

Kennebec Savings Bank

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Kennebec Savings Bank Launches KSB Supports Local Theaters Program; Awards \$12,000 Relief Grants to Five Theaters

Augusta, ME – Through its new KSB Supports Local Theaters program, Kennebec Savings Bank recently awarded \$12,000 COVID-19 relief grants to five community theaters throughout its service area. The awards were made after the Bank received a competitive grant from the Federal Home Loan Bank of Boston’s 2020 Jobs for New England Recovery Grant program. The local theaters receiving the funding include the [Theater at Monmouth](#) in Monmouth, ME, [Colonial Theater](#) of Augusta, ME, [Johnson Hall](#) of Gardiner, ME, [Waterville Opera House](#) of Waterville, ME, and the [Maine State Music Theatre](#) of Brunswick, ME.

“Local theaters were the first to close, and will likely be the last to completely reopen,” said Andrew Silsby, President & CEO of Kennebec Saving Bank. “Our local theaters are vital to our local economies and bring diverse cultural experiences to our rural communities. The people running them are our friends and neighbors. We are pleased to be in a position to support them when they need it most.”

The coronavirus has had a devastating impact on theaters throughout Maine and the rest of the country. In a recent study conducted by [Americans for the Arts](#), 59% of arts organizations have remained closed since the pandemic began. At least ten percent believe they will not survive the pandemic, which equates to a potential loss of 12,000 organizations nationwide.

“We’re incredibly grateful for the generosity Kennebec Savings Bank continues to show the Waterville Opera House,” said Tamsen Brooke Warner, the Waterville Opera House’s Executive Director. “This year has brought intense hardship for performing arts venues, artists, and entertainment professionals worldwide. Thanks to the support from Kennebec Savings Bank and the kindness of our patrons, donors, and sponsors, we will survive the COVID-19 pandemic and continue bringing great music and theatre to Central Maine.”





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Kennebec Savings Bank has launched several initiatives to support nonprofits from across sectors during the pandemic. This has including \$60,000 in relief funds through its Catalyst Grant program, seed grants for relief funds to two local United Way organizations, and over \$40,000 to local food pantries. Most recently, the bank donated \$40,000 in relief funds to additional nonprofits that have been hard hit by the pandemic, including [the Maine Children’s Home for Little Wanderers](#) of Waterville, ME, the [Kennebec Valley YMCA](#) of Augusta, ME, the [Boys and Girls Clubs of Kennebec Valley](#) of Gardiner, ME, and [Spectrum Generations](#) of Augusta, ME.

For more information, contact Community Engagement Director Amanda Cooley at ACooley@KennebecSavings.Bank.

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Kennebec Savings Bank is a \$1.2 billion state-chartered community bank, part of a mutual organization, with a team of 144 employees and offices in Augusta, Farmingdale, Freeport, Waterville and Winthrop, as well as “KSB Anytime” 24-hour electronic banking centers in Augusta, Farmingdale, Freeport and Manchester. The Bank is proud that its involvement in the community as an employer, a business and as a contributor has led to many other successes besides its own. Member FDIC, Equal Housing Lender.