Monday March 6, 2017



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**SPRUCE PEAK ARTS CENTER FOUNDATION**

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To the Editor,

The Spruce Peak Arts Center board of directors would like to publicly express its deep gratitude to executive director, Lance Olson for his commitment to the growth and development of the performing arts center over the last five years. The board recently accepted Lance’s resignation effective September 3, 2017 so that he can return to live full-time with his family and we wish them all the best in this new phase of life. He will be missed.

During his successful tenure, Lance was instrumental in establishing the performing arts center as a vibrant gathering place for those who live, work and play in the greater Stowe community. Under Lance’s guidance, the center has achieved its mission to inspire, educate and entertain the community by presenting artists both from around the world and right next-door.

Through the Peak VTartists series, Lance brought a special focus on artists who have excelled on the national stage but have chosen the extraordinary Vermont lifestyle. Peak VTartists has presented over 70 performances since May 2013; including those by Kat Wright and the Indomitable Soul Band, DanceFest Vermont, Chad Hollister, Woods Tea Company, Audrey Bernstein, and Will Ackerman. This series will continue to provide both artists and audiences with extraordinary performing and listening opportunities

Lance helped to bring several World-class touring artists to Stowe including James Taylor, Mary Chapin Carpenter, Electric Hot Tuna, the State Ballet Theatre of Russia, Says You! NPR radio show, Cristo, The Perlman Music Program, Lauren Fox, and the Golden Dragon Acrobats.  In partnership with the Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, Lance introduced the center to over 6,500 students attending school matinee performances in Stowe.

During Lance’s tenure the arts center has become an integral part of Stowe’s business community, providing performances almost every Saturday evening year round and participating with the Stowe Area Association, Stowe Arts and Culture Council, Vermont Town Hall, and Stowe Vibrancy.  He launched the dinner-and-a-show program, and the show-to-show realtor support program.  The Board could not be more grateful for his deep commitment to the center, the community and his profession.

The Board has begun it’s search for a new executive director, For information, contact Rebecca Vaus [rvaus@SprucePeakArts.org](mailto:rvaus@SprucePeakArts.org) – 802-760-4636 . Please join us in thanking Lance for his service to the Center and the Community as you see him around town between now and September.

Sincerely,

Tom Cronin, President, Spruce Peak Arts Center Foundation