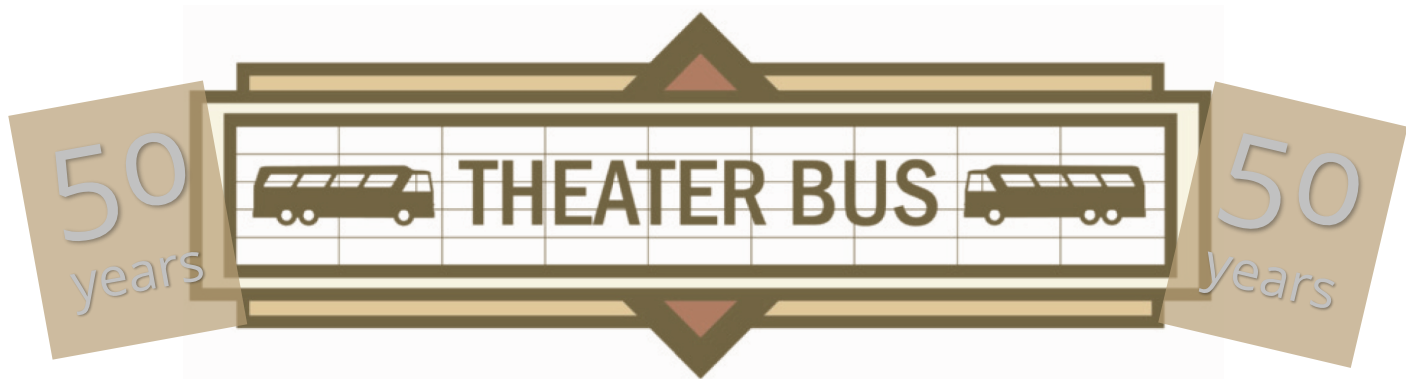




NOVEMBER—DECEMBER 2025

Theater Bus, Inc. is a nonprofit organization committed to enriching the quality of life for all adults over 55 by providing safe, affordable, volunteer led outings to theatrical, cultural and social events.



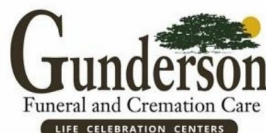
As we continue to celebrate 50 wonderful years of connecting Madison's older adults to the magic of live performance and the joy of meeting new people, we are thrilled to announce a festive lineup for Theater Bus this holiday season. There are some old standbys and some new surprises. The biggest surprise of all is...

We are MOVING !

See page 6 for all the details.

Please Note: You may see higher trip prices as we move into 2026. Bus prices (including gas), food (including tips) and show prices are all going up. Theater Bus continues to work to offer affordable trips, however, we also must cover our costs.
Thank you for understanding.

A very SPECIAL Thank you to the
Pleasant T Rowland Foundation
for their continued support.



Madison/East - Stoughton - Oregon
Fitchburg - Middleton - Mt. Horeb
Black Earth - Cross Plains and Lodi

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Heather Holy
Advance Planning Specialist
608-206-5588
hholy@gundersonfh.com

35. Butterfly Club

Date: Tuesday, Nov. 4th, 2025

Price: \$95 or \$105 (Prime Rib)

Place: Butterfly Club, Beloit

Time: Lunch: 12:30

9:00am — (West) Theater Bus
 9:30am — (Monona) South Towne Mall
 9:45am- (East) Marshall's

We have started something new. The Restaurant club! Let's just go to lunch (no show) and enjoy a great meal and good company!

Dining at The Butterfly Club is like stepping into a timeless supper club dream, where retro charm meets Midwestern hospitality. Nestled just outside Janesville in Beloit, this fine dining gem has been delighting guests since 1924 with its warm ambiance, classic cocktails, and hearty fare.

Meal Choices are Prime Rib (\$10 extra), Broiled Cod or Chicken Monterey. All served with Salad and Rolls and coffee service.

Dessert Choices are Pecan Pie, Chocolate Cake or Carrott Cake.

36. It's A Wonderful Life, Live Radio Play

Date: Saturday, November 15th, 2025

Price: \$159

Place: Milwaukee Rep Theater, Stackner Cabaret

Game Time: Lunch/Show 11:30/2:00

9:00am — (West) Theater Bus
 9:30am — (Monona) South Towne Mall
 9:45am- (East) Marshall's
 10:15—Johnson Creek Park N Ride

Approx. return to Madison 6:00pm

Experience the magic of Christmas like never before! This uplifting holiday classic comes to life as a high-energy radio play, blending 1940s retro charm with hilarious theatrical hijinks, as five multi-talented actors portray dozens of characters with vintage sound effects, favorite songs and lovable Christmas spirit, right in front of your eyes (and ears). **A mix of humor, heart and hope, this enchanting show has captivated audiences across the country and delivers a nostalgic treat that's gift wrapped for you and your loved ones of all ages.**

We are eating at the Theater before the show. We will be having the Stackner Lunch served with Salad and French fries and non alcoholic drinks along with dessert. Choices are the Stackner Burger, Chicken Salad Sandwich, Powerhouse BLT or the Wells Street Sandwich (vegetarian).

35. Restaurant Club—Butterfly Club

Date: Tuesday, Nov. 4th, 2025

Price: \$95 or \$105

Deadline: October 20th

Check: # _____

Additional Contribution: \$ _____

Amount encl \$ _____ for _____ # people

1. Name/address**2. Home Phone:** _____**Cell Phone:** _____**Email:** _____**3. Pick-up Location:**

___ West—Theater Bus (559 D'Onofrio Dr)

___ Monona—South Towne Mall (near Floor and Décor)

___ East—Marshall's, 2117 Zeier Rd.

4. I wish to sit with: _____**5. Emergency Contact/number** _____**6. Circle one per person: Prime Rib (\$10 extra)****Chicken Monterey Cod****Circle one: Pecan Pie Choc Cake Carrot Cake****36. It's a Wonderful Life**

Date: Sat. Nov 15, 2025

Price: \$159

Deadline: October 20th, 2025

Check: # _____

Additional Contribution: \$ _____

Amount encl \$ _____ for _____ # people

1. Name/address**2. Home Phone:** _____**Cell Phone:** _____**Email:** _____**3. Pick-up Location:**

___ West—Theater Bus (559 D'Onofrio Dr)

___ Monona—South Towne Mall (near Floor N Décor end)

___ East—Marshall's, 2117 Zeier Rd.

___ Johnson Creek Park N Ride

4. I wish to sit with: _____**5. Emergency Contact Name & Phone Number:**

6. Circle one per person: Chicken Salad Sand
 Wells Street Burger BLT

37. Restaurant Club

Date: Thursday, Dec 4th, 2025

Price: \$120

Place: Chalet Landhaus, New Glarus and Bailey's Run Winery/Distillery

Time lunch/tour: 12:30/2:30pm

11:00am — (East) Marshall's

11:30am — (Monona) South Towne Mall

11:45am — (West) Theater Bus

Return approx. 5:00pm

Restaurant club is just that! No show just a delicious meal and a little something extra. For this trip, enjoy some Holiday Cheer, good food and great company while we enjoy eating a delicious lunch at Chalet Landhaus. During lunch, we will enjoy Swiss entertainment and beer tasting from New Glarus Beer. From there, we will go on to the new Winery/Distillery - Bailey's Run for a private tour and tasting. All included in the price (as well as tips) Any purchases are at your own expense. ONLY 35 seats available!

Meal choices are: Weinerschnitzel or Beef Tenderloin. Also a Vegetarian chef's option is also available. All meals include house salad, fresh vegetables, Roseti, Spatzli, dinner rolls, dessert and coffee service.

38. Clausen Family Christmas at the Heidel House

Date: Saturday, Dec 13th 2025

Price: \$157

Place: Heidel House, Green Lake, WI

Lunch/Show: Noon-3:00 pm

9:15am — (West) Theater Bus

9:45am — (Monona) South Towne Mall

10:30am — (East) Marshall's

Approx. return to Madison 6:30pm

Indulge in an elegant plated dinner at the stunning Heidel House Hotel & Conference Center, set against the picturesque backdrop of Green Lake. Following dinner, delight in a spectacular Christmas show featuring beloved holiday classics.

Menu choices are Beef Stroganoff, Served with butter-whipped potatoes and roasted broccoli. Deconstructed Chicken Cordon Bleu, Served with butter-whipped potatoes and roasted broccoli, Roasted Mushroom Ravioli Tossed in brown butter sage sauce, accompanied by roasted broccoli

Each entrée includes fresh baked rolls, a fresh side salad and a decadent dessert. Non alcoholic beverages and tips included in the price.

37. Restaurant Club

Date: Thursday, December 4th, 2025 Price: \$120

Deadline: Nov. 15th, 2025

Check: # _____

Additional Contribution: \$ _____

Amount encl \$ _____ for _____ # people

1. Name/address**2. Home Phone:** _____**Cell Phone:** _____**Email:** _____**3. Pick-up Location:**

___ East-Marshall's (2117 Zeier Rd)

___ Monona—South Towne Mall (near Floor N Décor end)

___ West—Theater Bus (559 D'Onofrio Dr)

4. I wish to sit with: _____**5. Emergency Contact Name & Phone****Number:** _____**6. Circle one per person: Weinerschnitzel****Beef Tenderloin Vegetarian Chef's choice****38. Clausen Family Christmas**

Date: Sat., Dec 13th, 2025 Price: \$157

Deadline: Nov. 20th, 2025

Check: # _____

Additional Contribution: \$ _____

Amount encl \$ _____ for _____ # people

1. Name/address**2. Home Phone:** _____**Cell Phone:** _____**Email:** _____**3. Pick-up Location:**

___ West—Theater Bus (559 D'Onofrio Dr)

___ Monona—South Towne Mall (near Floor N Décor end)

___ East—Marshall's, 2117 Zeier Rd.

4. I wish to sit with: _____**5. Emergency Contact Name & Phone****Number:** _____**6. Circle one per person: Beef Stroganoff****Chicken Cordon Bleu Ravioli (Veg)**

November 2025

Dear Friends of Theater Bus,

2025 was a fabulous year for Theater Bus! We will have completed 37 trips. Those trips included a few new adventures for us, including a trip to the Field of Dreams, a Quilting Store Tour, and another trip to see the Milwaukee Brewers. We were blessed with awesome donors who helped us celebrate 50 years in a BIG way with fun prizes and free trip giveaways. We asked for 50 of you to become superstars and donate an extra \$100 and you heard that call! Your extra donations helped us do some badly needed upgrades to our tech systems.

Now it is time for our annual fundraiser and we are once again, asking you to partner with us as we work to keep our trips at a minimum charge when all our costs seem to be increasing. Your contribution is much appreciated and helps us live out our mission of enriching the quality of life for all adults over 55 in the Dane County area by providing safe, affordable, escorted outings to theatrical and cultural events.

Please join us in our continued 50 year tradition of providing affordable trips to the best community theaters the Wisconsin, Iowa and Illinois area has to offer! Donate today, by using the form below or going to our website at www.theaterbus.org and using the donate button.

Also, consider Theater Bus when doing your estate planning. By including a charitable component in your estate and financial plans, you are ensuring the future of Theater Bus for many years to come.

On behalf of myself and the Theater Bus Board of Directors,

Thank you!

Ruth Hellenbrand, Director

Theater Bus, Inc. is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization. Your gift is tax-deductible.

I Support Theater Bus!

☐ I am enclosing my 2025 gift of \$_____

☐ I am enclosing \$_____ in memory of _____

☐ I am enclosing \$_____ in honor of _____

Name:_____

Address:_____

Please return this form with your gift.

Theater Bus, Inc 559 D'Onofrio Dr, Madison, WI 53719

Please review these important tips:

- We will not contact you to tell you we have received your check. We will only contact you if the trip is full and you are on a waitlist or if the trip is cancelled. If you are on a waitlist, your check will be returned immediately.
- Checks are deposited after the deadline listed in the newsletter. No refunds after the deadline.
- You will get a reminder call from us 2-3 days before the trip. We will make 2 attempts to contact you. It's important that you check your voicemail **or call in to verify if you didn't receive a call.**
- Sometimes we have to adjust trip pick up times/locations for construction, weather, etc. PLEASE pay attention when you get your reminder call so that you are aware of any changes. The volunteers that call have the most up to date info. Please listen to your phone messages. If we can't speak to you when we call, we will leave a message with all the information.
- It is **important** that you are able to get up and down the bus steps on your own. Our volunteers are not trained to give any care assistance.
- Registrations will **not** be taken over the telephone or spaces held unless payment has been received.
- Select the form for the event you wish to attend. Please complete all of the information. (Use a return address label if you have them) Otherwise, print your name and address and telephone number clearly. Please do not assume we will get your information from your check. Sometimes, checks get separated from the registration form. Please complete your name and address. Print CLEARLY. Please DO NOT leave this blank!
- Number attending—If you are registering just yourself, enter "1." If you are registering more than one person, write the number attending and then write the name, address, phone number, pickup location, and meal choice, if required, for EACH person.
- ***The deadline listed on the registration form is the date all checks will be deposited and you no longer will get a refund for cancellation. While many trips fill quickly, even with waitlists, there may still be openings. Please call the office to verify.***
- Theater Bus accepts checks, and cash, but not credit cards, as payment. ***Separate checks must be written for each event.*** Checks should be made payable to Theater Bus.
- Mail or drop off your registration form(s) and payment to: Theater Bus, Inc , 559 D'Onofrio Dr, Suite 17, Madison, WI 53719. If you want to drop off your registration after office hours, we do have a mail slot you can use.
- All tips are included in the cost of the trip, including a tip for the bus driver and wait staff.
- It is *very important* that you bring your cell phone on the trip and keep it with you. We do need a cell phone number on file.
- Please park away from the office and businesses. (Park at the far end of the office lot, etc) We do not want to disrupt parking for businesses that are open.

Thank you for continuing to be part of the Theater Bus community!

We will be sending out tax letters for donations OVER \$100 in January.

Thank you to all of our donors in 2025. We appreciate you.
If we missed an acknowledging your donation in the newsletter, I apologize.
We make our best effort to not forget anyone.

We are Moving!

We have exciting news to share! This is your November/December newsletter, but you are reading it in early October. By November we will be at a new address! Our lease was up and the building is coming down sometime in the next year, so it is time to move. *Everything else about us remains the same!*

We are staying on the west side of Madison but to a location that has better space for us, much needed parking and easier access. Our new office space is at **559 D'Onofrio Dr. , Suite 17 on the Lower Level.** (Corner of South High Point Rd and D'Onofrio Dr) There is an elevator near our office door.

Come see us at our new space after Nov. 1st! Our office hours will remain the same. Mon-Wed 9-1pm. You can leave voicemail anytime or email. Our phone number will be the same. We also have a mail slot in the door for you to drop off registrations.

Holiday Office Hours

Closed Nov 27 and 28th for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Closed December 22nd—January 2nd for the Christmas and New Year Holidays.

No Volunteers during these days/times.

New Theater Bus Merchandise is
Available for Sale!

T-shirts, Hats, Sweatshirts, Mugs, Bags & Water
Bottles!

<https://www.bonfire.com/store/theater-bus-2025/>

There is also a link on our website
www.theaterbus.org





PLEASE TAKE A QUICK SURVEY

THEATER BUS

Complete the short survey and return it with your trip registrations
for a chance to win the last FREE trip of 2025!

1. Are you new in 2025 to Theater Bus? YES NO

If you answered yes, how did you hear about us? _____

2. Approximately how many trips have you gone on in 2025? _____

3. What was your favorite show/trip? _____

4. Do you have a favorite restaurant that you have gone to with Theater Bus?

5. What restaurant (s) would you like to see us go to?

6. Did you enjoy the special prizes on the trips? _____

7. What would you like to see us do/go to in 2026? _____

8. Anything else you would like us to know? _____

Name _____

BEST Phone number: _____

Email: _____

Thank you!



Nov—Dec 2025

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50 years of fun with Theater Bus, Inc

If you no longer wish to receive this mailing, please let us know. Call 608-257-0003 Thank you!



MERRY CHRISTMAS

Contact Info

Ruth Hellenbrand

Director

Theater Bus

559 D'Onofrio Dr

Suite 17

Madison, WI 53719

(608) 257-0003

Email: info@theaterbus.org

Website: www.theaterbus.org

After hours, please leave a message and your call will be returned during regular business hours. After office hours, we do have a mail slot in the door for dropping off registrations.

Pickup Locations

Theater Bus provides the following convenient Madison pickup locations. **Please arrive 15 minutes earlier than listed in the newsletter.**

West - All WEST side trips will now start at the *Theater Bus Office*, 559 D'Onofrio Dr. any day of the week.

East - *Marshall's*, 2117 Zeier Rd., park in stalls at far end of lot, away from the entrance of the store.

Monona - *South Towne Mall*, Broadway Dr, near Floor and Décor end of parking area.

Note: Before each trip, we check messages at (608) 257-0003. *Please let us know if your plans change.*

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday—Wednesdays

10am-1:00pm

Office is closed on

Thursdays and Fridays!

(email and voicemail will be checked)

(608) 257-0003

info@theaterbus.org