



20 reasons to celebrate our 20th birthday

- More than seven million people have visited the Center since 1989.
- In its first year, the Center drew around 150,000 patrons. Now, the Center's programs draw more than 286,000 people each year.
- Volunteers have contributed more than 220,000 hours of service in our 20 years.
- In 2007, the Center became the first venue in the Valley to eliminate per ticket fees, making online ticketing dramatically more affordable to arts consumers.
- In its 20 years, Chandler Center for the Arts has hosted more than 50 sold-out events. Here are just a few.... Steve Allen, Jay Leno, Glen Campbell, "Into the Woods", "A Chorus Line", The Lettermen, The Irish Rovers, The Smothers Brothers, Carrot Top, Debbie Reynolds, Anne Murray, Bob Newhart, Herman's Hermits, Wayne Newton, Terry Fator, Linda Ronstadt, The Oak Ridge Boys and the Glenn Miller Orchestra.
- The center's highest grossing act was Bill Cosby, who brought in \$195,496 (for 2 shows).
- At the time of the Center's opening in 1989, the population of Chandler was approximately 80,000. It has more than tripled since, to approximately 246,400 today.
- Four out of the six employees who opened the Center in 1989 remain employed there today: General Manager Katrina Mueller, Senior Production Coordinator Jimmie Byrd, Visual Arts Coordinator Eric Faulhaber and Concessions Manager Gary Gonzales.
- During our first season of operation, the Center offered more than 250 performances.
- For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, the average ticket price to attend an event at the Center was \$28.80.
- The Center was honored in 2006 with the Governor's Arts Award for outstanding educational, visual and performing arts programs.
- The two turntable auditoriums are on large rotating platforms, 82 feet and 69 feet in diameter. Despite their size, it takes a five horsepower motor only three minutes to rotate the turntables a full 180 degrees!
- All three theaters combined can seat 1,536 people.
- The Center had 602 season ticket holders in 2008.

- Ticket sales in 1989 were \$124,356. In 2008, that number reached \$686,092.
- More than 10,000 school performances have been presented at the Center.
- In 1990, two men managed to ride mules into the Center's dance studio. They were later arrested for "riding while intoxicated."
- In 1997, the Center opened a satellite space known as the Vision Gallery in historic downtown Chandler. The Vision Gallery offers VISION KIDZ Programs taught by professional artists, free to the public!
- During the first season there were 18 local arts groups that performed at the Center. Of those 18 groups, nine are still performing at the Center!
 1. *East Valley Symphony Orchestra (Began as the San Marcos Symphony and later became the Chandler Symphony Orchestra)*
 2. *Chandler Children's Theatre (now called the Ahwatukee Children's Theatre in Chandler)*
 3. *The Side Street Strutters*
 4. *A Ludwig Dance Theatre*
 5. *Bel Canto Trio*
 6. *The Arizona Mormon Choir*
 7. *Salt River Brass*
 8. *Ballet Etudes*
 9. *Mesa Symphony Orchestra (Now called Symphony of the Southwest)*
- Chandler voters approved a combined total of \$6.7 million in bond funding to help us renovate our building this year. These renovations will make our building more accessible and further improve the guest experience.

Many thanks and congratulations to our staff, board members, volunteers, friends, members, supporters and the City of Chandler and the Chandler Unified School District for 20 successful years!

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