

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

The objective of this section is to highlight representative NAO nonprofit members of various sizes, geographic locations and subsectors to showcase the great work our members are doing across Oregon!



700 Village Drive
Cottage Grove, OR 97424

www.cottagetheatre.org



Cottage Theatre's production of *Treehouse*;
Photo by Matt Emrich

What does your organization do? Who does it serve?

Cottage Theatre's mission is engaging and enriching our community through the magic of live theatre. Now in our 36th year, CT has grown tremendously since humble 1982 beginnings under a parachute on the lawn of the Village Green. The theatre now produces a year-round season of six plays and musicals, presenting 80 performances annually, and offers summer camps for children.

What has been your organization's biggest accomplishment lately?

This year, Cottage Theatre was one of six community theatres in the country selected to produce a world premiere play as part of the American Association of Community Theatre's 2018 NewPlayFest. In August, we gave the first production of *TREEHOUSE*, a riveting story of love, loss, and healing by Alabama playwright Joe Musso. More details here: <https://www.registerguard.com/entertainmentlife/20180809/at-cottage-theatre-treehouse-world-premiere-brings-excitement-passion>

How has being an NAO member helped you succeed in furthering your organization's mission?

As an organization with a very small staff, we greatly appreciate NAO for keeping us up to date on broader nonprofit trends and issues. We have benefitted tremendously from attending various NAO trainings over the years and are grateful for NAO's continued advocacy on behalf of the entire sector.

Anything else you'd like to share?

In 2019, Cottage Theatre will be taking a bold step forward, remodeling our facility to add 50 new seats, improve sightlines, and upgrade technical and safety features. This "ACT III" project, which follows many sold-out performances in recent years, will dramatically transform the patron experience at CT and strengthen the theatre's role in our community. Here's a link to a recent TV video interview regarding this planned expansion: <https://nbc16.com/news/local/theater-in-cottage-grove-awarded-grant-for-new-improvements>

Special thanks to Susan Goes,
Executive Director, Cottage Theatre