



Ambassador History

The current structure of Starlight Theatre Ambassadors began as The Starlight Theatre Women's Committee.

The Starlight Theatre Women's Committee was founded in 1959 by a group of five women and initially consisted of about 35 members. The Women's Committee was the first organized volunteer effort at Starlight. Membership to this Committee was by invitation only and their purpose was to promote interest and civic participation in Starlight Theatre. The Women's Committee organized the first "Open House at Starlight", an event developed by the Committee to give the people of Kansas City the opportunity to see the facility. Through guided tours the public was offered a rare glimpse behind the curtain as preparations for the first productions of the season were underway. This became an annual event hosted by the Women's Committee which continued for many years. In addition, the group was also responsible for hosting cast parties in their homes, selling Season Tickets through a branch ticket office at Ward Parkway Shopping center, manning information booths at the various events and assisting in the Starlight Administrative Offices.

In 1980, as the internal administration of Starlight began to change, the list of activities involving the volunteer support of The Women's Committee grew to include assisting with Auditions, Season Renewal Telemarketing Efforts, Fundraising Efforts, and various other Special Events throughout the City, all promoting Starlight Theatre as an incredible entertainment destination in Kansas City. By 1984 the membership had grown to over 50 members. The Women's Committee even sponsored a Backstage Auction and Garage Sale. The sale featuring Kansas City Celebrity auctioneers included Theatre memorabilia, theatrical equipment, celebrity items, costumes and much more with proceeds going toward backstage production improvements.

By 1992, volunteer activity opportunities for the Committee continued growing to include an expanded tour schedule involving several Day Tours each week and a Backstage Tour every performance night of a show, Mall Promotions and Broadway Ushering. With enthusiasm growing for Starlight and more people wanting to get involved, The Women's Committee was reorganized in 1993. Major changes included men in the membership as well as foregoing the "invitation only" process and creating a new volunteer organization called Starlight Theatre Ambassadors. Since that time, the Ambassadors have remained a vital part of the success of Starlight Theatre. While activities and membership may have changed in the past 50 years, the original idea of Ms. Margaret Caw remains the same...to promote interest and civic participation in Starlight Theatre.