

Community Theatre Arts Centre Update

The Community Theatre Arts Centre (CTAC) has seen an incredible change which started June 4, 2008. At that time, the rehearsal space was an empty shell.

Since then, we have added a lighting rack, 3 dimmer panels, a lighting system, a sound system, additional wireless mics, have built a proscenium arch, added a main curtain, wings curtains, and teasers. We built risers for the audience, nailed, painted, sewed, welded, wired, cleaned, and did everything in between--all with volunteer labour.

The result is that we ran two very successful shows--

The Rocky Horror Show (which sold out for all 6 shows) and The Full Monty (which sold out for 6 of 9 nights). The proceeds from Rocky went to our lighting needs. The proceeds from Full Monty are dedicated to replacing the seating with a new and much improved seating system providing better sight lines and more comfortable chairs.

Many projects are underway at this stage. We are adding storage space for costumes and props. We are building an area for applying make-up. A new bar is planned and being built. An area to take tickets and check coats has been planned. And we are in the planning stages for a new sound room that would allow musicians to rehearse at CTAC, as well as perform shows there. The future looks very bright.

Tom Rooke will be directing *The Gift of the Magi* at CTAC during December 2009. Eden Unger and Margaret Brown will be directing *Hedwig and The Angry Inch* during January, 2010.

John Bevan and Linda Gordon are working on reviving pantomimes with *Jack and the Beanstalk* planned for Dec 2010. And finally, Amber Krause is putting together a team to do *Evil Dead* during March, 2010.

All of these shows have been, and are being, underwritten by Medicine Hat Musical Theatre.

For further information regarding the Community Theatre Arts Centre (CTAC), please contact Lawrence Gordon at lrg@gSCO.ab.ca.



Lawrence Gordon, Chair
CTAC Joint Venture Committee

Footloose—November 2008

Thanks to an amazing cast and countless volunteers, Footloose now holds the record for the all time most successful Medicine Hat Musical Theatre show.

Congratulations to first time director, Mike Waskalik; Musical Director, Pat Weisgerber; Choreographers, Amy Rebbeck Hoey & Tanya Svazas Cronin, and the entire crew and orchestra for a job well done.



Our 2009 Production

MEL BROOKS' THE PRODUCERS the musical

THE PRODUCERS is, quite simply, the winningest Broadway musical in history. Nominated for 15 Tony Awards and breaking the record previously set by *Hello Dolly* in 1964. Outrageous, hilarious, a teeny bit offensive, off the wall, and the winner of a record 12 Tony Awards are just a few things that describe **THE PRODUCERS**. But it is never boring and you will find yourself holding your sides with laughter as Max Bialystock and Leo Bloom sing and dance their way through the greatest ever show biz scam. The Producers skewers Broadway traditions and takes no prisoners as it proudly proclaims itself an "equal opportunity offender!"
Director: Debi Hoefling

November 12, 13, 14, 19, 20 & 21, 2009—8:00 p.m.
Sunday, November 15 & 22, 2009—2:00 p.m. Matinees
The Esplanade Main Theatre
\$25.00 plus s/c & GST

A Dinner is offered on Friday, November 13, 2009 @ \$60.00, plus s/c & GST
(price includes the \$25.00 show ticket) **Dinner Presentations sell out quickly.**

Upcoming Community Theatre Arts Centre Productions

The Gifts of Magi—Comedy/Drama Musical

THE STORY: It is Christmas in New York, but for two young lovers, Jim and Della, the prospects are bleak, as both are out of work and penniless. But as those familiar with the famous O. Henry story are aware, their dilemma is solved when both part with their most precious possessions (she her beautiful long hair, he his heirloom pocket watch) in order to buy presents for each other thereby creating, at least for a magical moment, an aura of warmth and giving in the cold, impersonal winter city. In addition to their story there are glimpses of various city folk (played by the same two performers) going about their holiday business, and the hilarious plight of a cheerful bum named Soapy, who wants only to get arrested so he can spend the night in a cozy cell, all gracefully enhanced by tuneful songs and neatly tied together by a newsboy-narrator, Willy, who adds his own melodious contribution and informative observations to the delightful proceedings.

Running Date planned for Christmas 2009. Director: Tom Rooke.

Upcoming Community Theatre Arts Centre Productions

Hedwig and the Angry Inch Comedy/Drama Musical

THE STORY: This groundbreaking Obie-winning Off-Broadway smash also won multiple awards for its hit film adaptation. It tells the story of "internationally ignored song stylist" Hedwig Schmidt, a fourth-wall smashing East German rock 'n' roll goddess who also happens to be the victim of a botched sex-change operation, which has left her with just "an angry inch." This outrageous and unexpectedly hilarious story is dazzlingly performed by Hedwig (née Hansel) in the form of a rock gig/stand-up comedy routine backed by the hard-rocking band "The Angry Inch." Using songs and monologues, Hedwig tells her story, which began in the former East Berlin where as Hansel he meets Luther, an American GI who promises to take the young man to the States on the condition that he switch his sex. After the bungled operation, Luther abandons newly named Hedwig in a Kansas trailer park where she turns to music and meets geeky Tommy Speck, whom she takes under her wing and soon falls for. Tommy steals her songs, achieves rock star fame, and Hedwig is once again cast aside. She decides to demand redress and stalks Tommy's world tour, performing in the T.G.I. Friday's that are situated next door to his stadiums. Hedwig describes her life's search for "The Origin of Love" and her other half. It's a rocking ride, funny, touching and ultimately inspiring to anyone who has felt life gave them an inch when they deserved a mile.

Running Date: January 2010. Directors: Eden Unger and Margaret Brown

You Know You're Involved in Community Theatre ... If

You've ever cleaned a tuxedo with a magic marker.

You've ever appeared on stage in an outfit held together with hot glue.

You've ever appeared in a show where tech week is devoted to getting the running time under four and a half hours.

You've ever appeared in a show where an actor leaned out through a window without opening it first.

You've ever had to play a drunk scene opposite someone who was REALLY drunk.

You've ever heard a director say, 'Try not to bump into the furniture,' and mean it.

You've ever appeared on stage with people you're related to.

You've ever appeared in a show featuring a flushing toilet sound effect.

You've been told by the set designer not to walk on the left half of the stage because the floor's still wet five minutes before curtain.

You've ever been told that the reason your director has no eyebrows is because he was in charge of special effects for the last show.

Thanks to Amber Krause for supplying the theatre jokes in this and the last Issue.

Amber is featured below practising a scene with Dave Townsend from a "self-directed" and "unscripted" play with an unknown title.

Q: How do you drown an actress?

A: Put a mirror on the bottom of a pool!

Q: How many actors does it take to change a light bulb?

A: Doesn't the stage manager do that?

B:



Mailing Address

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Community Theatre Arts Centre

1221—10th Avenue S. W.
(behind the Travelodge/A&W)

We're on the Web ...

www.mhmtheatre.com

MHMT 2009—2010 Board

Derek Martin, President
Lawrence Gordon, Vice President
Gail Williams, Secretary
Brenda Neilson, Treasurer
Ron Zablocki, Past President

Directors

Lynda Darley	Becky Grewer
Rob Grewer	Pat Jamieson
Amber Krause	Delle Lovig
Donna Propp	Sharon Regehr
	Bill Taylor

Medicine Hat Musical Theatre Life Members

Armstrong, Adele - 1982	Hackett, Nora - 1989	Nelson, Elaine - 2007
Arthur, Linda - 2005	Hall, Helen - 1999	Nelson, Gwen - 2004
Becker, Les - 1992	Hoefling, Debi - 2008	Neubauer, Brad - 2004
Bengert, Peggy - 2000	Hoger, Denise - 2007	Pedersen, Mabel - 1986
Bertram, Bev - 1999	Hoger, Ray - 2008	Phillips, Les - 1986
Bray, Grant - 1994	Jacober, Julie - 1989	Pringle, Bill - 1990
Condon, Peter - 1987	Jamieson, Pat - 2006	Propp, Bert - 2008
Cocks, Bill - 2004	Jones, Dorothy - 1982	Reid, June - 2007
Craven, Sandra - 1995	Komanchuk, Jan - 2004	Regehr, Sharon - 2005
Craven, Wayne - 1986	Krassman, Lois - 1997	Rooke, Tom - 2006
Darley, Lynda - 2007	MacDonald, Gail - 1982	Rose, Robert - 1986
Dee, Darlene - 2008	MacDonald, Skip - 1982	Schmipf, Jerry - 1990
Dunlop, John - 1986	MacDonald, Ian - 1982	Schrein, Bruno - 1986
Evangelos, Doris - 2004	Mackie, Irene - 1996	Sievert, Manfred - 1982
Fisher, Keith - 2007	Mackwood-Jordon, Eva - 2005	Shand, Alex - 1982
Ganden, Tillie - 1986	Martin, Derek - 2005	Tonin, Evan - 1988
Gehring, Bob - 2004	McCulley, Marg - 2007	Townsend, Eleanor - 1982
Gordon, Lawrence - 2008	Mells, Richard - 1982	Van Wert, Jean - 1982
Grant, Desmond - 2002	Miller, Esther - 1991	Wahl, Rae - 2007
Grewer, Becky - 2008	Miller, Ron - 1982	Weiler, Eva - 1987
		Zablocki, Ron - 2006