



Curtain Call

SCHUYLERVILLE COMMUNITY THEATER NEWSLETTER

Fall 2008

Children's Summer Program was a HUGE SUCCESS!!!

After only two short weeks the five to seven year olds put on a wonderful rendition of *Wee Sing in Sillyville* on July 11th. The children in this young group proved to all of us what wonderful, talented, rising stars they are! We look forward to watching them grow in theater. Our fearless director, Heather Johnson, was also kind enough to wait until the Sunday after the show to give birth to her beautiful new baby daughter, Molly!

The eight to eleven year old group wonderfully performed *The Music Man, Jr.* the following Friday night. The final week of rehearsals, they pulled

off a miracle. The 34 kids in the show were terrific. The show had many scenes in it but they accepted their

roles, learned their lines and choreography, and really got into the whole experience. The evening of the final performance made the three weeks of hard work all worth it. Even when a certain lead character missed an entrance, the audience loved it. That's live theater for you; you never know what is going to happen!

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SCT VETERANS CAST FOR FALL SHOW - MOONLIGHT AND MAGNOLIAS

Producer Anna Welfley and Director Jason C. Polunci are very excited to announce the cast for the Schuylerville Community Theater's fall production of *Moonlight & Magnolias*. This delightful comedy tells of how the script for the epic motion picture, *Gone with the Wind*, was written during the already begun filming. Showcasing their comedic talents will be Patrick Doyle as David O. Selznick, Richard Joyce as Ben Hecht, William H Howard III as director Victor Fleming and Beverly Mc Kim as the long suffering secretary, Miss Poppenghl.

The SCT connections with this cast are endless. Although this is Patrick Doyle's first time in a non-musical with SCT, he is no stranger to the SCT stage. His very first show was with SCT in "The Music Man" in 1990 at the young age of 8 (he was the smallest child on stage). He managed to slip down the stairs and break his collar bone, but refused to go to the hospital until after dress rehearsal. He was suppose to do cartwheels, but was unable to do them for the show. He received the Budding Twig award that same year.

Moonlight and Magnolias will be the 7th show that Rich Joyce and Bill Howard have shared the

SCT stage. Both performed in *Harvey, Arsenic and Old Lace, SCT's 10 year Celebration, Once Upon a Mattress, Lend Me a Tenor* and *Brigadoon*. They have known each other for 30 years; a true friendship both on and off the stage. And Richard teaches with Patrick at the Saratoga Central Catholic High School.

Bev McKim has been involved with SCT for 23 years, and yet this is her first time on the SCT stage. She has served a number of positions on the SCT board, has been Producer, Costume Designer, Stage Manager, Publicity just to name a few. It is no surprise that she was the recipient of the coveted SCT Branch Award in 1989.

This is truly a DO NOT MISS theater opportunity – *Moonlight and Magnolias* – mark the dates on your calendar!!!

Performances will be Friday & Saturday Oct. 24 & 25 at 8:00 PM and Sunday (matinee) Oct. 26 at 2:00 PM. Tickets are available now for \$16.00 General Admission and \$14.00 for seniors and students. Just call 695-5480 to reserve your tickets today. For more information concerning this show and the Schuylerville Community Theater, please call 695-5480 or visit us on the web at scttheater.org.



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S'cool had everyone dancing in their seats! The hip-hop music was alive and energetic. Each actor and actress of the twelve to sixteen age group was having a good time which was infectious to the crowd. Many of the age eleven to sixteen participants had an opportunity to share their beautiful voices and smooth moves on the stage.

This program could not have happened without all the time and talents of the 2008 staff. Their hard work is appreciated; Pam Barker, Carol Cooney, Kim Dauphinais, Elisa DiMauro, Tim Doak, Patrick Doyle, Debbie Friedman, Donna Hillebrandt, Lauren Hull, Heather Johnson, Kara Lapitsky, Sabrina LaPointe, Julie Leonelli, Adrienne Morris, Garry Myers, Deana Tracy, and Chris Tucker. Luckily they all have the patience and flexibility to bring theater into the worlds of many young bodies and minds. What an accomplishment!

A huge thank you to all of the parent volunteers who took time out from their busy schedules to help make our humble production a success. Thanks also to the wonderful Schuylerville community for coming out to show their support for the children's program. Without community support, there can be no community theater. It's the people (and kids are people too) who make SCT great.

If you are interested in learning more about our summer program please visit our website or contact the Executive Producer, Donna Hillebrandt, at donna.mh@verizon.net. See you all next year!

NEW HOME FOUND FOR STORAGE

"Bay #5" in the garage behind the new Town of Saratoga Building (the former "Corner School") in the Village is now the new storage space for set pieces and large props. SCT is very grateful to Supervisor Tom Wood and the town board members for the opportunity to move into this great location within the community. In addition, SCT member Joan Kennedy has welcomed the storage of the overflow in an empty building on her farm outside of the village. Applause, Applause to these Special Friends of SCT!!!



Editor's Note: This Fall SCT sadly lost one of its longtime members. Some of the best sets were built by Master Carpenter Walt Griffen and his infamous 'screwguns'. Walt rarely missed a performance but he will be missed by us all.



What in the world is Kelly Casey up to now? Is she cooking? No!! Well, not really. I guess sort of. But don't let that smile fool you! Kelly is preparing fudge while portraying "Ginger Snap" at the Schuylerville Library's 3rd Annual Night of "Death by Chocolate." This Top Chef experience has Ginger Snap, Lorna Doon, Betty Crocker and Sarah Lee going head-to-head for that million dollar prize while being criticized by Mrs. Butterworth for not including syrup in their recipes. Some saw right through the twisted tale of recipe-stealing, knife-borrowing, jealous-heckling, nametag-making, blackmailing, jeans-wearing, husband-swapping, shortbread-kneading, and chocolate-dipping to figure out it was our prestigious judge, Don Won-ton, who stabbed poor Ginger Snap to her death that Tuesday evening. Thank you Kelly for joining our SCT members, Patrick Doyle, Gay Gamage, Donna Hillebrandt, Aimee McMaster, Debbi Terrio and Deana Tracy, for a evening of great SCT entertainment!





Here's an invitation to participate in one of etc (experimental theatre company) readings. As a new voice from Glens Falls Community Theatre, etc has been host to readings of a variety of new plays, many by local playwrights. If you have any interest in facilitating a reading (that is, selecting a new play, original work, dusting off an old classic, etc. and submitting it to the committee) OR performing in one, please contact Jason C. Polunci or Richard Joyce. Facilitating is a very easy process —

you simply select a piece, submit it to the committee for approval, cast the piece and everyone shows up on the specified date and reads the play for all present. Acting in these performances includes reading the play ahead of time, familiarizing yourself with the work and then reading at the actual performance. A small time commitment and simple process but an excellent way to hear a play on its feet that you have always dreamed of working on or to stretch your acting muscles with new and exciting characters in seldom heard works.

HEADING IN A NEW DIRECTION:

SCT is looking to the future and in doing so, must first look at the past. New Board Member Jason C. Polunci, a freelance Marketing and Development Consultant, who has worked with theatres from Capital Repertory in Albany to Broadway's Manhattan Theatre Club, has authored a marketing and development analysis of SCT. While examining SCT's past and present strengths and challenges, Jason created a strategy to better streamline the organizational structure of SCT, offered new ideas on how to raise money for the group, and has made suggestions as to how to best make use of our current resources when marketing a production. Taking an objective stance as a newcomer to the administrative side of SCT, Polunci hopes to be able to use his talents in marketing analysis to assist SCT create a viable plan of how to best grow as a community theater in the next 30 years.

The SCT Board participated in an in-depth discussion of this marketing and development plan at a special workshop meeting on a Saturday morning in early September. The creative ideas were plentiful and the board is excited about the results. Plans for new theater venues were developed and in these struggling economic times, theater can offer the local community an opportunity for fun and quality theater activities right in your own backyard!! SCT has plans to become more visible and to provide more theater experiences in the area. Stay tuned for more information in future editions of Curtain Call and check the website.

SCT Scholarship Winner Meets Challenges

Anthony Festa, a graduate of Ballston Spa High School and SCT's 2006 Ted E. Shuster Memorial Scholarship winner, is using his talents at SUNY Cortland despite a car accident last January that left him with a fractured leg requiring surgery to repair it. In spite of the need to be airlifted to Albany Med, the new metal rod in his right leg and a recommended six week recuperation period, he was on stage three weeks later auditioning for the musical, "Tommy," when he landed the lead role. In addition, Anthony has been cast as Jimmy in "Thoroughly Modern Millie" and Sam in "Romance, Romance" since being at Cortland. This past semester Anthony was awarded the Charles Griffin Memorial Scholarship at SUNY Cortland. In order to be eligible for this scholarship a

student must have a GPA of 3.0 or higher, be at least a sophomore majoring in MUSIC/THEATER, write an essay, be interviewed by a panel and last but not least, participate in an audition. Congratulations to Anthony on your accomplishments.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT



Anthony Festa center stage as Tommy.

Curtain Call is a newsletter of the Schuylerville Community Theater, P.O. Box 143, Schuylerville, NY, 12871. SCT is a non-profit community volunteer musical and theater arts organization. SCT is governed by an elected Board of Directors.

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MOONLIGHT AND MAGNOLIAS

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