



To Whom It May Concern-

I am writing to you on behalf of our family owned business, The Spotlight Theatre located in downtown Moline. Since this pandemic began, due to mitigations we have been severely impacted including being completely shut down for 5 months. Once we entered into phase 4, we were restricted to only allowing 50 people in our theatre at a time. We are a 600 seat house. 50 people is not even operating at 10% for us. And now with the new mitigations we are only allowed 25 people.

We are a vibrant and cultural benefit to our area not only in our performances and diversity in groups that use our space, but also in child programming to grow the arts for the future. We were about to celebrate our 2 year anniversary as a family owned small business in April of this year. We were finally about to see the benefits of the last two years and all of the blood, sweat and tears we put into this business, only to have it all completely ripped away. I realize that stories like mine are, unfortunately, pretty common right now. But I beg you as an advocate for the arts, to consider offering us some relief.

Businesses like mine are of extreme value to the community. Our events help drive customers to the surrounding bars and restaurants we hear so much about. In a normal year, we produce 6 mainstage musicals, 5 children's company musicals, as well as additional classes. We play host to such events as weddings, dance recitals and concerts. Last year alone we saw 7,000 people walk through our doors just for our productions alone. Last year our gross profit was \$169,597, this year as it stands is only \$50,000, now with stricter mitigations on us.

While we are not able to operate anywhere near the capacity we like, or feel that we could safely, we have put all new procedures in place to keep everyone safe. We have been adhering to the strict restrictions as far as audience sizes. When audiences arrive we have scanned for temperatures, as well as space groups out well over 6 ft. apart for seating, and masks are required. We open our doors earlier than normal to give people ample, spaced out arrival times as to not have large groups congregate in the lobby as well as placed sanitation stations throughout the building. We also do a cleaning and wipe down of the theatre in-between events.

I appreciate your time and consideration. And we cannot wait for the day to welcome everyone into our theatre again.

All the best,

Brent & Sara Tubbs