



CLEVELAND PARK
COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

*PO Box 11444
Washington, DC 20008*

March 12, 2023

Mr. George T. Pedas
VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Dear Mr. Pedas:

I write on behalf of the Cleveland Park Community Association to express our strong support for continued use of the Uptown theater as an arts and events space, adding to the richness of life in our community and helping to make Cleveland Park a destination attracting visitors from throughout the DC area.

As you know, CPCA is a non-profit, membership organization of neighborhood residents, founded in 1911, dedicated to the protection and promotion of the diversity, vibrancy, and tree-lined, historic character of our community. From its inception, CPCA has played an active role in development of the Connecticut Avenue business district, and in the launching and nurturing of institutions vital to our community.

The Uptown has played an outsized role in our community over the decades, not only as an iconic piece of architecture, but as a center of community life and an engine of vitality for this business district. Ensuring that the Uptown plays such a role going forward is of great importance to CPCA and the community, as I believe it does to you as well.

The Uptown is unique in the local community, having the scale to house a major arts/events space and more. CPCA cannot speak to the viability of specific concepts, and we appreciate the challenges of finding ways to keep local commercial areas vital. It seems clear, however, that finding a way to distinguish Cleveland Park and draw visitors to it will benefit us all. We can also say with confidence that reintroducing an arts/events space would garner strong community support, and that CPCA would work with you and your family, and such an enterprise, in whatever ways we can to help make such an effort succeed.

We understand that you all are currently considering proposals for long-term leases for the space and may be making a decision shortly. We urge you to pursue an option that will make the Uptown once again a vital, central feature of our community, a significant institution and destination for the city, and we offer our support to you in doing so.

Sincerely,

John Barlow Weiner
President