

Dear Truckee Tahoe Airport Board,

I am writing to you on behalf of myself and my daughter, Lily (age 10). We are both extremely involved in Truckee Community Theater productions, workshops, and classes and would highly recommend that they be awarded the space at the Truckee Tahoe Airport.

In 2005, I moved to Truckee and there was no theatre available. I would have to go to Reno in order to find work as an actor or stage director. As a teacher with a BFA in theatre arts and an MA in English it was also challenging to find a teaching position. TCT has given me all of these opportunities and more.

Our schools unfortunately do not have the ability to provide students with a full-scale performing arts education. Truckee Community Theater provides classes, workshops, private lessons, and more that allow students to learn about and explore the stage.

I joined Truckee Community Theater in 2017 when I directed the adult musical, Young Frankenstein. Shortly after that, I was asked to join the board of directors. I have since directed several productions, but also lead the teen education program that includes an annual main stage musical, spring break acting camp, summer camps, and college prep for those hoping to pursue theatre arts as a college major. Our students have gone on to study theatre arts at NYU, AMDA, UCLA, UCSB, and Long Beach State. We have several seniors going on to study music and performing arts next year at UNR, Cal Poly, and UC Berkeley.

Why is theatre important to our community? Well many studies have been conducted that find students who study dramatic arts do better in school. Here are a couple of wonderful resources for teachers that explain:

<https://79reasonswhykidsneedtostudydramaathighschool.wordpress.com/2012/10/19/home/>  
<https://www.learningliftoff.com/10-reasons-arts-in-education-important-kids/>

Truckee Community Theater's plans for this space would include a fabulous four-year curriculum for high school students to study theatre arts from drama history to stage craft to stage direction and technical theatre. We would continue drama workshops for elementary school and middle school students.

As a parent, it thrills me to know that my daughter can continue her dramatic arts studies right here in our beautiful community with the support she gets from TCT.

This is from my daughter, Lily:

“Truckee Community Theater is my home away from home. I met my best friend when I did Lion King Kids in second grade. I love the stage so much. I am now in my 7th production with TCT and it's my favorite thing in the whole world. I love to sing, act, and dance. I love taking the bus from school to rehearsals. Now most of my friends go with me. I can't wait to do more shows and I love the friends I've made through TCT.” - Lily Haines

Truckee Community Theater changes lives. The lives of our young actors, our adult performers, our singers, our dancers, our technical staff, and of course our patrons are better because TCT is a part of the Truckee community.

We thank you for your consideration and your time,

Warmly,  
Carrie

Carrie Haines

[Carrie@teamhaines1.com](mailto:Carrie@teamhaines1.com)

P: 530-386-5379

Hello,

I am writing to give you my perspective on why the Truckee Airport Hangar should be leased to Truckee Community Theater.

I am a resident of the Tahoe/Truckee area and am an active member of Truckee Community Theater. I grew up in Reno, and attended university in Washington where I received my Bachelor's degree in Theatre. I have been a theatre enthusiast all my life, and have worked in the industry on a professional level in multiple states. That said, I have never encountered a theatre organization that offers the variety, opportunity, education, and level of professionalism that TCT offers.

TCT has a wide variety of entertainment that they offer, from musicals to straight plays to Shakespeare, and they make this variety accessible and affordable to the Truckee community. They have an incredible commitment to education of all ages. This is incredibly important for students, as the theatre is so limited in schools. My coworkers and I are working on building better school drama programs, and so much of what we are able to do is thanks to the exposure that TCT provides to school-age kids.

TCT has offered me opportunities as a worker and educator that I would not have had otherwise. There were a few opportunities for me after school in Washington, but the Truckee area was where my family was - where I called home. Without TCT I would not have been able to work in my field of study fresh out of college.

Truckee Community Theater cannot continue to have an impact on this community without a suitable space. The hangar space would be in constant use, as TCT provides lessons, workshops, rehearsals, productions, and after school-programs just to name a few. TCT is an invaluable part of Truckee's flourishing community, and the hangar space would be invaluable to TCT.

Sincerely,

Michela Munoz-Brown  
[mmunoz17@my.whitworth.edu](mailto:mmunoz17@my.whitworth.edu)

Lauren, I just want to thank you personally for taking the time to speak with Michele Jones and me today about the Truckee Community Theater presentation to your District board next week.

It was so very kind of you to do that and your help was truly appreciated by us both – and it definitely helped with our planning. Understanding the technical and practical issues you highlighted, we will also be sure to *not* dump a presentation last minute!!!

We will of course continue to work with Jill on any other last minute items, but I just wanted to offer my personal thanks for your kindness and interest today. I'll look forward to seeing you next week!

Sincerely,

Peter Morris  
Board Treasurer  
Truckee Community Theater  
415.613.5664

Dear Hardy,

As a parent of a teen who loves performing arts, I am thrilled at the possibility of Truckee Community Theatre (TCT) having a permanent space.

My daughter is not an athlete as her older siblings are. The opportunities in Truckee abound for athletes. The opportunities for performing arts are minimal save TCT who operates without their own space. Not easy for a Theatre company. TCT has given my daughter an outlet that exists no where else in this town. If you could only hear Kate's excitement each time I pick her up from TCT practice, you would understand the positive impact it has on her. Her experience has not been the same with the other pseudo acting classes in town. TCT is the "real deal", a class act.

I am stunned at the quality of TCT's theatre performance. I hope you saw Fiddler on the Roof. "Excellent" does not begin to describe the acting and sets.

My daughter quit all other extracurricular activities after experiencing her first TCT production. She is hooked.

You could not consider a more exemplary team, Carrie Haines and Courtney Simpson and crew, for this space.

Our town is so fortunate to have their caliber.

Thank you for giving TCT serious consideration for leasing the non-profit space at the airport.

With much gratitude!

Tracy Cuneo  
(530) 414-6197

Hello,

If it is not too late, our family would like to lend its support for the potential opportunity of Truckee Community Theatre to expand its programs into the Truckee Tahoe Airport District.

We moved to Truckee last July from the Bay Area. By great fortune, the very first thing we did was put our two children in a two week drama summer camp program at the old Rec Center. I cannot express in words what a difference this made to my 8<sup>th</sup> grade son, and my 9<sup>th</sup> grade daughter. The TCT community became our community immediately and the other children in the camp welcomed our two new kids with open arms. In just two weeks, both of my children made friends –and those friends helped them transition right into their fall semesters at Alder Creek Middle School and Truckee High.

Both children have continued with the TCT drama program and have gone on to participate in true community theatre with children and adults of all ages working together to put on productions that the entire Truckee community can be proud of and enjoy. When we moved here, we told our children it was a family adventure, and if after one year they were really unhappy, we would move back to the Bay Area. Both our children have since “voted” to stay in Truckee. And when we asked them why, my son said it most clearly: “I miss my friends at home, but I feel like I am part of the drama community here and I don’t want to lose that.”

We whole-heartedly support the future of the Truckee Community Theatre. We also believe that any expansion of their programs which allows them to broaden their outreach to additional families will be for the benefit of everyone in Truckee. We think they are a most worthy non-profit organization and they embody characteristics that are important to Truckee; a creative, open-minded, inclusive community willing to make space for everyone, even if you are new.

Thank you for your consideration in this important decision.

Regards,

**Monica Pette & Patrick LaPorte**