



# Bell Tower Community Foundation

mahanaybelltower.org



515-386-2155



mahanaybelltower@gmail.com



P.O. Box 222 Jefferson, IA 50129



**DEAR FRIEND OF THE MAHANAY BELL TOWER,**

**NOVEMBER, 2024**

The Bell Tower Community Foundation is a group of volunteers of the nonprofit organization who oversee the staffing, marketing and enhancements of the Mahanay Bell Tower. The Greene County Board of Supervisors own the attraction and take care of the maintenance and property decisions. The two groups work in partnership with the City of Jefferson for this iconic attraction in Jefferson.

The Foundation wants to share with you some of the highlights of this past year, ask for suggestions and thank you for your support.

- Iowa Public Television will highlight the Tower & community on Road Trip Iowa show next spring with taping and interviews last August.
- Extending the hours that the Mahanay Bell Tower is open - now daily from May through the end of October. Special tours can also be arranged.
- Reaching a goal of 6,000 visitors and continuing to work to attract more each year.
- Name That Tune and Tower Tunes Live concerts on Wednesdays during the summer & special dates with 20 local Mahanay Maestros volunteering to play.
- New ADA accessible front door installed.
- LED colored lights spotlight the Tower on Friday and Saturday nights.
- Rooftop art installations attract visitors as well as the bells ringing.
- Providing the backdrop for many community events - Bell Tower Festival, Homecoming Coronation, RAGBRAI pass-through community
- Free admission for youth each year with a local sponsor. In 2024 the sponsor was A & W Family Restaurant. Admission is \$5 for adults and a season pass is \$25.
- Named the 2021 Rural Attraction by Iowa Tourism.
- Hosting bus tours from Our Iowa magazine, travel clubs and tour groups.
- New website design completed and continued social media presence.

Sincerely,

**Bell Tower Community Foundation Board**



Don Van Gilder - President, Peg Raney - Vice President, Sherry Palmer - Secretary, David Morain - Treasurer, Pat Richards - Tour Coordinator, Carole Custer, Lindy Lehman, Joann Rasmussen, Nancy Teusch, Jean Feldmann, Matt Wetrich - City Rep, Michelle Fields - School Rep; Pete Bardole - Supervisor Rep