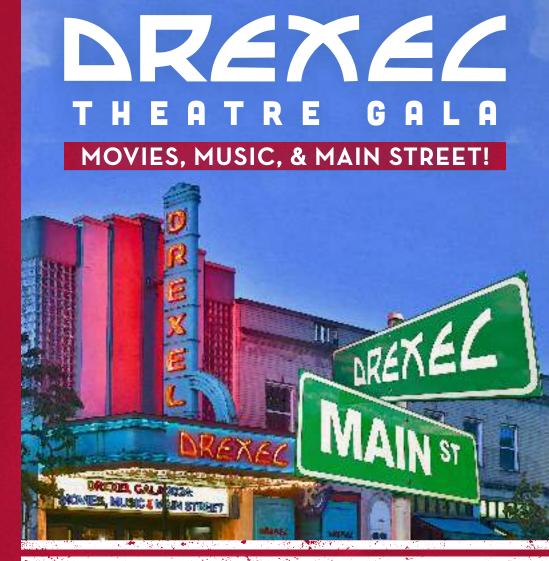


THANK YOU!



WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2024

* * * HONORING * * *
MAYOR BEN KESSLER





Thank you to the amazing staff of the Drexel -

Todd Babbert, Jason Christopher, Mitchell Dorsett, Mack Glasgow, Hailey Noll, Will O'Neil, Alex Rice, Seth Stiles

-Jennifer Nelson Carney & John Carney

1

Proud to support the Drexel Theatre



Investing in **business**. Investing in **people**. Investing in **good**.

cranegroup.com

EVENING AGENDA

LIVE MUSIC, DRINKS & TASTY BITES
6:00 PM

GALA PROGRAM 6.45 PM

DESSERT & DANCING 7:15 PM

* * *

A collection of trailers from past, present and future films at the Drexel will be playing in Theatre 1 at 6:15pm, 7:30pm and 8:00pm



DREXEL GALA COMMITTEE

DEBORAH AUBERT THOMAS
KELLY CASTO
GARY FLEISNER
GEORGIA GOCKEN
RUTH LOMAX
AMY MILBOURNE
LACEY WICKSALL

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MASTERPIECE SPONSORS

Mary Lazarus

CLASSIC SPONSORS

Beth Crane & Richard McKee

Jill Jeffrey Kingsley

Ron Ungvarsky & Susan Tomasky

PARTNER SPONSORS

Carol J. Andreae & James P. Garland

Benson & Casto Families

Jay & Meredith Crane

Mike & Paige Crane

Crane Group

Charlie & Georgia Gocken

Janet Helgeson & Fred Roecker

Ann & Tom Hoaglin

Frank & Linda Kass

Trip & Lexie Lazarus

The Lewin Family/Hamilton

Parker Company

Jennifer Nelson Carney

& John Carney

PNC

Scott & Marta Whitlock

Miriam & Bernie Yenkin

SPECIAL THANKS

The Avant Garden * Bexley Community Foundation * Capital University

Cherbourg Bakery * City of Bexley * Columbus School for Girls * Gay Street Realty

Giuseppe's Ritrovo * Gregg Frame Studio * Newfangled Kitchen

3rd Grade Teachers & Students at Cassingham and Montrose Elementary Schools

Deborah Aubert Thomas & L'Quentus Thomas

Mary & Andy Auch

Frank Benson III

Courtney & Christopher Bosca

Barbara Brandt

Blythe & Kenny Brown

Vicki Canter

Don & Ann Casto

Kelly Casto

Amy Conley

Karen Conner

Dan & Christie Crane

Erin Davis Shedd

Elfi Di Bella

Christine & Thomas Farquhar

Judy Fisher

Michael Flamm

Kurt Foriska & Ian Thickstun

Sherri Geldin & Daniel Verdier

DeeDee & Herb Glimcher

Babette T. Gorman

& Jack Buckingham

Jon Groner & Cathy Levine

Bob & Marcia Hershfield

Anne Jeffrey Wright

Brett Kaufman

President Dave Kaufman

& Nan Kaufman

Steve Keyes & Lauren Bonfield Jane Kirk Ackley & Stan Ackley

Adam & Stephanie Lewin

Elaine Lewin

Neila Lieberman

Ruth-Marie Lomax

& Dr. Mark Lomax II

Whitney Lucks & Karl Schneider

Carrie & Andy Madison

Amy Milbourne

David & Bonnie Milenthal

Jane Mykrantz

Doug J. Preisse

Alan & Carol Radnor

Julie Robbins & Jerry Friedman

Molly H. Ruben

Marilyn & Jim Saad

Patti Shorr

Andrew O. Smith

Lynne & Stephen Smith

Seyman & Sadie Stern

Richard Stoff

Sheila Torch

Connie & Craig Tuckerman

Chad & Melinda Whittington

Bill & Celeste Williams

Kim & Jim Wilson

Carmen & Denny Wojtanowski

List as of 9/12/2024

* * * MAYOR BEN KESSLER * * *



Ben Kessler was re-elected to the office of Mayor in November of 2023, and has served as Mayor since 2012. With a prior professional background in commercial real estate and finance, Mayor Kessler has emphasized sound planning and holistic redevelopment with a focus on neighborhood-scale planning and environmental sustainability. In addition to his role as Mayor and chief executive of the City of Bexley, Mayor Ben is a past chair of and serves on the executive board of the Central Ohio Mayor's and City Managers Association as its Secretary and Treasurer.

Mayor Kessler's community initiatives have included creating and chairing the Bexley Land Use Strategy Commission; forming the Bexley Community Improvement Corporation; redeveloping the former City Hall and Service Garage site on Main Street; installing traffic-calming medians and enhanced streetscape on Main Street and Broad Street; crafting comprehensive distracted driving and pedestrian crosswalk laws for Bexley; launching Ohio's first comprehensive curbside food waste recycling service; authoring Ohio's first comprehensive single-use plastics ordinance; spurring the creation of the Bexley Main Event and Jazz in the Park series and the Jeffrey Woods Festival; and overseeing Bexley's first park and greenspace expansion effort in decades with the expansion of Schneider Park and the creation of the Schneider Park athletic fields, playground, community gardens, and creekside trail.



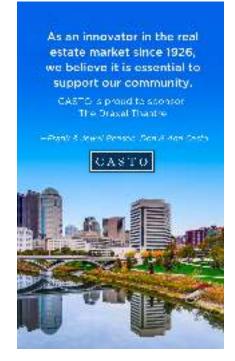
Proud to be Bexley
citizens for nearly 9
decades now under the
enlightened leadership of
Mayor Ben Kessler!

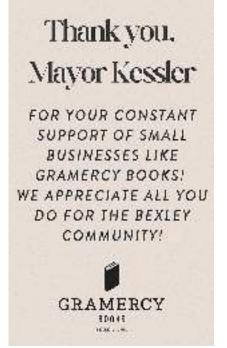
—Miriam & Bernie
Yenkin

* Historical note: Bernie, as
a kid, was a "regular" at the
Saturday matinees when the
Drexel opened in 1937!!

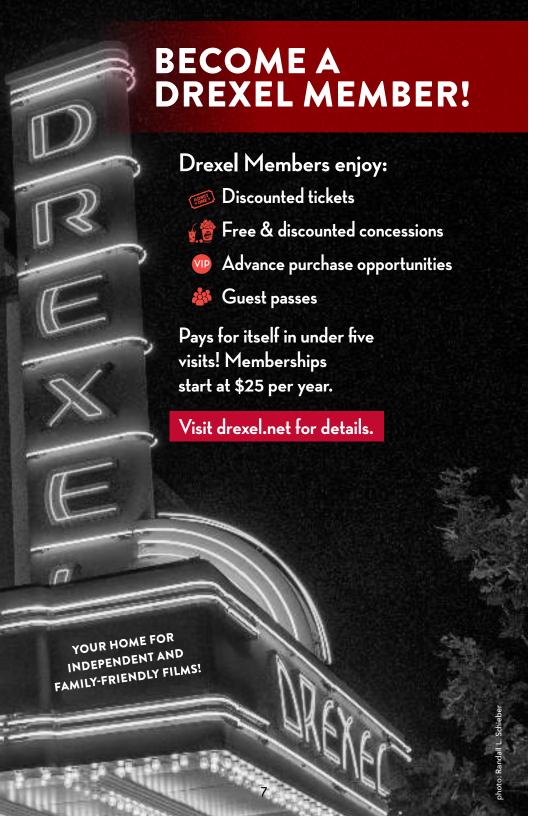








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Fred and I love the ritual of seeing movies at the Drexel: walking to the theater, greeting the folks behind the counter, laughing together, crying together, escaping together into another world. After the film we often see friends and neighbors in the lobby, or have a lively conversation with strangers about the film. There's nothing like it! We love the Drexel.

—Janet Helgeson & Fred Roecker



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Thank you to Mayor Kessler for your commitment to the Bexley community.

Elaine Lewin, Adam & Stephanie Lewin, Connie & Craig Tuckerman, Carrie & Andy Madison

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Columbus | Delaware | Cincinnati | Cleveland



Thank you for continuing to make the historic Drexel Theatre a vibrant hub for entertainment, education and community engagement of our community.

-Susan Tomasky & Ron Ungvarsky

\star \star \star ABOUT THE DREXEL \star \star



The Drexel debuted on Christmas Day 1937 and for generations, the Drexel Theatre has been central Ohio's first source for independent film and the best of Hollywood and international cinema. Named among the "Ten Best Art Blessings" by *The Columbus Dispatch*, the Drexel is Columbus' premier arts cinema, providing unique programming in an eclectic, neighborhood film-going experience. The Drexel Theatre has

officially been added to the National Register of Historic Places as a historic place worthy of preservation. Selected as a historic building contributing to the community's recreation and culture, the Drexel is only the fifth site in Bexley to be honored with this national designation.

A donation to the Drexel Gala in honor of Mayor Ben Kessler is an essential part of supporting and sustaining the Drexel for generations. All Gala donors will be recognized on the Drexel website and in theatre in 2025.



QR code to donation portal



Friends of the Drexel, Inc. is a non-profit organization that exists to secure and sustain the future of the historic Drexel Theatre as a distinctive cultural asset to Bexley and the greater Columbus community.



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