

## North Texas Chapter of The American Theater Organization

October 1, 2015 -September 30, 2016

Cash on Hand Beginning Balance		\$9,839
Income:		
Shows: Ticket Sales	\$2,361	
Promotional Income	\$765	
Grants:           MAC	\$1,600	
Member Dues	\$262	
Total Income		\$4,988
Expenses/Outgo		
Artist's Fees	\$2,035	
Projectionist/Film Rentals	\$490	
Promotions: Postage	\$366	
Promotions: Printing	\$600	
Restitution	\$290	
Insurance	\$771	
Web Service	\$68	
Total Expense		\$4,620
		<u>\$10,207</u>
Cash on hand September 30, 2016		\$10,800

Print

**Final Grant Report - Submission #54826**

**Date Submitted: 9/28/2016**

**City of McKinney Arts Commission**

When your Arts-Commission-funded project is complete, please submit this form and the following two items within thirty days after the event or season, depending on the type of event. These items must be submitted electronically.

- 1) A detailed Final Project Report covering all receipts and expenditures for the funded project.
- 2) A narrative report of the project.

Please review carefully before submitting. Final Grant Reports may only be submitted once.

**Grantee Name\***

North Texas Chapter - American Theatre Organ Society

**Grant Amount\***

1,600

**Email \***

abcavitt@charter.net

**Event(s)**

**Name of Event\***

Silents on the Square

**Date & Time of Event\***

10/31/2015 7:30pm

**Location of Event \***

MPAC

**More Events?**

- Yes
- No

**Name of Event**

Silents on the Square

**Date & Time of Event**

02/06/2016 7:30pm

**Location of Event**

MPAC

**More Events?**

- Yes
- No

**Name of Event**

Silents on the Square  
Double Feature

**Date & Time of Event**

05/07/2016 7:30pm

**Location of Event**

MPAC

**More Events?**

- Yes
- No

Name of Event	Date & Time of Event	Location of Event	More Events?
Comedy Classics II	07/30/2016	MPAC	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No

Name of Event	Date & Time of Event	Location of Event	More Events?
			<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No

Name of Event	Date & Time of Event	Location of Event	More Events?
			<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No

Name of Event	Date & Time of Event	Location of Event	More Events?
			<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No

Name of Event	Date & Time of Event	Location of Event	More Events?
			<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No

Name of Event	Date & Time of Event	Location of Event	More Events?
			<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No

Name of Event	Date & Time of Event	Location of Event

**Total Revenue**  
 Include grant award funds.

Budget*	Actual*
17,876	2,361

**Total Expenses**

**Budget\***

11,120

**Actual\***

4,620

**Total Number in Attendance\***

302

**Number of Performances\***

4

**Total Number of Tickets Sold\***

145

**Number of Tickets Comped\***

157

**Promotion**

Did you include in all promotion, publicity and advertising the following line: "This project is funded in part by the City of McKinney through the City of McKinney Arts Commission."

**Choose One\***

Yes

No

**If no, why not?**

**Logo**

Did you use the City of McKinney logo on printed material?

**Choose One\***

Yes

No

**If no, why not?**

**Goals**

How successful was your event in accomplishing the Arts Commission goal, "To create a vibrant and viable arts community in which diverse, high quality arts opportunities are available to McKinney residents and visitors?"

**Choose One\***

Very Successful

Somewhat Successful

Not Successful

Comments

Attach Financial Report\*

McKinney002.pdf

Attach Narrative Summary\*

Grant Information 2016.docx

**Itemized Payees 10/15-9/16**  
 10/1/2015 through 9/25/2016

Date	Account	Num	Category	Tag	Memo	Clr	Amount
4/8/2016	NTC-ATOS		Wings Show 2015		0008024 CCD ID: 7560...	c	316.00
6/3/2016	NTC-ATOS		Double Feature Show		0008024 CCD ID: 7560...	c	215.00
8/12/2016	NTC-ATOS		Comedy Classics II		0008024 CCD ID: 7560...	c	1,206.00
<b>Deposit</b>							<b>262.50</b>
6/21/2016	NTC-ATOS		Membership Dues			c	232.50
9/16/2016	NTC-ATOS		Membership Dues			c	30.00
<b>Deposit Id Number</b>							<b>1,765.00</b>
1/28/2016	NTC-ATOS		Halloween 2015		Arts Commission	c	1,500.00
5/3/2016	NTC-ATOS		Membership Dues		Member Dues and Con...	c	265.00
<b>Hostek Com Ok</b>							<b>-65.67</b>
4/1/2016	NTC-ATOS		Web Site Developer		Web Site Host	c	-65.67
<b>Lainks Com Ca</b>							<b>-94.50</b>
5/2/2016	NTC-ATOS		Double Feature Show		Ink for Mailout	c	-94.50
<b>Officemax</b>							<b>-13.59</b>
7/22/2016	NTC-ATOS		Comedy Classics II		525809 07/22	c	-13.59
<b>Usps</b>							<b>-221.00</b>
4/25/2016	NTC-ATOS		Double Feature Show		Postage	c	-136.00
7/22/2016	NTC-ATOS		Comedy Classics II		Postage	c	-85.00
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>							<b>2,151.83</b>

## NTC-ATOS 2015-16

Occasionally, the scheduling falls just perfectly. It seemed somehow fitting for the North Texas Chapter to kick off its 2015-16 performance season with a Halloween show that took place on Halloween night! The 1928 horror classic *The Man Who Laughs* is based on one of French novelist Victor Hugo's lesser known works, but the film still has fans of silent horror classics buzzing even today. The movie was a favorite of the late celebrated critic Roger Ebert.

The action deals with a cruel punishment placed on the son of a political enemy by British King James II, who surgically imposed a hideous permanent smile to remind the young man of the King's power. The facial feature became so distinctive that cartoonist Bob Kane even used it as his inspiration for the 'Joker' character when he created the 'Batman' series in 1939. The facial feature, in one form or another is used in the horror movie genre to this day.

The film stars actor Conrad Veidt in one of his earliest roles. Veidt would go to a successful career in the talkies, most notably portraying Humphrey Bogart's nemesis, the Nazi Major Strasser in the all-time favorite *Casablanca*.

Internationally acclaimed theater organist Brett Valliant provided his original soundtrack for the film which he says even challenged his talents. The picture's dark tone and overall hopeless mood made it very difficult to score, but the artist pulled off in grand style. The event marked Valliant's fourth appearance on the MPAC Mighty Wurlitzer. As one of the best in the world, his musical interpretation and overall technique has long made him a favorite with North Texas audiences.

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Christmas time presented another wonderful use of the McKinney Organ. Again, various chapter members dedicated their time to present holiday music for the shoppers on the square. Various tour groups took time from their busy day to relax for a while and listen, as artists gave a brief history of the instrument, and how it works. Keeping in the Christmas spirit, organist Bob Whiteman continued his work with the McKinney Repertory Theater group to provide a musical background for the holiday classic *A Christmas Carol*. Bob's musical interpretation of the Dickens classic has been a mainstay of the theater holiday season for the past six years. Bob also provides the musical background for the McKinney Reps annual summer melodrama.

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In February, in recognition of the approaching Academy Awards, the Chapter, by request, served up the original Oscar winner. The 1927 silent classic *Wings* was the first movie to win an

Academy award for Best Picture when the Oscars originated in 1929. Even in today's world of digital magic, the aerial combat scenes in this movie are considered amazing by a whole new generation of critics who have re-discovered this film classic. Add the thundering notes of a theatrical pipe organ and the experience is unforgettable.

The interest in silent films was always present in the film community, but the accolades for this film in particular were re-kindled several years ago when a new silent film, *The Artist*, took a lot of people by surprise by winning the Academy's most coveted prize of Best Picture. The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences has, on two occasions, thrown a gala event in Hollywood with internationally known theater organist Clark Wilson playing his original score for the silent World War One classic. The black tie events, held at the Disney El Capitan Theater, were standing room only with all of Hollywood's "A" list in attendance. *Wings* has proven to be a perennial favorite in North Texas as well. It has been presented three times locally to very appreciative audiences. Dallas organist Dr. Bill Hanson, himself a former Air Force pilot, held the audience captivated through the film's many themes ranging from tender romance to brutal global combat. *Wings* is literally a film that holds something for everyone.

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For our May show, the chapter Once again teamed up with the Dallas Historic Film Group in an effort to find some rare, but relevant short feature length films that would demonstrate how two very popular but radically different silent comedians would deal with the same subject. It wasn't hard to find a common thread. The subject of bullying has probably been an issue for as long as man has walked the earth. In fact, it was quite a popular theme in early silent films. In the two films chosen for the event, the underdogs get even with their tormentors in an entirely different, but equally hilarious manner.

*Grandma's Boy* features comic great Harold Lloyd who's heart always seems to be in the right place, but generally with the wrong people. It's not until his grandmother reminds him that his grandfather had the same problem, and conquered it in a rather creative way, that he gets the better of his foes in grandiose fashion. Lloyd, along with Charlie Chaplin and Buster Keaton is considered to be one of the greats of silent film comedy. *Grandma's Boy* is one of his first, albeit short, feature length films. Organist Bob Whiteman provided a light hearted and relevant score for this comic classic.

Comedian Harry Langdon had a long career in Vaudeville before his film career began. He was one of the few silent actors who actually made it in the talkies when the silent film era ended in the early 1930's. In *Saturday Afternoon*, it's Langdon's wife who is his nemesis with her firm belief that a man's place is under a woman's thumb. When her control threatens a Saturday



outing with friends, he takes some rather interesting action to re-assert his manhood. Organist Al Cavitt utilized a lot of period music to provide a delightful backdrop for this rare film.

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Given the overwhelming success of last year's program, the Dallas Historic Film Group again worked with the chapter to present a silent film festival with an evening of seldom seen silent comedy shorts starring virtually all of the greatest names in silent comedy.

Four separate artists were tapped to provide their original musical interpretations of five different comedy shorts. Jim Pitts, Bob Whiteman, and Mike Tarzis are all veterans in scoring and performing silent films on the theater organ. For the second year in a row, the event featured special guest artist, ragtime piano virtuoso Robert Edwards who handled the music for the 1926 Charley Chase feature *Mighty Like a Moose*, and the Our Gang short *The Sun Down Limited*. In the first feature, a husband and wife bored with their marriage, decide to have plastic surgery to spice up their lives. Then, they meet at a dance, unaware that they are cheating on each other. In the Our Gang feature, the kids end up running a small railroad with hilarious, and disastrous results. Edwards has done numerous performances for the classic film group all over Dallas, including sellout events at the historic Texas Theater in Oak Cliff.

The remainder of the program included the 1922 Buster Keaton classic *The High Sign*, which was performed by Tarzis. Keaton's character gets tied up with some gangsters who hire him as a hit man to dispose of the richest man in town. Knowing that her father is a target, the man's daughter hires someone to protect him. You guessed it, it's Keaton, and he solves the problem as only he can.

Jim Pitts took over the console for his interpretation of the 1929 Laurel and Hardy classic *The Bacon Grabbers*. In this short film, the boys are hired as repo men and are ordered to pick up an old radio console. Of course they bungle the job as only Laurel and Hardy can.

Bob Whiteman performed his original score for Harold Lloyd's 1920 funfest *Get Out And Get Under*. Lloyd portrays an actor who must get to the theater on time to perform in a show, or lose the role to his understudy. All that stands in the way is the curse of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the automobile. His old Model T just doesn't want to cooperate.

All of the movies were hand-picked by the Dallas Classic Film Group not only for their rarity, but their overall comic content and audience appeal. If the audience reaction is any indicator, these are films that are truly every bit as funny today as the day they were made nearly a century ago. As was the case a year ago, the Summer Silent Festival gave us our largest and most raucous audience of the year with the laughter almost drowning out the organ at times!!

As fall approaches, and we prepare for another year, the Halloween program has already been set. Organist Jim Pitts from Waco will be performing the original *Hunchback of Notre Dame*. With the response we have had this year, you can bet there will be more silent festivals ahead in 2017!