

Dear Belcourt Friends,

It's been a singular and special year here at the Belcourt. For the first half of 2016, our 91-year-old building was a construction site — and for the second half, audiences have streamed through our doors, telling us how happy they are that “we’re back” or delighted they’ve discovered the Belcourt for the first time. The *Nashville Scene*'s Patrick Rodgers put it beautifully:

*“It bodes very well for a growing Nashville that we didn’t send the Belcourt to the civic boneyard. We saved it — first the institution, then the building. We, a town that prides itself on being full of artists, recognized the Belcourt’s importance as a temple to the arts. We bought our tickets, coming early for the critical darlings and staying late for the guilty-pleasure monster flicks. We shored it up together, this gleaming, beautiful shrine to independent cinema, and we made it accessible to all.”*

Yes, this community’s support — your support — is why we’re still here (and better than ever).

As we share some of the year’s high points, we hope you’ll consider an annual gift to the Belcourt.

- A groundswell of generosity to the Belcourt Campaign has resulted in \$4,350,000 in gifts and pledges to date toward our \$5 million goal for the building's renovation and preservation.
- Even while renovation was underway, we held multiple events with community partners around Nashville — including sold-out screenings at Vanderbilt’s Dyer Observatory.
- On July 22, 2016, the Belcourt Theatre reopened its doors with major improvements in accessibility including an on-grade entrance, new hearing loop technology, elevator access to new second floor public spaces — and larger and fully-accessible restrooms on both floors.
- 31,000 film tickets were sold in just the first two months after reopening.
- Memberships are up 15% (including 450+ first-time members).

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- Already, three of our film openings have topped national box office charts (CAPTAIN FANTASTIC, THE BEATLES: EIGHT DAYS A WEEK, EAT THAT QUESTION).
- The theatre reopened with a strong slate of programming that included notable new releases and Belcourt-curated series such as *Politics in B&W*, *Music City Mondays* and *De Palma*.
- Taking full advantage of our space, the Belcourt's education and engagement programs are thriving at record levels. We've organized *Strong Leads: A Film Seminar for High School Girls* and have an ongoing High School Film Club. Other film seminars draw audiences to explore particular genres and directors. And film introductions and post-screening discussions are regular features of the movie-going experience at the Belcourt.

These accomplishments (and many more) are made possible by the annual giving that makes up an essential component of the Belcourt's yearly budget, directly advancing our mission — to engage, enrich and educate through innovative film programming in our historic theatre, our community and beyond.

Please consider making a year-end gift to the Belcourt, and know that whatever amount you give, it will be used thoughtfully and carefully to bring another year of successes to growing audiences at Nashville's nonprofit film center.

We're most grateful, and look forward to seeing you at the movies.

Best wishes,



Stephanie Silverman  
*Executive Director*



Nan Flynn  
*Board Chairman*