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GoFundMe campaign helps keep Orinda Theatre afloat during SIP

Submitted by Jenny Perillo

A GoFundMe campaign organized by Orinda Theatre operator Derek Zemrak to help offset fixed costs during the coronavirus pandemic raised over \$11,000 in nearly four days. "The outpouring of donations is simply amazing," Zemrak wrote about the campaign. "It really shows how we all love our historic iconic theater." The theatre first opened in 1941, but has been closed since March 16 due to the county's shelter-in-place order. While Zemrak said they have been doing wine, popcorn and Red Vine sales each Friday to help them through this difficult time, with the stay-at-home order extended until May 31, the sales drive was not enough to cover the theatre's fixed operating costs of \$15,000 a month, such as rent, utilities, insurance, and equipment maintenance.

"Every donation is so very much appreciated," Zemrak wrote. "I look forward to the day that I can welcome you all back into the theatre."

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[back](#)

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