



**Williamson-Pultneyville Historical Society**  
4130 Mill Street | PO Box 92  
Pultneyville, NY 14538  
[www.w-ph.org](http://www.w-ph.org)

December 10, 2020

Dear Members, Friends and Neighbors:

To everything there is a season, and the season for the roof at Historic GATES HALL in Pultneyville has come to the end of its life. As entrusted sole stewards of this structure which is the oldest small community theatre in continuous operation in the United States, the Williamson-Pultneyville Historical Society (W-PHS) believes that it is deserving and worthy of our collective preservation and improvement efforts and we hope that you will also.

While our initial intentions were to launch an all inclusive fundraising campaign for the overall revitalization of GATES HALL earlier this year, which was to have included a community appeal and series of planned fundraising events, all plans were paused or cancelled due to COVID-19. Despite knowing that there is never a good time for projects such as this, it is imperative that we now move forward with our fundraising efforts to support the much needed structural remediation between the ceiling/roof and roof replacement. Given the ever-changing consequences of COVID-19, the W-PHS Board of Trustees voted to address only the most critical needs at this time to stabilize the Hall while it is closed for public performances due to the pandemic.

W-PHS has therefore launched a fund raising campaign in the amount of \$115,000 and we invite you to be part of this initiative to preserve the structural and architectural integrity of the Hall for future generations. To date we have received a generous \$15,000 Grant from the Rochester Area Community Foundation and W-PHS has designated funds of \$25,000 from its treasury, leaving a goal of \$75,000 to be raised through private and corporate contributions.

We look forward to your support and consideration for inclusion in your 2020 year-end giving plans. Based on current COVID-19 guidelines, we will refrain from making in-person contacts in the best interest of community and public health, and will rely on written communication with follow-up phone calls and email. To contribute, donors may go to our website at [www.w-phs.org](http://www.w-phs.org) or return the enclosed form.

As you see, we are not incurring additional expenses of a glitzy campaign, but do invite you to ***“Invest in the GATES HALL Legacy.”*** Together, all things are possible and we can take pride in knowing that we shared the responsibility for preserving this prominent landmark which resides on the National Register of Historic Places, just as generations before us have done as a community for nearly two centuries.

Thank You in advance for helping W-PHS preserve this local landmark that has stood the test of time in the center of our hamlet for nearly 200 years. With warm regards from our home to yours, Best Wishes for a Joyous Holiday Season and a New Year filled with peace and good health.

Nanette P. Hance  
W-PHS President

Florence Doyle  
Gates Hall Fundraising Chair

David Frohlich  
Property Committee Chair

*Founded in 1964, the Williamson-Pultneyville Historical Society is an all volunteer 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization chartered by the State of New York Board of Regents and is sole steward of Historic Gates Hall.*