A group of citizens organizes the Oswego Players, who perform in junior and senior high schools.

The Company—now known as Lake Oswego Community Theatre—buys the vacant Methodist Church on Greenwood Road and converts it to a 100-seat theatre, where they perform 110 productions, in a facility with very limited rehearsal and storage space.

Lake Oswego Community Theatre becomes Lakewood Theatre Company, to identify more closely with all the programs at Lakewood Center and to reflect the increasing professionalism and quality of the theatre productions.

Lakewood completes a $3 million project to build a new stage house with fly lofts and traps for the theatre, a remodeled 220 seat theatre with no seat further than 35 feet from the stage, and a new hearing-assisted sound system. Theatre programs now enjoy an average 85-90% sellout rate, mostly from subscriptions.

Lake Oswego Community Theatre—buys the vacant Methodist Church on Greenwood Road and converts it to a 100-seat theatre, where they perform 110 productions, in a facility with very limited rehearsal and storage space.

The annual Lake Oswego Festival of the Arts—a joint project of Lakewood, the Chamber of Commerce, and the City of Lake Oswego—brings more than 23,000 to the Center and nearby George Rogers Park for performances, arts and crafts displays, and viewing of more than 1,000 pieces of artwork.

Lakewood Theatre Company—the oldest continually operating non-profit theatre company in the Portland metro area—attracts more than 40,000 annually to its shows.

Artist Training Facility is completed. Lakewood Center for the Arts is building for the future with a new 40’ x 50’ building. The 1:1 ratio replicates the Headlee Mainstage footprint and will serve as a rehearsal hall and learning environment. This new facility is built in a portion of the playground at the north end of the current building. It is connected to Lakewood’s main hall with a raised sidewalk.

Current programs that access the playground will have a redesigned space to accommodate their needs.

See more here!
Our Mission: We Inspire and Nurture a Love of Theatre and the Arts

Lakewood Theatre Company/Lakewood Center for the Arts is a 501(c) (3) non-profit arts institution dedicated to providing arts education, performance and exhibition opportunities to the region. We also do business as Lakewood Gallery, Lake Oswego Festival of the Arts and Lakewood Associates. Our service area covers a 60 mile radius and includes Clackamas, Marion, Multnomah, Washington and Clark Counties in Oregon and Washington.

Statistics & Facts

100,000 people use the facility annually. The mix of organizations and people is very diverse. A sampling includes:

- Lakewood Theatre Company has 40,000 people attending plays annually. It has 2,200 subscribers and a member base of 800 individuals, businesses and organizations.
- The Center provides community access for neighborhood associations, arts organizations, civic groups, and city agencies through its community meeting and theatre space.
- The Lakewood Center Associates, a support auxiliary of 160 members, has provided more than $1,000,000 in program and operation support.
- The Center provides scholarships to performing artists to continue higher education.
- $1,800,000 annual operating budget for all combined divisions. The Center has never run a deficit. There is no long-term debt. 70% of income comes from events and programs and 30% comes from contributions, businesses, foundations and civic organizations.
- The Center provides complimentary admissions to theatre productions to more than 100 organizations annually throughout the Portland-Vancouver area.
- The Center sponsors a guest artist program to attract nationally known artists to provide mentoring and coaching to aspiring artists. A sampling includes: Arthur Duncan (dance), David Chow (pianist), and Alan Shearman (film and television).
- The Center provides a home for regional groups and events. A sampling includes: Columbia Stitchery Guild, Lake Area Artists, LOCAL 14, KinderMusik Pre-school music program, and the Community Arts Pre-School.

A Sampling of Art Activities at Lakewood

- Lakewood Theatre Company productions
- Festival of the Arts
- Acting classes
- Ballet and modern dance classes
- Juring for LOCAL 14 art shows
- Wedding receptions
- Watercolor classes
- Lakewood Associates/ReRuns
- Writing workshops
- Lake Oswego Rotary Lobster Feed
- Young Performers Workshop
- Children’s art classes
- Guest art exhibitions
- Community Arts Pre-School
- Piano lessons
- Weekly Rotary luncheons
- Tap and jazz classes
- Lakewood Center Associates luncheons
- League of Women Voters meetings
- Financial seminars
- Chamber of Commerce Leadership seminars
- Animation & film classes
- Social dance
- Cartooning classes
- Lakewood Jr. Theatre Company
- Drawing and design classes
- Columbia Stitchery Guild meetings
- Kindermusik classes
- Soccer Club meetings
- Japanese flower arranging classes
- Gardening seminars
- Handweaver’s Guild showcase
- Kumon Math tutoring classes
- Neighborhood Association meetings
- Calligraphy workshops
- Photography seminars
- Nutrition and diet awareness classes
- Corporate sales meetings
- Aerobic Dance classes
- Dance Movement therapy class
- Interior Design classes
- Colored pencil classes
- Scrabble Club meetings
- Yoga classes
- Public information seminars
- Landscape design classes
- Lake Area Artists annual showcase
- Gallery exhibition of local artists