

ECPA PRESS BACKGROUND

ECPA stands for Elmhurst Center for Performing Arts

ECPA began as a grass-roots initiative among Elmhurst residents with varied interests/experience in theater, music, dance, and comedy. The organization registered as a not-for-profit 501(c)3 in April 2016.

ECPA Mission Statement: ECPA, a not-for-profit organization, provides a home where artists and patrons share their love of the performing arts.

ECPA backed by experience and expertise, represented on its Board by:

- Jeff Budgell is Chairman of the Board and Principal Architect and Managing Member at Architects' Studio, based in Elmhurst. He serves as Board President of Elmhurst City Centre
- Laura Michaud is Board Treasurer and co-founder of Stage 773, a large vibrant performance complex in the Belmont Theatre District of Chicago. She is an Elmhurst business owner.
- Doug Peterson is an Elmhurst based business owner and entrepreneur, whose companies include Chicago Records Management, Inc. and Tailgate.
- Rebecca Marianetti is Choral Director and Theatre Director at York Community High School. An award-winning educator, she also serves on the board of *Spirito!*

Steering committee expertise includes professionals in the following industries: Performing Arts Management; Marketing/Communications; Publishing; Architecture/Engineering; Education

ECPA vision for Performing Arts building:

- 400-seat auditorium theatre, with additional 100 in flex-seating
- 100-seat blackbox (with movable seating and modular staging blocks)
- Versatile state-of-the-art acoustics plus expert sound and lighting technology
- Two large studios (dance/multi-purpose) plus 8-12 small coaching studios able to convert into a recording suite
- Vibrant "storefront" lobby space with café and bar, plus casual seating that can be cleared for impromptu lobby performances
- "Green" rooftop space with small stage and café-style seating
- ECPA Training Centre: a menu coachings, workshops, and masterclasses by industry professionals, designed to complement (not compete with) existing services in Elmhurst
- Box office, catering kitchen for special events, office and meeting space

On behalf of ECPA, the Arts & Business Counsel of Chicago (AB&C) is conducting a feasibility and financial impact study to determine the long-term viability of the initiative and projected revenues ECPA will bring to Elmhurst.

For more information, visit www.ecpa-elmhurst.org or contact ecpaelmhurst@gmail.com. Board members are available for press interviews.