

Leola Hall Grand Opening Celebration



The Leola Hall Grand Opening Celebration took place on Saturday, September 9th, 2023. It was an all day celebration beginning with a free concert for kids with musicians Fox & Branch, dance classes led by Center Stage Dance Academy, acting classes led by the High School Drama Director, a youth music concert led by the Middle School Choir Director, a table reading led by the Sauk Prairie Theater Guild, facility tours, live music in the outdoor space featuring Sam Ness, Michael Endres, The Water Street Jacks Duo, and Eric Schultz, food trucks Las Milpas and Dax Drink Shack, an art reception featuring the 6th Biennial Wings & Water and artwork by Lea Culver, and culminating with a concert by The Mascot Theory. The purpose of the day was to celebrate the grand opening of Leola Hall, a multi-purpose space designed for meetings, lectures, banquets, performances, and all the other creative endeavors our community can dream up! It was also an opportunity to thank and celebrate Lea Culver's generosity in donating 1.75 million to make the project possible. The attendance throughout the day was wonderful, particularly during the outdoor live music, facility tours, and art reception. People of all ages attended.



Photo of Sauk Prairie Schools Super Intendant Jeff Wright, Leola "Lea" Culver, and former River Arts Inc. Executive Director Lindsey Giese in the Leola Hall lobby



One of our unexpected favorite parts of the project was creating a "dream wall" where visitors could put their dreams on display for all to see. Here are some of the quotes: My dream is for magic to always be a part of my life. My dream is for everyone to find their meaning and live beautifully My dream is to keep going. No matter what. My dream is to treat all with kindness. My dream is for everyone to experience deep love.