



WHAT IS THE TOWSLEY SOCIETY?

THE TOWSLEY SOCIETY is the Michigan Theater Foundation's giving society. It was named to honor the memory of Margaret Dow Towsley, whose philanthropic vision and generosity were instrumental in saving the Michigan Theater in 1979.

The Michigan Theater, designed by Maurice Finkel, opened on January 5, 1928 with a fully functioning stage, orchestra pit, and elaborate organ, as well as the capability to project film. It was managed by Butterfield Theaters for 50 years, went through a change in décor in 1956 and then was threatened with demolition in 1979. Led by an impassioned group of organists, the community rallied around Mrs. Towsley to preserve the theater. After two capital campaigns, a full restoration of the theater was completed in 2003, and the Michigan was returned to its original splendor.

In 2014, the Michigan Theater Foundation purchased the aging State Theatre, designed by C. Howard Crane. After extensive renovations, the State reopened in December of 2017. Community donations of over \$9 million funded the renovation of the State Theatre and provided needed updates to the Michigan.

To say thank you to a very special woman who inspired generations with her spirit of community philanthropy, you will see the words "Remember Margaret D. Towsley" over the doors to the Grand Foyer in the Michigan Theater and the Mezzanine Lounge of the State.

Together, the Michigan & State Theaters are proud to serve as the community gathering places of downtown Ann Arbor, bringing nearly 400,000 guests to movies, plays, concerts, talks, meetings, parties, weddings, and other events each year.



OUR MISSION STATEMENT

To bring diverse people together to enhance understanding and build community, advance cinema and performing arts vitality, and protect our historic buildings.

For more information about the Towsley Society, please visit www.michtheater.org/towsley

Help

Preserve

our

**Community
Treasure**



MICHIGAN THEATER

HOW DO TOWSLEY SOCIETY MEMBERS HELP THE THEATER?

THE MICHIGAN THEATER FOUNDATION is a non-profit organization that relies on the generous and long-standing support of the community. Ticket sales and rentals make up only 65% of our annual budget. The other 35% must be generated through donations.

Membership in the Towsley Society is open to the public and recognizes all individuals that have made gifts of \$5,000 or more to the Theaters. Towsley Society members become part of the vital "inner circle" of current support by providing unrestricted funds for the day-to-day care, programming and operations at the Michigan and State Theaters.

Being a member of the Towsley Society helps the Michigan and State Theaters in many ways by:

- Enabling us to obtain the best independent, foreign and documentary films
- Supporting programs like our Not Just For Kids Series, which features high quality professional family theater, and film camp scholarships
- Providing necessary funds to utilize the historic Barton Organ for daily live performances
- Absorbing the tens of thousands of dollars spent on heating and cooling the theaters every day of the year

HOW DO I JOIN?

The most common way to join the Towsley Society is by pledging \$1,000 or more per year over five years. In the fall, the Michigan Theater hosts an annual Towsley Society event on the stage to showcase our mission and goals, and provide opportunities for community involvement. Towsley Society members help make this event a success by inviting guests to attend with them. To learn more about how you can be involved, please contact us at 734-668-8397 ext. 22.



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734-668-8397 • michtheater.org

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP?

TOWSLEY SOCIETY

**FOR A 5 YEAR PLEDGE OF \$5,000
(\$1,000 PER YEAR OR \$83 PER MONTH)**

Members receive the following recognition:

- Recognition on the Towsley Society members plaque in the Michigan Theater foyer
- Your choice of a complimentary Premium Membership for the length of your pledge or Gold Card Membership at half the standard price
- Invitations to our exclusive Insiders Series events and to other special events
- Access to our Towsley Society Ticket Service, which allows you to call the theater directly to purchase tickets to our live events and special engagements

BRONZE CIRCLE

**FOR A 5 YEAR PLEDGE OF \$10,000
(\$2,000 PER YEAR OR \$166 PER MONTH)**

Includes all the benefits above as well as:

- Complimentary Gold Card Membership for the length of your five-year pledge. For more information about Gold Card Membership visit michtheater.org/members
- Donors can purchase priority seating for most live events and special engagements at the Michigan Theater

SILVER CIRCLE

**FOR A 5 YEAR PLEDGE OF \$25,000
(\$5,000 PER YEAR OR \$416 PER MONTH)**

Includes all the benefits above as well as:

- Discounted membership in the Backstage Club, which provides a high-touch luxury concert-going experience for devotees of American roots music
- Gifts at these levels are major gifts. If you are considering a generous gift of this nature, please contact our Chief Development Officer, Lee Berry at (734) 668-8397 x22, for more information on how best to recognize your contribution
- Donors can enjoy our Concierge Ticket Service. Utilizing our contacts in the entertainment industry, we can purchase tickets for events at most of the venues across southeast Michigan



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