



# LOOKING BACK, GOING FORWARD

Even though our vision to have a multi-use theater and event space in the Sylvania Community had been birthed a year and a half before, our decision to “go out on our own” became do or die at beginning of 2022. We elected to DO. That’s when the practicals kicked in. There was an organization name to choose, registration with the state of Ohio, Federal ID, 501(c)3 non-profit status, establishing a board of directors, a mission and vision statement to write, positions to fill, AV equipment to purchase, a website and social media to set

up and run, marketing, planning, pricing, licensing, and lots and lots and lots of research, WHEW! I admit it was a big job.

Without a sphysical space, we decided to reach out and find venues where we could hold movie events. Clue was our first movie event on April 1 at Inside the Five’s Fifth Floor. We then established ongoing partnerships with other local organizations like The Olander Park System and Sylvania STEM Center and continued our community outreach.

Much time is “boots on the ground,” gorilla marketing so people get to know us – for example, Jen’s Reel Cinema articles in Sylvania Advantage, her Reel Cin Blog, and this e-newsletter.

### Going Forward in 2023

A lot has been learned along the way as we contintue to evolve, but our biggest achievement was in making good strides for the multi-use theater and event space that Starlite has as its core mission.

## COMING SOON

### JANUARY/FEBRUARY, 2023

Private events

### FEBRUARY, 2023

Sylvania STEM Center  
Kids Valentine Movie Event & Parent “Getaway”

### MARCH, 2023

TOPS Earth Day Week Celebration Event  
Art Show & Sale Fundraiser  
Kid’s Art Competition  
Mystery Movie & more!  
*Details to come. . .*

Check out our website at [starlitetheatergroup.org](http://starlitetheatergroup.org) or follow us on social media for other upcoming events.



*From left to right, board members: Linda Szyskowski, Jennifer Kellow-Fiorini, Sharon Lange, and Ben Malczewski. Not pictured, Tom Burnworth.*

Although a formal announcement cannot yet be made, we are thrilled to be a part of this effort with the hope that this initiative will be one step closer to reality in 2023 and that the good news can be shared with the public. Until then, we will continue to

explore ways we can bring movie and other arts events to Sylvania, including private events. We also welcome your input. Your support is essential, so follow us on social media, attend events, share ideas, and donate if you are able. Let’s make 2023 a breakout year for the arts in our Sylvania community. – Linda Szyskowski



**MAUMEE**  
MAUMEE THEATER  
Teddy Petty and the Refugees, 1/28

**ANN ARBOR**  
MICHIGAN THEATER *highlights*  
Rocky Horror Picture Show , 1/13  
Babylon, multiple showings  
The Lady Vanishes, 1/14 & 1/23  
early Hitchcock

STATE THEATER *highlights*  
Babylong, mulltiple showings  
Roman Holiday, 2/9

**ADRIAN**  
THE CROSSWELL THEATER  
Guys & Dolls, 1/21-29, an area high school production

**DETROIT**  
CINEMA DETROIT  
An Evening with Buster Keaton, 1/20  
Cat Daddy, 1/21 - 1/26

# youngSTARS

universe



## BEYOND DISNEY AND PIXAR

We love Disney and Pixar films as much as anyone, but they corner the market for what animated films are shown in theaters. There is a wealth of wonderful kids' movies (particularly animated) being made worldwide that just don't get the marketing and distribution Disney/Pixar does. Disney must be aware because they acquired the US distribution rights to Studio Ghibli films in the early 2000s.

Here are a few animated films we recommend that stir children's imaginations beyond the scope of Disney and Marvel:

### Ernest & Celestine (2012)

The story of an unlikely friendship between Ernest the bear and a young mouse named Celestine. Beautifully animated in a watercolor style, it features the voice talents of Forest Whitaker, Lauren Bacall, and Paul Giamatti. Nominated for an Oscar in 2013.

### Song of the Sea (2014)

Irish director Tomm Moore brings Celtic folktales to life with this story of Ben, a young Irish boy, and his little sister, Saoirse, a girl who can turn into a seal, who go on an adventure to free the fairies and save the

spirit world. Jaw-droppingly beautiful in every sense of the word, this film was nominated for an Oscar in 2015.

### Shaun The Sheep Movie (2015)

Tired of working on the farm, Shaun takes his flock and the farmer's dog, Bitzer, into his own "temporary escape plan" after an unexpected accident. Unfortunately, in the big city, the farmer is diagnosed with amnesia that could possibly change their normal farm life forever, and the squad sets a plan to regain the farmer's memory. Told with almost no dialogue, this is ingenious filmmaking parents will love as much as kids. Beware – it tugs the heartstrings! Created by Aardman Animations, the team behind Wallace and Gromit.

— Jennifer Kellow-Fiorini

*Check online for rentals or purchases, and don't forget that the Toledo Lucas County Library has movies to borrow for free with your library card.*

## LIKE TO READ ABOUT HOLLYWOOD'S ICONIC STARS?

Check out our **Reel Cinema** articles written by our very own Jennifer, in selected issues of the Sylvania Advantage newspaper or the **Reel Cin** blog on our website with a library of articles, resources, photos and more. <https://www.jenfor.com/blog-1>

**DONATIONS** help support our arts initiative and our long-term goal to bring a multi-purpose theater and event space to the Sylvania community.



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK & INTRAGRAM



for the inside scoop on some of the most iconic stars in Hollywood history.

## HOST A PRIVATE MOVIE PARTY WITH US

Someone once said, "There is something special about experiencing a movie in a room full of people."

Although many movies are available to see at home on your big screen TV, there is something so much more satisfying about experiencing a movie the way it was meant to be seen — on a big screen, with big sound, and with the energy that an audience brings to the theater.

However, Hollywood and COVID have not cooperated to make many great movies over the last several years — at least for many adults! Hollywood has churned out Marvel flicks aimed at kids and not much memorable adult content. And safety concerns have complicated attending large venues. That being said, there are thousands of movies of all genres made over the years that are not shown in mainstream theaters or that can readily be enjoyed together with friends and family — in a movie theater-like experience.

That's where we come in. If you can't afford your own "movie room" or don't want to invest in a projector and all its trappings, Starlite is your answer. You can book a private movie event with us at your home for a birthday party, special day like Valentine's, an anniversary, graduation, or just a get together with family and friends. A suitable area with electrical service will do.

There's no charge for us to check out your space and see if it is doable, so call us for more information and pricing, and enjoy the next best thing to a theater — a movie on our large 120" screen and Harbinger speaker sound enjoyed with family and friends!

*NOTE: Movie licensing is strictly regulated. Licensed movies shown in a personal residence are the ONLY exception.*

## OUR BOARD

Linda Szyskowski,  
President, Executive Director

Ben Malczewski,  
Vice-President,  
Development Director

Jennifer Kellow-Fiorini,  
Programming &  
Social Media Director

Sharon Lange,  
Public Relations Director

Tom Burnworth,  
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[starlitetheatergroup.org](http://starlitetheatergroup.org)

**STARLITE**  
theater group