

Nippert from page 12
Arts Fund -- \$500,000 annually -- will endow the continuation of the CSO as the opera's resident orchestra during these stunning productions. Likewise, the Cincinnati Ballet will receive approximately \$200,000 annually, allowing its dancers to perform to live music by the CSO, an almost unreachable luxury for ballet companies. The Ballet will also return to Music Hall for the Nutcracker and their classical ballets.

Another \$300,000 each year will help sustain additional musical arts organizations near and dear to Mrs.

Nippert's heart, including the May Festival, Matinee Musicale and several chamber music series.

Such visionary philanthropy will help return Cincinnati to what it once was called: the "Paris of America." As her geographic and artistic neighbor, Dayton supports the sports, arts and commercial life of Cincinnati. I congratulate the arts administrators and artists of the Queen City.

Dayton has benefited from our own homegrown philanthropy. Such names as Oscar Boonshoft, Jesse Philips, John and Elton Berry and the Dicke family have enriched

our culture and our citizens.

At this difficult time, all the arts need money and, as important, recognition of their place in the very fabric of our lives. We need to stop the deletion of music and art in the schools. We need, with enthusiasm, to introduce all to the real beauties of life.

Yes, life is beautiful. I have met Mrs. Nippert on many occasions at the operas and concerts. She is there because she loves great music and its artistic bounty. Radiating her special beauty, she lives to permeate all with that enthusiasm and purpose.

As Mrs. Nippert approaches her centenary birthday, we all agree that she has lived a full and important life. We also agree that her legacy will live as she desires. Due to the inspiration of her life and her gift, it will pass on to untold generations.

A Christmas Carol at Loft through Dec. 27

The Human Race Theatre's own adaptation of A Christmas Carol returns to The Loft Theatre for a second year this holiday season, with a bigger cast, more music, and the same concept -- true to Charles Dickens, but with a few added twists.

The family theme carries over for the audience. All evening performances will begin at 7 p.m. to accommodate youngsters, with the show recommended for those eight and up.

Santa will be on hand in The Loft lobby before the Tuesday, Dec. 15, performance, taking requests from children from 5:30 until 7 p.m., during which time food and beverages will be available from Citilites.

To provide even more chances for family attendance, a performance has been added at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 17, with adult tickets at Preview prices. And there will be a special Family Day matinee Saturday, Dec.

26, with all tickets, adult and child, at the usual children's price of \$18.

A Christmas Carol will have a preview Dec. 10, with the official Opening Night Dec. 11. Performances will run Tuesday through Sunday through Dec. 27, with Christmas Eve and day off. Tickets are available by calling Ticket Center Stage at (937) 228-3630 or toll-free at (888) 228-3630 or via www.humanrace-theatre.org

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