



## 2009 Grant Recipients

The Saints have awarded \$40,000 in grant money to the following companies.



The **Ars Viva Symphony Orchestra**, performing at The North Shore Center for the Performing Arts in Skokie was given a grant to purchase much needed hi-tech storage containers for their scores and documents.



**The Artistic Home Ensemble and Acting Studio**, moved into their new home with two performance spaces, at 3914 N. Clark, previously occupied by the Live Bait Theatre, impressed the Saints with their talent and determination and will be provided with funds for a new computer and ticketing system.



**The Bohemian Theatre Ensemble**, seen in their own space and at The Theatre Building on Belmont Ave, will now be able to purchase a new computer with specialized software to more effectively run their programs.



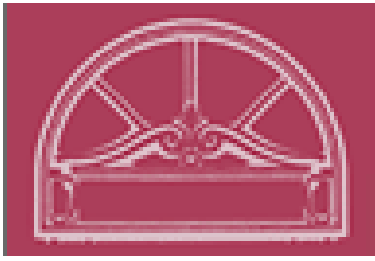
**The Circle Theatre** of Forest Park filling their small stage with loads of talent has an archaic ticketing and patron outreach system. The Saints grant will give them the necessary dollars to put in a new system and also redesign their website.



The spectacular **Ensemble Espanol Spanish Dance Theater**, in residence at Northern Illinois University, has brought Spanish Dance to Chicago in grand fashion. Their founder, Dame Libby Komaiko, was given her title by Spain's King Juan Carlos in 1982 and she continues to keep the fire burning under this dance company. The grant from the Saints will underwrite production cost in bringing the International Spanish Dance Festival to Chicago.



**First Folio Theatre** performs at Mayslake Hall at the Peabody Estate in Oakbrook. They have done quite well with "make do" equipment. Money from the Saints will permit them to purchase an updated lighting system to enhance their well reviewed performances.



Lake Forest's **Gorton Community Center** produces some of the finest Jazz programs to be heard in the Chicago area. They round out their year with children's shows and provide space for the Citadel Theatre and North Suburban Symphony Orchestra. A new sound system will greatly enhance their productions and this grant from the Saints will be used for that purpose.



**The Infusion Theatre Company** can be seen in performances at the Chopin, Royal George and Storefront Theatres. They are dedicated to finding new works, especially from new writers. The Saints grant will enable Infusion to host their "New Playwright Development Workshop" which is certain to uncover some great yet-to-be-discovered talent.



**The Light Opera Works**, performs at two venues in Evanston to the delight of their very loyal and appreciative patrons. They present delightful operettas and Broadway musicals with a less than adequate sound system. With funds from the Saints, they will be able to install equipment that will show off their talent as it should be heard.



**The Polarity Ensemble Theatre**, based in Evanston, after performing in a variety of small spaces throughout the area, they now have a home at the Josephinum Academy, 1500 N Bell in Chicago. The Saints grant will assist them in bringing their performance space up to their standards with a new computer and software to control the stage lighting.



**A Red Orchid Theatre**, performing at 1531 N. Wells will use their grant to produce "Pumpgirl," a new work by the exciting Irish playwright, Abbie Spallen. A number of awards and outstanding reviews have given the Saints great confidence in this theatrical company.



A long standing fixture at Victory Gardens and now the Greenhouse Theatre, The **Remy Bumppo Theatre Company** has been showered with awards and great reviews. The Saints grant will purchase new video and sound equipment to enhance their performance ability.



The **Side Project**, performing in its own space in Rogers Park has been around for 8 years. They are most professional and wish to introduce new playwrights to Chicago audiences. It is for this reason that the Saints are backing their free monthly reading program called "***Harvest***" which will give promising new writers a voice.



Established for more than 22 years, the **Strawdog Theatre Company** in their upstairs home on north Broadway, lives up to its motto: "The Whole World in a Little Black Box." Their current need is for a better lighting system for their theatre and the Saints grant will enable them to get it.



Performing at the Athenaeum and at the Ruth Page Center, **Thodos Dance Chicago** is as passionate of its programming as it is about its dedication to dance. The Saints are going to give them funds to help them create and present a tribute to famed Chicago dancer and choreographer **Bob Fosse**. Nicole Fosse, daughter of Bob Fosse and Gwen Verdon is giving them the permission and direction to recreate her father's works.

William Fireside  
Chairman  
Grants Committee of the Saints  
847 831 3439  
grantsbysaints@ameritech.net  
[www.saintschicago.org](http://www.saintschicago.org)