

The Curtain Is Coming Down

In another sign of the weak economy, I received an email from a dinner theatre in Akron, Ohio which has cancelled its 2009 season, putting 150 people out to work. I attended a production of West Side Story a few years ago and was once again enchanted by the power of live theatre. [The Carousel](#) began in a converted supermarket in 1973 (what a coinkidink) and moved to its current location in 1988). The theatre has created a buzz in New York as it has recruited talent from the Big Apple. Each musical was self-produced using equity performers. Quite a shame to see artistic venues come crashing down during this economic crisis. I also hear that New York theatre is not doing well, either.

The Carousel Dinner Theatre, LLC has cancelled its 2009 season and closed its doors effective January 4, 2009.

For the past year, the economy has materially affected the theatre's attendance and its ability to make cost adjustments to keep pace with the decrease in attendance. The final tipping point became the reversal of certain stakeholders' written or verbal promises that would have had a major impact on the theatre's continuance for the 2009 season and beyond.

Mr. Joseph E. Palmer accepts full responsibility for this action and regrets the impact on one hundred fifty employees and their families and all others affected by this closure.

If you have made any advance purchases on your credit cards, you should should immediately contact your credit card company to process a full refund.