



Community Theatre Shuts Down Amid Funding Woes

Description

Catch a Star Theatrical Players (CAST) has closed down after 15 years. This community theatre was in Beaumont. It brought live shows to the Pass Area.

Manager Richard Meinhold shared the news last month. He said the theatre closed on December 31. Rising costs and fewer people attending shows caused the closure. Meinhold said they tried to keep going but could not.

CAST started in 2010. Meinhold and three others created it. Their first show was about Mark Twain. Meinhold acted in this show, which celebrated Twain's birthday and his famous book "Huckleberry Finn."

Meinhold worked in community theatre for over 30 years. He handled many tasks, like acting, directing, and planning. Over the years, CAST produced 35 shows and won 48 awards.

In 2020, their usual venue closed for COVID testing. They found a new place at a church for some shows. Sadly, problems with their main venue and low ticket sales hurt the theatre. The last show was in November 2024. Meinhold hopes for a performing arts centre in the future.

Vocabulary List:

1. **Theatrical** /θi'ætrɪkəl/ (adjective): Relating to the theatre or performances.
2. **Community** /kə'mjʊnɪti/ (noun): A group of people living in the same place or having a particular characteristic in common.
3. **Closure** /'kloʊʒər/ (noun): The act of closing something such as a business or service.
4. **Produced** /prə'duːst/ (verb): Created or brought into existence especially in the context of a performance.
5. **Venue** /'venjuː/ (noun): The place where an event or performance takes place.
6. **Performing** /pər'fɔːmɪŋ/ (adjective): Relating to performances especially in the context of the arts.

Comprehension Questions

Multiple Choice

1. In what year did Catch a Star Theatrical Players (CAST) close down?



- Option: 2019
- Option: 2020
- Option: 2021
- Option: 2022

2. Where was the community theatre CAST located?

- Option: Beaumont
- Option: Los Angeles
- Option: San Francisco
- Option: New York City

3. How many shows did CAST produce over the years?

- Option: 25
- Option: 35
- Option: 45
- Option: 55

4. Who created CAST along with Richard Meinhold?

- Option: Two others
- Option: Three others
- Option: Four others
- Option: Five others

5. What was the theme of CAST's first show?

- Option: Shakespearean play
- Option: Mystery thriller
- Option: Biography of Mark Twain
- Option: Musical extravaganza

6. When was the last show performed by CAST?

- Option: October 2023
- Option: November 2024
- Option: December 2025
- Option: January 2026

True-False

7. Rising costs and declining audience attendance led to the closure of CAST.



8. Richard Meinhold has been working in community theatre for over 40 years.
9. COVID-19 forced CAST to close its doors in 2020.
10. CAST won a total of 50 awards during its 15 years of operation.
11. CAST's main venue faced issues related to COVID testing in 2020.
12. Richard Meinhold is optimistic about the possibility of a performing arts centre in the future.

Gap-Fill

13. CAST started in _____.
14. Meinhold worked in community theatre for over _____ years.
15. The last show performed by CAST was in _____.
17. Meinhold hopes for a performing arts centre in the _____.
18. CAST found a new place at a _____ for some shows when their usual venue closed in 2020.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. 2021 2. Beaumont 3. 35 4. Three others 5. Biography of Mark Twain 6. November 2024

True-False: 7. True 8. False 9. False 10. False 11. True 12. True

Gap-Fill: 13. 2010 14. 30 15. November 2024 17. future 18. church

Vocabulary quizzes

Multiple Choice (Select the Correct answer for each question.)

1. What aspect of a play or movie involves the actors portraying their roles?
Option: Challenging
Option: Exciting



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- Option: Suspense
Option: Characters
2. Which element of a story keeps the audience on edge wanting to know what happens next?
Option: Memorable
Option: Suspense
Option: Drama
Option: Closure
3. What genre typically involves conflicts emotions and intense storytelling?
Option: Awards
Option: Drama
Option: Exciting
Option: Produced
4. What word can describe an engaging and thrilling performance or storyline?
Option: Theatrical
Option: Community
Option: Available
Option: Exciting
5. Who are the personalities that drive the events in a narrative?
Option: Boost
Option: Characters
Option: Opportunities
Option: Performing
6. What recognitions are given to outstanding performances or productions?
Option: Tourists
Option: Vertical
Option: Awards
Option: Micro-drama
7. What can arise from participating in auditions or being part of a production team?
Option: Filmmakers
Option: Opportunities
Option: Creators
Option: Storytelling
8. What term is used to describe the creation and realization of a play or film?
Option: Challenging
Option: Produced
Option: Venue



Option: Performing

9. What process involves individuals demonstrating their acting skills for a role?

Option: Venue

Option: Exciting

Option: Auditions

Option: Boost

10. What art form involves conveying narratives through various mediums?

Option: Economy

Option: Storytelling

Option: Tourists

Option: Nominations

Gap-Fill (Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

11. Local theaters play a vital role in bringing the _____ together through shared cultural experiences.

12. The final act of a play provides a sense of _____ to the audience by resolving the storylines.

13. The choice of _____ can greatly impact the atmosphere and success of a production.

14. Short and intense performances known as _____ are gaining popularity among modern audiences.

15. Participating in local productions can help _____ the economy by attracting tourists and visitors.

16. The talented actress was _____ for her outstanding performance in the leading role.

17. The upcoming theater season promises a lineup of _____ new plays and musicals.

18. Actors and musicians thrive on the energy of a live audience when _____ on stage.

19. Cultural events and performances are attractive to _____ looking for unique



experiences.

20. Winning prestigious _____ can elevate the status of actors and directors in the industry.

Matching Sentences (Match each definition to the correct word from the vocabulary list.)

21. The innovative set design featured a tall imposing structure on stage.
22. The experimental play incorporated elaborate costumes and dramatic lighting effects.
23. The visionary directors and writers are the of compelling stories and scripts.
24. The high-energy opening number set the tone for an performance.
25. Tickets for the popular show were not due to sold-out performances.
26. Portraying a complex character with conflicting emotions was a role for the actor.
27. The emotional final scene left a impression on the audience.
28. The intense conflict and emotional tension captured the essence of the classic genre.
29. The prestigious award ceremony announced the list of for outstanding performances.
30. The skilled worked tirelessly behind the scenes to bring the play to life.

Answer

Multiple Choice: 1. Performance 2. Suspense 3. Drama 4. Exciting 5. Characters 6. Awards 7. Opportunities 8. Produced 9. Auditions 10. Storytelling

Gap-Fill: 11. Community 12. Closure 13. Venue 14. Micro-drama 15. Boost 16. Nominated 17. Exciting 18. Performing 19. Tourists 20. Awards

Matching sentence: 1. Vertical 2. Theatrical 3. Creators 4. Exciting 5. Available 6. Challenging 7. Memorable 8. Drama 9. Nominations 10. Producers

CATEGORY

1. Entertainment - LEVEL1

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Date Created

2026/01/22

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