

# Theatrix Newsletter

Volume 45 Issue 2

GRATIOT COUNTY PLAYERS

April 2010



## Board of Directors

- Doug Ballard, President
- Shannon Slater, Vice President
- Mark Wilson, Treasurer
- Dawn Landis, Secretary
- Angie Ballard
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- Tom Davis
- Bethany Vozar
- Tami Brewer
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The Gratiot County Players are proud to present the Tony Award winning musical drama *1776*. This powerful musical centers on the founding fathers and tracks their courageous fight for our nation's independence. These historical figures in congress, along with Abigail Adams and Martha Jefferson, come to life with beautifully written dialogue and lyrics, much of which is taken directly from letters and memoirs of the actual participants.

In the days leading up to July 4, 1776, representatives of the original thirteen colonies have gathered in the sweltering heat of a Philadelphia summer as the 2<sup>nd</sup> Continental Congress convenes. John Adams and Benjamin Franklin coerce Thomas Jefferson into writing the Declaration of Independence. The Declaration is a delaying tactic as they try to persuade the American colonies to support a resolution on independence. A single "nay" vote will forever end the question of independence. Come join the revolution and be a part of what is sure to be a once in a lifetime theatre experience.

Directed by Laurie Harrison    Music Director - Bob Crist

Producer – Tami Brewer    Assistant Director – Colleen Crimin  
**PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE IN PERFORMANCE DATES**

John Adams – Scott Messing

Col. Thomas McKean – Eric Johnson

Abigail Adams – Dawn Daniels

Lewis Morris – Pete Tacia

Benjamin Franklin – Mike Duda

George Read – Joel Todd

John Dickinson – Tom Armstrong

Robert Livingston – Jeff Rayburn

Thomas Jefferson – Larry Daniels

Robert Sherman – David Ryder

Edward Rutledge – Wilson Nichols

Dr. Josiah Bartlett – Rudy Hornus

Richard Henry Lee – Landon Defever

Rev. Jonathan Witherspoon – Tom Brackbill

Dr. Lyman Hall – Mark Maslovich

Joseph Hewes – Jeff Turk

John Hancock – Nick Piccolo

Caesar Rodney – Josh Brewer

Samuel Chase – Roger Allman

Martha Jefferson – Theresa Hansen

Charles Thomson – Hazen Nester

Courier – Mark Armstrong

Steven Hopkins – Wayne Wieferrich

Leather Apron – Daniel Brewer

Andrew McNair – Jimm Lyon

Painter – Matt Matteson

James Wilson – Kevin Fitzgibbon



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Show dates are April 30, May 1, 7, 8 at 7:00 p.m. and May 2 and 9 at 3:00 p.m. Reservations may be made by calling the box office at 989 463-2593 or on our WEB site, [www.gratiotcountyplayers.com](http://www.gratiotcountyplayers.com). The box office is open Monday thru Thursday the week prior to each weekend performance, from 7:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. **1776 Logo Art by Mike Duda**

### **The Full Monty**

The musical production of "The Full Monty" is coming to the Gratiot County Players stage in Fall 2010. The plot:

Seeing how much their wives enjoy watching male strippers during their "girls night out," unemployed steelworkers in Buffalo, New York come up with a bold way to make some quick cash. In the process, they find renewed self-esteem, the importance of friendship and the ability to have fun.

As the guys work through their fears, self-consciousness, feelings of worthlessness and anxieties (over everything from being overweight to child custody, bigotry to being gay), they come to discover that not only are they stronger as a group, but that the strength they find in each other gives them the individual courage to face their demons and overcome them.

There is great heart to The Full Monty, and the ultimate themes expressed in the show - about taking charge of one's life and following one's dreams - are great lessons for all of us. And truth be told, through creative directing and staging, the final impact of The Full Monty can be achieved without ever losing your jockey shorts.

Auditions will be held Sunday, June 6, 2010, 4:00 p.m. at the theater. For questions please contact director Nancy Peska at 989 763-0598. The cast is 13 men, 7 women, 1 boy.

### **Gratiot Dance Wars Comes to the Strand**

This year the summer sensation at the Theater will be "Dance Wars." All types of Dancers are welcome, styles, and ages. Just bring your dance moves to the Theater and Join in the fun. Dancers will start with an exhibition of Dance. Show us what you got; Highland, Jazz, Swing, Ballet, Pop, Lock, Break, Crump whatever you can do. The first night will be June 17th, at the end of that performance dancers will draw a song from a collection of styles, and they need to create a dance with that song for next week. A Ballet Dancer may draw a country song; they need to put their styles into that song, be creative and have fun with it. The initial "meet the director" will be Thursday, June 10, 2010, 7:00 p.m. at the theatre.

Competitions will be as follows:

June 24th, July 1st, July 8th, and finals July 15th.

Cash prizes for the winners, you do not need to be in a company to participate ALL DANCERS WELCOME, AGES 15 and UP. For information call Kevin at 681 2300



### **Announcement: Proposed Change to the GCP Bylaws and Notice of the GCP Annual Meeting.**

In accordance with the Bylaws of the Gratiot County Players, announcement is made of a proposed change to the bylaws. The change would reduce the number of Directors on the Board from twelve (12) persons to a minimum of nine (9) persons. The proposed change will be voted on by the membership at the GCP Annual Meeting on Wednesday, June 16, 2010, 7:00 p.m. at the Strand Theatre, Alma, Michigan. This also serves as notice of the GCP Annual Meeting.

### Summer Youth Workshop 2010

The Summer Youth Workshop is an opportunity for youth ages 6-18 \* to learn about the theater, and participate in a performance for their friends and family to enjoy. The youth participate in a seven-week workshop that culminates in a performance that is open to the public. Due to the growing number of children who have participated in the last few productions, this year's workshop will be slightly different in that there will be two separate productions. The first show will involve the younger and less experienced children. The children who have participated in several Summer Youth Workshops will mentor this group, followed by rehearsal for their own production.

The Gratiot County Players' Summer Youth Workshop registration will be Monday, May 17, 2010, 7:00 p.m. at the theatre. A parent meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 10, 2010, 7:00 p.m. at the theater. Rehearsals will start on June 14<sup>th</sup>, and will run Monday through Wednesday. The performances will be 7/30/10, 7/31/10, and 8/1/10.

\* Children aged 6-9 must have a responsible adult at the theater during rehearsals

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### GCP Seeking LeBlanc Award Nominations

**2010 LEBLANC AWARD NOMINATION** The Gwen and Carew LeBlanc award honors persons for outstanding achievement in theater. The award's title honors the late Gwen and Carew LeBlanc for their decades of selfless effort and hard work on behalf of the players. All winners have been long time supporters of the Gratiot County Players and have dedicated much time and effort towards making the Gratiot County Players what it is today. Each winner receives a commemorative plaque and Huge Thank You! The award will be presented at the GCP Annual Meeting to be held Wednesday, June 16, 2010. The nominee **cannot** be a current GCP Board member. The nominee should exemplify the spirit of volunteerism, dedicating time and talents to further the purposes of Community Theatre in Gratiot County. Simply cut out this form. Additional pages may be included for your narrative.

*Nominations must be received by May 16, 2010. Mail to : Gratiot County Players LeBlanc Nomination  
217 East Superior St. Alma, MI 48801*

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Your Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Your Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Person you are nominating \_\_\_\_\_

Please write a short narrative indicating why you believe this person should receive the award.

**GRATIOT COUNTY  
PLAYERS, INC.**

217 E. Superior Street  
Alma, MI. 48801

Box Office: 989-463-2593

E-Mail: [gcplayers@komputerguy.com](mailto:gcplayers@komputerguy.com)

**WE'RE ON THE WEB**  
**WWW.GRATIOTCOUNTYPLAYERS.COM**

*Producing Live Theatre  
In Gratiot County Since 1968*

**Editor — Doug Ballard**

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**BOX OFFICE HOURS**

A reminder that our box office is open the week prior to each weekend performance. You can purchase and exchange tickets Monday through Thursday from 7:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

When you purchase your tickets ahead of time you can save a wait in line and go directly to your seat. This is especially helpful for our senior citizens and those requiring special seating arrangements.

If you are a Season Ticket Holder you may exchange your tickets at this time also. If you are unable to attend a show, save your ticket, it is worth cash! You can exchange tickets from one show for another, thus retaining the value of your Season Ticket purchase.

Reservations can be made on our WEB site: [www.gratiotcountyplayers.com](http://www.gratiotcountyplayers.com) or by calling the theatre at 463-2593. When phoning in a reservation please be sure to speak clearly and spell your last name for us!

We look forward to welcoming all of you back to our next production!

**PLEASE NOTE: ANY RESERVED TICKET(S) NOT PICKED UP BY 15 MINUTES TO CURTAIN WILL BE RELEASED TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC.**