

## VIVA Theater and The Society For Creative Aging

"Dude, It's Boulder," 2019

\$2,500 Grant from the Alex "Tink" Wilson Legacy Fund - March 2019

### "What an amazing show!"

Report by Judy Richtel

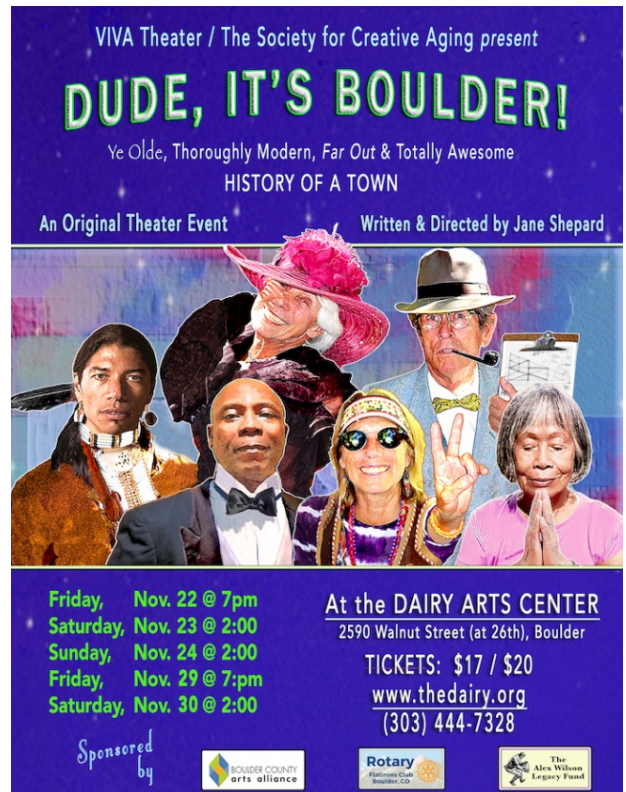
*"I have lived in Boulder for over 40 years and I thought I knew its history and its quirks. But, I learned so many things I did not know about."*

*"What an amazing show!"*

These quotes were typical of audience reaction to VIVA Theater's production of "Dude, It's Boulder," in the fall of 2019.

"Dude," as it was fondly called, told the history of Boulder from the early pioneers up to and including the 1960 hippie era. Stories about well-known individuals, characters and events created a show that was both entertaining and informative.

"Dude" played to over 900 audience members in six shows and three different venues. Two of the venues were separate theaters at the Dairy Center for the Arts.



VIVA Theater / The Society for Creative Aging present  
**DUDE, IT'S BOULDER!**  
Ye Olde, Thoroughly Modern, Far Out & Totally Awesome  
HISTORY OF A TOWN  
An Original Theater Event      Written & Directed by Jane Shepard

Friday, Nov. 22 @ 7pm  
Saturday, Nov. 23 @ 2:00  
Sunday, Nov. 24 @ 2:00  
Friday, Nov. 29 @ 7:pm  
Saturday, Nov. 30 @ 2:00

At the DAIRY ARTS CENTER  
2590 Walnut Street (at 26th), Boulder  
TICKETS: \$17 / \$20  
[www.thedairy.org](http://www.thedairy.org)  
(303) 444-7328

Sponsored by  
BOULDER COUNTY arts alliance  
Rotary  
The Alex Wilson Legacy Fund



With a normal-sized cast and minimal costumes, that would not have been an issue. But with the large cast and crew and costume changes, moving from the Grace Gamm the first weekend to the Gordon Gamm the next weekend took an amazing amount of organization and coordination, and the cast had to adapt to performing in a different space.

Our third venue was the Longmont Senior Center for a one-night show. In order to accomplish what was needed, we had to hire a POD and have things in storage for a week and then perform in a completely different space (actually a gym) not built for theater performances. But we did it.

The cast of 28 actors played over 75 roles and each cast member changed costumes three to four times during the production.

Another 40+ persons were involved in a myriad of ways from assisting backstage, helping create sets, putting together costumes, raising funds, gathering props, helping with research and writing, assisting with technical needs and filling in for actors who became ill.





In-kind donations and assistance from the community were vital for the show's success. For example, we borrowed period costumes from The Museum of Boulder, and from Maggie Simms of Till Death Do Us Party, and wonderful slides from the Carnegie Library of Local History.

Ninety-nine percent of those involved were volunteers, with more than 3500 volunteer hours contributed.

All shows sold out. Many people who wanted tickets found there were none available.

VIVA Theater began an extensive fundraising program, soliciting grants, corporate and individual donations that enabled us to both fund "Dude," and pay for our ongoing expenses.

We are extremely grateful to the Alex Wilson Legacy Fund for your support. Your confidence in the ability of VIVA Theater, and in particular, Jane Shepard, writer and director of "Dude," to put together an amazing community event was paramount to all of us.

