

Theatrix Newsletter

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July 2010

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2010 Summer Youth Workshop Presents Two Plays

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 is slightly different in that there will be two separate productions. *The Apple* involves a mix of the younger and less experienced children and some of the more experienced children. The children with more experience will be performing *Comic Book Artist*.

Taylor Sawyer, director of *The Apple*, has this to say about this year's show:

I'm so thrilled to be a part of the Summer Youth Workshop this year. "The Apple" is a zany play about an apple that is left behind in a museum and mistakenly thought to be a work of art by art critics, enthusiasts, students, and even a surprise visit from Elvis who sings and dances, and a mime that wants to steal the apple for a nice snack. The kids amaze me every day with their talent. We spent the month of June working on blocking and getting the kids familiarized with the story and characters. Now the kids are making their characters their own by adding some of their style and animation with each line and movement. Many of the kids have their lines memorized or are working on memorization diligently. Most of all, we are having a blast! I couldn't have asked for a better set of kids to work with. I walk out of every practice so proud of them and see it coming together very nicely each day. The final outcome is going to be incredible! So don't miss the show!

Justine Defever, director of *Comic Book Artist*, writes:

Stanley Leonardo Sappovitz is a young and hard-working janitor at Wunderman's Comic Book Company with dreams of becoming a comic book artist. Even though Stanley is talented and ambitious, he is unable to be taken seriously by his ill-tempered boss.

Luck finds Stanley however when he is given an enchanted pen that allows anything he draws to become real! Stanley creates a band of superheroes name the Fabulous Four, and just in time too! The time-stopping super villain, Shock Clock, is robbing all of the people in the city and it is just a matter of time before the whole world is taken over!

Will the Fabulous Four have the powers necessary to defeat Dr. Shock Clock?

Will Stanley be able to become a comic book artist?

Will there be enough popcorn for everyone?!

All of these questions and more will be answered July 30 through August 1 at the Strand Theater's production of *Comic Book Artist*! Be sure to draw a big star on your calendar so you don't miss this action-packed production!

Show dates July 30th at 6:00 p.m., July 31st at 6:00 p.m., and August 1st at 3:00 p.m.. Admission is by donation at the door. See page three for our wonderful lineup of actors and actresses.

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The Full Monty

The setting is Sheffield England, once the "City of Steel", home of a massive steel industry and jobs aplenty. Today with the industry in decline and the steelworks closed down there is widespread unemployment and despair. Two unemployed friends stumble upon a Chippendales-like show that's very popular with the local women. Eventually they decide they too would like to give it a go, but they can't dance and aren't what most would call good physical specimens. They have their doubts but are determined to give it a shot. On their way they pick up four other unlikely candidates and begin practising for the big night. To drum up interest, they boast they'll go 'the full monty' (a phrase meaning 'all the way' - nude), something they hadn't planned and aren't sure they can deliver. Will they ?, won't they ?, can they keep their antics from their families ?, can they stay out of trouble ? can they pull a crowd ?. All will be revealed, well maybe. Directed by Nancy Peska.

Performance dates: September 10, 11, 12, 2010 and September 17, 18, 19, 2010.

Gratiot Dance Exhibition & Music in the Park

The Gratiot County Players would like to thank Kevin Fitzgibbon for organizing a wonderful dance review held at the Strand Theater on July 15, 2010. Our thanks goes out to all the dancers who took time from busy Summer schedules to participate and help raise funds to support the theatre.



GCP would also like to thank the following GCP members who performed "In the Park" at the Masonic home on July 17, 2010. A medley of songs representing our 40 year history were performed by Al Bartholomew, accompanist, Kevin Fitzgibbon, Jean Kimball, Karen Lincoln, Roger Allman, Mike Duda, Vicki Tacia, Angie Ballard, and Doug Ballard.

GCP Announces Auditions

Auditions are open to everyone, regardless of prior stage experience.

Miracle on 34th Street

Directed by Laurie Harrison

Gratiot County Players Announce Auditions for Miracle on 34th Street

Children, September 25th, 1:00 p.m.

Adults, September 25th, 3:00 p.m.

Callbacks for both Adults and Children will be September 26th at 7:00 p.m. if needed

All auditions will be held at the Gratiot County Players Strand Theatre, Alma

Summer Youth Workshop Cast of Characters

Character	Actor/actress	Character	Actor/actress
Narrator	Caden Wilson	Gold wrhs employee 2	Evelyn Bradley
Stanley	Dustin George	Salesclerk	Sam Smolka
Mr. Wunderman	Scott Hall	Jewelry customer	Kara Gager
Viola	Maggie Bever	Gladys	Jordyn Burks
Dr. Shock Clock	Josh Daniels	Woman with purse	Jordyn Burks
Minutos 1	Jordan Campbell	Rock group SMA	Kara Gager, Noah Burks
Minutos 2	Devin Tessman	Rock group RP	Evelyn Bradley, Sophia Bradley
Minutos 3	Christiana Way	Emcee	Caden Wilson
Star guy	Eric McConnell	Rotten penny	Scott Hall
Triple time	Mikaela Kitzmiller	Crowd member 1	Sierra Blackwell
Blossom	Bailee Brimmer	Crowd member 2	Jordyn Burks
Wombat woman	Caroline Hynes	Policeman 1	Haley Tessman
Girl 1	Sierra ?	Policeman 2	Jaedan Burks
Girl 2	Megan Kitzmiller	Newsboy	Noah Burks
Girls 3	Sam Smolka		
Bank teller	Evelyn Bradley	Artist 2	Sophia Bradley
Bank customer	Sophia Bradley	Artist 3	Alex VandeWeghe
Gold warehouse mgr	Sophia Bradley	Artist 4-6	4. Haley Tessman, 5. Sarah VandeWeghe,
Gold wrhs employee 1	Megan Kitzmiller		6. Kara Gager, 7. Evelyn Bradley

The 2010 Gratiot County Players Summer Youth Workshop is made possible through a grant from the Michigan Council on Arts and Cultural Affairs and Art Reach of Mid Michigan. The Gratiot County Players are truly grateful for their support.

ART REACH

————— *of Mid Michigan*



**GRATIOT COUNTY
PLAYERS, INC.**

217 E. Superior Street
Alma, MI. 48801

Box Office: 989-463-2593

E-Mail: gcplayers@komputerguy.com

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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 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.