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Part of diversifying the range of events on the Liberty Theatre stage is about making the art accessible to the community at large.

The theater collaborates with local organizations like Consejo Hispano to bring performances to various communities and facilitate access to them. “It really is a relationship-building process,” Crockett said of the venue’s programming and partnerships.

More than half of the performances audiences see at the theater are shows by companies and performers who rent the stage. “We’re very much a roadhouse theater,” Crockett said. At the same time, she adds, every rental show is handpicked to fit with the theater’s core programming.

“We’re trying to get people to see events at the theater because they trust the programming,” Joey Ficken, Liberty Theatre’s front-of-house manager, said. The same approach reigns at the concession stand, located in the building’s basement. The stand carries selections of beer and wine, as well as refreshments. Many of these are sourced locally from small-batch makers. “We’ve got snacks that are a little more unique than your standard theater fare, things that are not readily available in stores around town or at the market,” Ficken said.

Crockett beams when presenting plans for the historic venue’s new season. “I’m really proud of what we’ve put together,” she said. “I think it’s only going to get better and better.”

Photos by Peter Korchnak

**ABOVE:** Box office attendant Sen Incavo hands a ticket to concertgoer Linda Gannon. **LEFT:** A sign outside the theater lists upcoming shows.

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