

The Rocco & Joan DiLillo

TECHNICAL THEATER WING



The \$1.5 million commitment from Rocco and Joan DiLillo to The Naples Players' capital renovation made possible the creation of the DiLillo Technical Wing, which houses the scene shop, props shop, costume shop, and technical offices. This new wing is dedicated to supporting The Naples Players' productions by providing space to train volunteers, students, and local educators in artistic expression through theater, fostering creativity and skill development within our community.



"The Naples Players is a true gem in our community, and we hope this donation helps preserve its magic for years to come. We believe TNP will continue to grow in popularity and enrich Naples both culturally and economically. We believe our gift honors the power of live theatre to connect people, lift spirits, and inspire personal growth."

— Rocco & Joan DiLillo

Rocco & Joan DiLillo have brought their community-minded spirit, generosity, and love of the arts to Naples since making it their second home in 2019. Originally from Northeast Ohio, the couple—married for 48 years—divide their time between Hudson and Naples. Joan serves on the Board of Directors of The Naples Players and continues to inspire as a senior lecturer at the University of Akron's School of Communication. She finds great reward in helping her students grow professionally, believing that strong communication skills can shape bright futures.

Rocco was the winner of Ernst & Young, NASDAQ and USA Entrepreneur of the Year in 1997. Rocco is a seasoned entrepreneur with a distinguished career leading 12 companies, including seven he founded and five he acquired. Currently, Rocco is spearheading a \$3 billion development project, Habacoa, in South Abaco, Bahamas.

Beyond his impressive business achievements, Rocco has a passion for solving complex challenges and building cultures of excellence, qualities that resonate deeply with the mission and spirit of The Naples Players.

Rocco and Joan support many charitable organizations, with a focus on education and entrepreneurship. "Our entrepreneurial philanthropy is driven by a desire to help individuals build businesses that serve customers and create a lasting, positive impact in the communities they serve."

"We are honored to receive the support of such thoughtful and experienced arts champions, whose spirit of entrepreneurial philanthropy inspires innovation and lasting impact in our community." says Bryce Alexander, CEO and Executive Artistic Director of TNP. "Rocco and Joan have a clear understanding of the unique way that The Naples Players impacts our community, and their participation not only pushes us to new heights, but also ensures that the organization will be highly impactful for years to come."