

Grantee Reporting Form : Entry # 241

Confirmation Code

448150-Roberts2020

Organization Name

TheaterWorks Hartford

Project Name

Fun Home

Principal Contact Name

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Title

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Did the project take place as described in the original proposal?

The production of FUN HOME took place just as we had planned and it exceeded our expectations.

Who attended or who benefited? Tell us about the audience – size, demographic make-up, etc.

Total attendance during the run reached 4,819, including 399 students and educators. If we had been granted the rights to stream the production, we would have approximately 2,000 more viewers. There were 35 performances from October 8 through November 6, 2022, including a one-week extension. Ticket prices ranged from \$25 values seating to \$70 premium seats. Total sales reached \$110,000. exceeding our original goal by \$10,000.

Typical of the theater's audience, approximately 93% of attendees came from the Metro Hartford region; 4% were from Connecticut outside of Metro Hartford and roughly 3% came from out of state. Similar to our other productions, audience ethnic composition for this production was approximately 70% Caucasian; 10% African-American; 14% Latino; 1% Asian, 1%. Median age was 46; gender composition was 66% female, 30% male.

Did the project meet the goals and objectives described in your original proposal? If so, how?

TheaterWorks primary objective is to deliver an exceptional and cohesive artistic product and FUN HOME delivered on all accounts.

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We took a calculated risk by opening our season with a full-scale musical--that included 10 actors and 6 musicians—with the hopes of luring folks back to live theater. The production was very expensive to produce, but the gamble paid off. It was hailed as a great success by critics and patrons alike, many houses were at capacity and we extended it one-week to meet demand.

With music by Jeanine Tesori, books and lyrics by Lisa Kron, based on the graphic novel by Allison Bechdel, it was directed by Rob Ruggiero with Music Director Jeff Cox. The +stellar cast that included: Broadway stars Sarah Beth Pfeifer, Aaron Lazar, and Christiane Noll. In addition, there was Skylar Lynn Mathews, Myles Low, Sam Duncan, Jasper Burger, Ali Louis Bourzgui, Julia Nightingale and Cameron Silliman.

What were the outcomes of your evaluation procedure?

Critical response to the production was exceptional. *Broadway World's*, Brooks Appelbaum said: This is not only a marvelous production; it's a deeply emotional and complex experience. And it's an experience that is not to be missed."

Jeffrey Borak in the *Berkshire Eagle* wrote, "...an at-once deeply affecting and celebratory production...this is the very definition of "musical theater."

The audience's reactions were overwhelmingly positive with 95% saying they "loved or liked it" and just 1% saying they did not. Notably, 96% of the respondents said they would recommend the show to friends and interestingly 9% said they had never been to TheaterWorks.

Some of the audience comments included, "It was so fabulous; I bought 2 subscriptions and sent an email to 10 friends urging them to go." "TheaterWorks consistently has great production values." "Phenomenal performance! I'm an avid theatre goer, local and Broadway shows... this is one of the best shows I've ever seen anywhere."

What future plans, if appropriate, do you have for this project?

While TheaterWorks will not produce FUN HOME again, we will continue to mount a full season of contemporary plays and musicals.

Executive letter

- [FY23-Final-Report-ED-Letter-FH.pdf](#)

Project budget

- [TheaterWorks-FUN-HOME-Budget.pdf](#)