A word from the President ...

Richard Bird

This marks the end of another fabulous season for Hancher. But also it marks some new beginnings.

First, let’s take a brief look at what this past season offered. I mentioned in the earlier newsletter how excited I was about the “club Hancher” events at the Mill.

They did not disappoint. Miguel Zenón, whom I had never heard of before was remarkable. He had a unique style of playing that just had that right balance. Something that’s rather hard to describe in words, but when you hear it you know it.

On top of that his back up

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2012-2013 Hancher Guild President Richard Bird

This marks the end of another fabulous season for Hancher. But also it marks some new beginnings.

Now looking forward, the new beginnings! We can see progress starting for the new Hancher, and while it’s still a long way from completion it will be exciting to follow the progress.

I’m sure Chuck Swanson will be keeping us informed. I’m thrilled about the new venue as it will be a real treasure for the entire Midwest with state of the art acoustics and visual appeal. And we will get to enjoy it for many years to come.

I also want to ask you to save a date. It’s been a while since we’ve gotten the Hancher Guild together, and we would like to do this the evening of September 5th. More details will follow and I will look forward to seeing you then.

SAVE this date - Sept. 5

All Guild members are invited to attend a special

GUILD MEETING

When: Thursday, Sept. 5, 2013 6 p.m.

Where: Richard Bird’s home 585 Auburn Hills Drive Coralville, IA 52241
‘we have so much to look forward to, although it will include a lot of hard work ....’

Chuck Swanson,  
Hancher Executive Director

Our 40th anniversary season ended on several high notes. The months of May and June were particularly busy for the Hancher staff. In May, Terrance Simien, the King of Zydeco, and Rinde Eckert opened Hancher 40 years ago. This project was a huge undertaking and required a lot of time and expertise from the Hancher staff, but I am very proud of the collaborative spirit and the way Hancher brought so many forces together.

Hopefully, we will be displaying an exhibit at the Iowa State Fair in August that documents the success of Living With Floods.

We also announced our 2013–14 season which includes some exciting Hancher artists. We will be presenting the blues legend Buddy Guy, comedian superstar Lily Tomlin, Wynton Marsalis and the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra, a performance by Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater in collaboration with Paramount Presents, along with many other great artists.

I’m pleased to say that we are also continuing our special relationship with Working Group Theatre by commissioning a couple of theater pieces. I suggest you order your tickets early because I do believe the season is outstanding and we will have strong sales.

June also included our Hancher Site Ceremony with San Jose Taiko and Rinde Eckert. It was a memorable event that will be a very significant part of the Hancher history.

Both San Jose Taiko and Rinde are special Hancher artists who have been a part of our forty-year history, and they were more than happy to participate in the ceremony. This was a unique celebration that helped kick-off the construction phase of our new Hancher in grand style.

We continue to work closely with the project team and are confident the schedule for the new Hancher still shows a grand opening in the fall of 2016. This will be an exciting time for all of us as we observe the construction of our new Hancher, and anticipate a once-in-a-lifetime experience of opening the building.

We continue to feel very blessed with the project team and have full confidence that Hancher will be one of the finest performing arts centers in the country.

Our work is not complete without the loyalty and support from our Hancher Guild members. I want to thank Richard Bird, Jean Hood, Jane Downer, Jackie Harb, Reiny Jordan, Linda Fincham, Lee Gruenhaupt, Judy Boyd, Marilyn Wirtz, Sandy Lawrence, Dick Johns, Miriam and Art Canter, and all the other Guild members who have supported us in various ways.

We have been through some challenging times but we have so much to look forward to, although it will include a lot of hard work and dedication. We all need to put our heads together and make some plans as we prepare for our move to the new Hancher.

Richard Bird is hosting a meeting at his house on Thursday, September 5, at 6 pm. Please mark your calendars. You will be hearing more about this and hopefully you will be able to join us. Thanks again for your love of Hancher!
June features Living With Floods project, Preservation Hall Jazz Band

San Jose Taiko entertains the crowd gathered on the Hancher lawn on June 29.

Hundreds gathered to hear San Jose Taiko and Rinde Eckert to help kick off the construction phase of the new Hancher.

The Pentacrest audience enjoys the sights and sounds of Preservation Hall Jazz Band on June 15.

Preservation Hall Jazz Band was a perfect way to close Hancher’s 40th anniversary season.

Members assist with performing artists special sales

Linda Fincham, Co-Chair
Fran Gruenhaupt, Co-Chair

Three Hancher events were worked by Hancher Guild members in helping with special sales for the performing artists during the spring semester of the 2012-2013 season.

Following are the volunteers and the performances.

Nancy Ross, Wanda Winkler
eighth blackbird, 2/6

Nancy and Dick Johns and Lee Gruenhaupt
Christopher O’Riley and Matt Haimovitz, 3/28
Linda Fincham, Wanda Winkler
Terrance Simien and The Zydeco Experience, 5/17

We had great cooperation of Guild members signing up for events when the request was sent in early January.

We had most events covered with this method, but with the number of events not needing helpers, a large number of those folks were not needed. We thank you for your willingness to help.

A special thank you to all of the volunteers who assisted with the special sales during 2012-2013.

Two new members join Hancher Guild

Two members joined the Hancher Guild since the January newsletter during the 2012-2013 year.

Newest members are Casie Eischeid and Patty Grabinski.
23 Guild members greet, hand out playbills

*Sandra Lawrence, Chair*  
*Marilyn Wirtz, Assistant Chair*  
*Performance Greeters/Playbills*

Twenty three Hancher Guild members served as greeters and handed out playbills for 15 performances at the various venues during the spring semester. Following are the volunteers and performances.

*Sandy Lawrence, Gary Rose, Pat & Laird Addis*  
eighth blackbird, 2/6

*Gary Rose, Candice Kaelber, Sandy Lawrence, Elizabeth Maher*  
*Dailey & Vincent*, 2/16

*Barbara Haring, Candice Kaelber*  
*Mike Daisey*, 2/21

*Sandy Lawrence, Elizabeth Maher*  
*Mike Daisey*, 2/22

*Gary Rose, Marilyn Krachmer*  
*Mike Daisey*, 2/23

*Priscilla Traman, Nancy Thayer, Kay Seagren, Miriam Canter*  
*India Jazz Suites*, 3/7

*Mel & Diane Sunshine, Pat Podhajsky, Naomi Novick*  
*Christopher O’Riley & Matt Haimovitz*, 3/28

*Anna Stranieri, Stacey Struve, Marvalene Hendrickson, Marilyn Krachmer*  
*Compagnia TPO*, 4/9

*Gary Rose, Marilyn Wirtz, Kitty Buckwalter, Sandy Lawrence*  
*The Broken Chord*, 4/12

*Nancy & Keith Thayer,*  
*Marilyn Krachmer, Candice Kaelber*  
*The Broken Chord*, 4/13

*Mel & Diane Sunshine, Priscilla Traman, Naomi Novick*  
*The Broken Chord*, 4/14

*Miriam Canter, Elizabeth Maher*  
*AXIS Dance Company*, 4/25

*Gary Rose, Marilyn Krachmer*  
*AXIS Dance Company*, 4/26

*Marilyn Wirtz, Sandy Lawrence, Elizabeth Maher, Anna Stranieri, Priscilla Traman, Lynn Sidwell*  
*Preservation Hall Jazz Band*, 6/15

*Sandy Lawrence, Marilyn Wirtz*  
*Hancher Site Ceremony*, 6/29