

Tuacahn Amphitheatre

Official Press Kit

2022



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Allow Us to Introduce Ourselves

Hello and welcome to Tuacahn Amphitheatre. We are a breathtaking outdoor Amphitheatre near St. George, Utah surrounded by 1,500-foot red rock cliffs in the mouth of Padre Canyon. Tuacahn is a nonprofit organization dedicated to edifying and inspiring the human spirit through professional, world-class, family entertainment and an unparalleled artistic experience that matches the majesty of the canyon.

Our 42,000-square-foot facility was completed in 1995 and includes a 2,174-seat outdoor Amphitheatre, 428-seat indoor theater, black-box theater, dance studios, costume shop, scene shop, rehearsal pad, gift gallery and café.

The name "Tuacahn" was inspired by the Mayan word "Teotihuacan" meaning "city of the gods" and was designated to represent the "canyon of the gods." Built in the shadow of spectacular, red-rock cliffs, the Tuacahn Amphitheatre and Center for the Arts was created to awaken the nobility of the human soul and transmit light and hope to people everywhere through the arts and education.

Visiting the Amphitheatre feels like an out-of-this-world experience. Tuacahn gives guests an opportunity to enjoy both the scenery of Padre Canyon and the culture of theatre and the arts. Visitors never forget their first time visiting and experiencing Tuacahn. And once you've gone, you will crave the experience over and over again!



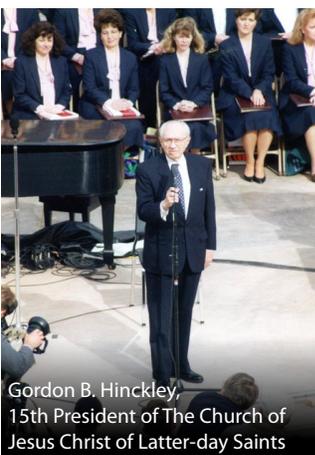
Tuacahn's Story

The idea of this incredible outdoor Amphitheatre began with Doug Stewart in 1991. Stewart was a renowned playwright and a St. George resident. From the beginning, Tuacahn Amphitheatre focused on both entertainment and performing as well as theatrical education. "The stunning beauty and perfect surroundings stopped me in my tracks," said Stewart "I was brought to tears when I first stood there, and after taking it in for some time - envisioning an amphitheatre and a stage with an awesome backdrop of 1,500-foot red rock cliffs and hearing the sounds of music echoing from the canyon walls, I flew back to town to see who the land belonged to." Four years later, when Stewart walked into the Amphitheatre and heard the Mormon Tabernacle choir warming up for the dedication of the theater, it was like reliving the experience from years before. Through Doug's vision, the awe-inspiring theater was completed in 1995.

The musical *Utah!* was the first performance at the theatre, and ran from 1995-1999. This show included live acting, living animals, pyrotechnics, and even a recreation of a flash flood! In 1999, Tuacahn decided they needed to expand their performances and include something new. This started what was called the "Summer Festival of Theater" and offered performances of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*.

In August 1999, Tuacahn High School for the Arts opened as the first public charter high school in the state. The school focused on a college preparatory curriculum with an extra focus placed on drama, dance, computer technology and music.

Now, in 2021, having produced more than 60 major musical theatre productions, hosted more than 200 concerts, showcased hundreds of professional actors and musicians, educated thousands of students, involved thousands of community volunteers and seated over one million patrons, Tuacahn Amphitheatre celebrates 25 seasons of exceptional musicals!



Visit Tuacahn Online

Tuacahn.org provides visitors with easy access to Tuacahn content. Whether looking for assistance in purchasing tickets through our website, checking our calendar, following us on our social channels, or viewing the latest press release, Tuacahn.org has everything you need to enjoy the Tuacahn experience.



The image shows a screenshot of the Tuacahn website homepage. At the top left is the Tuacahn Amphitheatre logo. At the top right are navigation icons for 'Give', 'Calendar', 'Cart', and a menu icon. The main content area features a large photograph of a desert landscape with red rock formations in the foreground and a valley with a town and mountains in the background. Below the photograph is a dark blue banner with white text that reads: "SEASON PACKAGES ON SALE NOW! SAVE UP TO 25%!".

Follow us on



Important Press Release

For immediate release

December 10, 2021

Media Contact

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Tuacahn is gearing up for 2022 Broadway Season

By Lisa Larson

IVINS, Utah — Although it's still months before the lights go up on the 2022 Tuacahn Broadway season, the teams behind the scenes are already busy with show selection, design concepts and, of course, curating just the right cast.

With audiences already eagerly anticipating the opening of Disney and Cameron Mackintosh's *Mary Poppins*, along with *Wonderland*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and *Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story* this summer, and *Rudolph The Red-Nosed Reindeer: The Musical* in winter, actors and actresses from around the country are equally excited by the possibility of taking their turn on Tuacahn's iconic stages.

"It's a really exciting process," says Zoe Baird, company manager. "Right now we're setting up the dates and cities where the casting tour will go; getting studio space, scheduling an accompanist. It's coming up quickly."

As company manager, Baird has the unique responsibility of being the first face potential cast members see as she greets them on audition day. She is also the last contact they have with Tuacahn at the end of their contract when she sees them off to the airport.

"I'm the person who arranges their travel and accommodations while they're here and I serve as their main point of contact for anything they need," Baird says, then adds with a laugh, "Some of them think I'm Google or Alexa or Siri, or their mom. I play a lot of roles for a lot of people."

Considering everything she does for the cast while they're at Tuacahn, Baird says she enjoys having that connection with them from day one at the auditions.

The casting tour kicks off Jan. 10 and will include auditions in Salt Lake City, Provo, Los Angeles, New York City and St. George.

"We do give ourselves a couple of days off between the bigger cities, but it really feels like we're gone for five or six weeks straight," Baird says.

###

Important Press Release

The audition team includes Scott Anderson, Tuacahn's artistic director, along with Shari Jordan, assistant artistic producer and casting coordinator, as well as the creative teams for each of the season's musicals. Casting actors who can tackle roles across each of the season's productions takes an extra dose of talent, and some creative collaboration among the directors and choreographers.

"It does get a little complicated because all three creative teams have to agree on people," Baird says.

However, one role that has already been decided is that David Archuleta will play the title role in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* through Sept. 3. "This will be a great vehicle for David," Anderson says. "People are going to love it!"

The decision to cast Archuleta in this popular role has been in the works for a while, and is just one piece to the puzzle when it comes to determining which productions to include in the season.

"The final decision always rests with Scott Anderson and the Tuacahn Board of Directors, but we also listen closely to the input of our patrons," Jordan says.

One of the challenges is securing the rights to the shows that patrons are excited to see.

"Sometimes people wonder why we aren't bringing in things like *Wicked* or *Les Miserables* in a certain year. That's where the patron survey results are a little tricky," Jordan says. "We put things on that survey that we are hoping to get the rights to, but if that show is on Broadway or part of a national tour, they're not available."

The process is often multiple years in the making and the decision is based on a myriad of factors.

"We've been pursuing the rights to do *Joseph* for a couple of years," Jordan says. "We also love to present a Disney Theatrical production and we haven't done *Mary Poppins* since 2013. And after seeing the monumental success of *The Count of Monte Cristo* this summer, the chance to produce another Frank Wildhorn piece like *Wonderland* made a lot of sense."

"It's a no-brainer for the Tuacahn audience," says Frank Wildhorn of *Wonderland*. "It's a family show with a lot of great hits. I think it's going to delight audiences. I hope the community will embrace this production as its own."

Inside the Hafen Theatre, audiences can expect *Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story* to live up to the level of talent and energy unleashed during *Million Dollar Quartet*.

"*Buddy Holly* is going to be the perfect fit," Jordan says. "The story is filled with all kinds of interesting details, and you are definitely going to know these songs."

Similar to *MDQ*, the actors will be playing their own instruments live on stage.

"And who doesn't love the delightful holiday classics like 'Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer,' and 'Holly Jolly Christmas?'" Jordan says. "I just can't wait to see it all come together."

Get your 2022 Broadway season packages, on sale now. Log onto www.tuacahn.org or call 435-652-3300 for details.

###

Fact Sheet

Founded: 1991

Completed: 1995

Facilities: 2,174-seat outdoor amphitheatre
428-seat indoor theatre

Address: 1100 Tuacahn Drive
Ivins, UT 84738

Phone Number: (435) 652-3300

Website: <https://www.tuacahn.org/>

Days of Operation: Monday - Saturday

Seasonal: Open year-round

Box Office Hours:

On Season: 9 am – 9 pm

Off Season: 10 am – 4 pm

Saturday: 9 am – 1 pm

Miles From SLC: 310 miles south of Salt Lake City

Miles From Las Vegas: 127 miles north of Las Vegas

Parking: Free self-parking or paid valet parking

Bus Parking / RV Parking

Wheelchair Accessible

Pricing:

Adult Pricing:

Outdoor Amphitheatre starts at: \$32

Indoor Hafen Theatre starts at: \$29

Social Media Stats:

Facebook: 35.4k Page Likes

Instagram: 13.9k Followers

Twitter: 2.2k Followers

2019-2021 total impressions:

Over 26.3 million unique impressions
yearly and rising.



Discounts may be available for children, seniors, military and groups.

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Broadway in the Canyon 2022 Show Dates

Disney & Cameron Mackintosh's

Mary Poppins: May 20 – Oct 22

Wonderland: May 13 - Oct 21

Joseph & The Amazing

Technicolor Dreamcoat: July 16 – Oct 20

Buddy-The Buddy Holly Story: June 24 – Aug 13

Rudolph The Red-Nosed Reindeer: Nov 25 – Dec 22



Interesting Facts

- Largest professional theatre in Utah.
- First large-scale, professional theatre to start producing shows after the COVID-19 Pandemic.
- Second biggest economic driver in Washington County next to Zion National Park.
- Local government officials have acknowledged that Tuacahn brings an estimated economic impact of \$100 Million to Washington County.
- First fully-vaccinated cast and crew in the nation.
- Tuacahn Amphitheatre attracts an annual average of 300,000 guests from all over the world.
- In 2005, *Disney's Beauty and the Beast* was the first Disney musical that Tuacahn received a license to produce.
- Tuacahn builds its own scenery, props, and costumes. Each of the musicals utilizes a full orchestra.
- Over the years, star performers such as Willie Nelson, Martina McBride, Amy Grant, Vince Gill, Colbie Caillat, Air Supply, Foreigner, Odyssey Dance Theatre, Peter Cetera, Sheena Easton, Kenny Loggins, The Piano Guys, Brian Regan, Jay Leno, and REO Speedwagon and many more have performed at Tuacahn.



Nathaniel Hackmann and Crystal Kellogg, 2021 *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*



Emily Grace Tucker, 2019 *Disney's The Little Mermaid*

Noteworthy Press Coverage





Casting Announced for ANNIE and BEAUTY AND THE BEAST at Tuacahn Amphitheatre

Also slated for this season are the musical adaptation of School of Rock and Frank Wildhorn's The Count of Monte Cristo.

by BWW News Desk May 10, 2021





Crystal Kellogg (Broadway's Finding Neverland), **Nathaniel Hackmann** (Broadway's Les Misérables) and **Terra C. MacLeod** (Broadway's Chicago and The Lizzy Maguire Movie) head Tuacahn Amphitheatre's 2021 season. For the 25th anniversary season, Tuacahn is producing their biggest season ever with **Popular Productions** Disney's Beauty and the Beast and Annie. Later in the season, Tuacahn will present School of Rock and a new iteration of **Jack Murphy** and **Frank**

Wildhorn's The Count of Monte Cristo.

To complete the company, Kellogg, Hackmann and MacLeod are joined by: Ashley Agrusa (The Elf on the Shelf: A Christmas Musical), Ellee Anderson, **Blaire Baker** (Beauty and the Beast), **Nichole Beeks**, **Derek Brazeau**, **Richard Bulda**, **Bryan Dobson**, **Todd Dubail** (Jersey boys), **Regan Featherstone**, **Briana Gantsweg** (A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder), Ari Glauser, **Michael Scott** Harris, **Benjamin Howes** (Broadway's Mary Poppins), Evin Johnson (Rudolph), **Randal Keith** (Broadway's Les Misérables), **Mallory King**, Drew Lake, **Victoria Madden**, **Alexandra Melrose** (Les Miserables), Riley Moore, Brayden Morgan, Rachel Perlman (Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat), Elliot Peterson, **Mindy Smoot Robbins** (Les Misérables), **Lindsay Roginski** (Broadway's Chicago), Audrey Biehl Simmons, Brayden Singley, **Phillip Taratula**, **Christopher Tipps**, **Kyle Vaughn** (All Shook Up!), Jadon Webster, **Richard Westfahl**, Scott Whipple and

Industry Awards

In 2002, productions of *Annie Get Your Gun* and *Joseph and the Technicolor Dreamcoat* broke all previous box office records. This occurred again in 2003 when *The Wizard of Oz* broke all box office records at Tuacahn. In 2005, Tuacahn decided to commemorate their tenth season with *Disney's Beauty and the Beast* and a third production of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. These two shows once again beat all previous ticket sales by a dramatic margin.

In 2008, Music Theatre International selected Tuacahn as one of eight regional theaters in the United States to present the first post-Broadway professional productions of *Les Misérables*.

In June 2010, Tuacahn was awarded rights to present the post-Broadway regional-theatre premiere of *Disney's Tarzan*. Due to this success, Disney awarded them the rights for the post-Broadway regional premiere of *The Little Mermaid*.

In 2012, Tuacahn was awarded pre-Broadway production rights to *Disney's Aladdin*.

In 2015, Tuacahn Amphitheatre performed the world premier of *Disney's When You Wish*.

In 2017, three shows broke records at Tuacahn. The venue showcased the regional premiers of *Mamma Mia!*, *Disney's Newsies* and *Fairy Tale Christmas*.

In 2018, Tuacahn performed the world premier of *The Prince of Egypt*.



Cast of *The Prince of Egypt*

Digital Artwork Including Logos



Contact Details

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