of directors, and financial arrangements. Lake Superior Youth Theatre had an advisory board that worked in cooperation with the Lake Superior Theatre Board of Directors in matters pertaining to the youth theatre program.

Lake Superior Theater, Inc., is a non profit semi-professional organization with 501 c (3) status that was founded in 1998 in Marquette, Michigan, located in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. The unique venue for Lake Superior Theater's summer productions is the Frazier's Lake Superior Theater Boathouse, which in the winter months actually serves as a working boathouse and in the summer is transformed into a theater for the productions. The boathouse is located on the shores of Lake Superior. Because of the uniqueness of the venue, many persons who attend our theater performances are people who otherwise would not go to see a play at "a theater."

During the four years of the development of the Lake Superior Youth Theatre, the programming and budget grew to three times the budget of Lake Superior Theatre. With the year round operations of the youth theatre and growth of the program, Lake Superior Theatre Inc. asked the youth theatre to begin to form their own 501 (c) 3 organization in the winter of 2015. The LSYT Advisory board formed the Superior Arts Youth Theater Board of Directors, obtained an EIN number, applied for a DUNS number, and has completed the filing for the IRS Application for Recognition of Exemption under 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and signed a formal agreement with the Lake Superior Theatre Board of Directors in May of 2015. The organization received 501 (c) 3 status officially July 7, 2015. The Lake Superior Theatre Inc. Board of Directors transferred the remaining funds of the Lake Superior Youth Theatre to the Superior Arts Youth Theater.

The Superior Arts Youth Theater continued all programming for 2015-2016 inclusive of youth summer camps, a summer musical at Lake Superior Theatre, an 8th Grade and Under musical in the fall, an all ages winter musical, a Kids Sing Broadway production, the Marquette Area Public Schools Arts in Education Residency 5th Grade Play program, and other special events and workshops year round.

Our programs are inclusive of: Winter Main Stage Musical for preschool-12th grade, Spring Cabaret, Summer Musical, Fall 8th Grade and Under Musical, Artist in Education Residency Program, 8 week summer workshop series, Downtown Marquette Blueberry Festival Talent Show, Haunted Hayrides Halloween Event, and several special events throughout the year.

The following video will give you an inside look at the youth and community members involved in our programs:

Arts in Education Residency Program [2016 \(CLICK HERE\)](#) [2015 \(CLICK HERE\)](#) [2014 \(CLICK HERE\)](#)

Winter Production Mary Poppins: [Behind the Scenes \(CLICK HERE\)](#)

Dollars for Drama Fundraising Campaign [2015-2016 \(CLICK HERE\)](#)

Summer Production [Narnia \(CLICK HERE\)](#)

Fall 8th Grade and Under Production [Aladdin Jr. \(CLICK HERE\)](#)