



CALLS & CUES



Waterville Playshop, PO Box 75, Waterville OH 43566

August 2017

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BOX OFFICE

Waterville Playshop tickets can be purchased through any cast member, online at www.watervilleplayshop.org, by calling the box office at 419-823-7364 or at the door, pending availability.



CHAIR'S CORNER

By Inge Klopping, Chair

For those of you that had the opportunity to attend our production of Disney's *The Lion King, Jr.* you were treated to one of the most compelling and visually pleasing productions! Prior to *Lion King, Jr.* we produced *Fiddler on the Roof* another very successful performance. These performances are indicative of the talent that we have in Northwest Ohio and I thank the cast and crew of both productions for their work and dedication to their craft. We took *Fiddler* to the Ohio Community Theater Association Festival for Northwest Ohio where we competed against 7 other theaters and received several awards for our performance. In doing so, we have been chosen to advance to the State Festival over Labor Day weekend and compete against other theatres from across the State. We are excited about competing at the State Festival! The festival costs \$55 per cast member, and there are 35 cast members who will be attending. Each cast member is paying \$35 with Waterville Playshop paying the balance. We are asking all of you for your help by donating online to this cause so we can send this cast to the State Festival. Your support in helping us attend the State Festival is critical to our ability to go to Columbus to compete. We believe that we are in a strong position to win the competition and receive more awards for this show!

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Support *Fiddler*—donate online at www.watervilleplayshop.org.

Our 2017-2018 season of fairytale, farce and fantasy kicks off with *Once Upon a Mattress*, November 17-19, 2017, directed by Amy Gilmore. This familiar classic is a hilarious and romantic fairytale of royal courtship and comeuppance that provides us with some side-splitting shenanigans.

Next on our play bill is *Monty Python's Spamalot*, April 12-14, 2018, directed by Durrell Johnson. I can't think of a more laughter-filled production than *Spamalot* with its humor and vivacious antics. Lastly, we end our season with that wonderful children's classic of *Disney's Alice in Wonderland, Jr.*, June 22-24, 2018, directed by Shauna Newbold. Lewis Carroll's famous heroine, Alice, comes to life in this delightful adaptation of the classic Disney film. It's a great show for the whole family!

Wrapping up, I offer "Cheers!" to the cast and crew of *Fiddler* as they prepare for the State Festival. I welcome your help in supporting our production of *Fiddler* so it can go to State, and I look forward to seeing at the theatre!

Enjoy the rest of your summer!



OCTA Report

by Joe Barton, OCTA Delegate

The final OCTA Northwest Regional Meeting was held on Sunday, June 10, 2017 at Owens Community College. Elected to serve as NW Reps for next year were: Mitch Antesky (3B Productions/Fremont), Harley Antesky (3B/Fremont), Sara Ledzianowski (Village Players), Jason Neymeiyer (Village Players), Millie Butts (Port Clinton Playmakers), Karen Finn (Lima Encore), Courtney Gray (Cutting Edge), Jaymes Mull (Stone Productions) and Derrick Daniel (Stone Productions). Why so many? Because Northwest Region is not only geographically large, but we also serve 27 theatres! Mitch Antesky will continue as Lead Rep for NW

Our numbers for Regional were DOWN this year....only 7 theatres excerpting: Black Swamp Players (Sylvia), 3B Productions (Sister Act), Fort Findlay Players (A Minister's Wife), Van Wert Civic (Murder in Green Meadows), Cutting Edge (Cabaret), Waterville Playshop (Fiddler on the Roof) and Sandusky Harlequins (Universal Language). Those chosen for State were Cutting Edge, Fort Findlay, and Playshop's Fiddler! **For more on Fiddler's success, see page 7.**

State OCTA is September 1-4 at Crown Plaza North in Columbus, OH. Fiddler will be performing on Sunday afternoon in the final afternoon time slot at 3:30PM. It would be great to see a lot of our Playshop members come to Columbus (even for Sunday) to see Playshop perform.

Also, there are 10, YES 10, Board positions available for next year: 6 Three year terms, 2 Two year terms, and 2 One year terms available. If interested in running for the State OCTA Board, please let me know or go to the OCTA web site for a Board Packet.



In sad news, OCTA lost Board Member and OCTA Historian Fred Wise two weeks ago. Fred Wise was also a Hall of Fame Inductee to OCTA and was instrumental in keeping the history of OCTA alive and current. He will be sadly missed by many, many people including me. Fred was a welcome face and a font of information.



How do I get tickets for the show?

WPS Initiates New System

By Cyndy Brookover, Ticket Coordinator

Playshop is now using SeatYourself as its online ticketing service. You'll find it linked to our webpage, www.watervilleplayshop.org. The process is easy. Select the date/time of the performance you want to attend and the site will then list your options for seating and pricing. When you check out, please remember to give credit to the cast member you're supporting. Upon completing your transaction with your preferred credit card, simply print your receipt and retain that as your ticket for the show! Online sales DO close 2 hours prior to each performance. Check at the door for further availability! Thanks for your support!

OCTA CALL BOARD

09/01-09/04 The Magic Show 2017 State OCTA Conference Crowne Plaza North, Columbus

09/08-09/24 **Bonnie & Clyde**
The Toledo Rep 419.243.9277

09/15-09/23 **The Cemetery Club**
The Village Players 419.472.6817

09/21-10/01 **Gypsy**
Van Wert Civic Theatre 419.238.9689

09/22-10/01 **The 39 Steps**
WCCT 419.636.6400

09/22-10/01 **Baskerville** Black
Swamp www.blackswampplayers.org

09/22-10/01 **Calendar Girls**
Fremont CT 419.332.0695

09/22-10/01 **The Odd Couple**
Genoa CT 419.855.3103

09/28-10/07 **Over the River...**
Ft Findlay Playhouse 567.525.3636

10/19-10/22 **Putting It Together**
Ft Defiance 419.782.PLAY



Audience Input!

Kimberly Baranek, Reading Committee Chair, is seeking ideas for our 2018-2019 Season! If you are interested in Directing a production or have an idea of something our audience would LOVE to see, please forward your requests to Kim @ klbaranek@yahoo.com by October 1, 2017 for consideration.

Lion King Jr: A Visual Delight!

Reviewed By Joe Barton



As I took my seat at the Maumee Indoor Theatre, I was greeted by a gorgeous backdrop of an African sunrise in beautiful hues of yellow and orange with the outline of a black tree in the foreground. On stage was a massive, two story rock, again, in hues of yellow and orange with bits of desert brown. Instantly, I knew this was Pride Rock on the savannas of Africa. As I waited for the show to begin, I had already been transported to another place, another time and that no detail had been overlooked by Director Shauna Newbold, Choreographer Caitlin Hudson or Producers Tammy Fitch and Mark Pike.

As the lights dimmed to black, I could see the young performers getting into place. As the lights began to rise, I was greeted by a colorful and vibrant Rafiki (Emma Parrish). Her Rafiki was a fully formed character and she attacked the song with a big, beautiful voice. Her energy was palpable and it made the opening incredibly dynamic. As she sang her “call” to the other animals, multiple animals began to saunter down the aisles answering her in hushed tones as to not overpower the solo. Quickly, the stage was filled by apes, antelopes, zebras, giraffes and even an elephant. As they entered down the aisles, the main stage filled with grasslands and a pack of lions. Leading the lions was Mufasa (Tyler Cowdrey), Sarabi (Elizabeth Stuart), Sarafina (Abigail Fitch) and, the bitter Scar (Bobbi Baranek) along with the Mufasa’s most trusted assistant Zazu (Katie Trumbull). Each of the lions, including the pack of lioness, used a distinctive, proud stride to carry them across the stage. In fact, all of the animals used a lot of body movement to inhabit his/her character and bring the opening number to a dramatic crescendo!

The action began quickly as we saw Mufasa and Young Simba (Lucas Patterson) enter the stage. Mufasa (Tyler Cowdrey) was aptly played to full physical ability. Throughout his many scenes, mostly with Young Simba, he showed both the patience of a wise and protective Father and the awareness of looming danger to his kingdom. Likewise, his vocals, especially during *They Live in You*, were strong and beautifully sung with heart. Young Simba had boundless energy and a voice to match. All his vocals were extremely well done and his acting was subtle and believable. Lucas Patterson is one to watch in future productions. His energy was infectious and allowed for his taunting of Zazu to fluster the hornbill to full effect. Zazu, (Katie Trumbull) used her body to glide across the stage and interact with both Mufasa and Young Simba. She had a very sophisticated carriage which allowed me to know she was really in charge whether the others liked it or not. Although it was hard to hear many of her vocals, what I did hear was enjoyable. Young Nala (Divya Shetty) also showed a full range of talent in both dance, acting and singing with boundless energy. She was a nice choice opposite the Young Simba. She is another young actor to watch in the future. The trio of Young Simba, Young Nala and Zazu during *I Just Can’t Wait to be King* was a great showcase of all three actors’ talents.

Another trio of note was that of Shenzi, Banzai and Ed (Aly Rollins, Tanner Strock and Morgan Cull). The three had a natural chemistry and worked well as a group. They used their bodies well to inhabit the hyenas and a lot of physical humor as well. And even though Ed didn’t say a line, he spoke volumes with his face and body. Of course, the trio was being led behind the scenes by the devious Scar played to full effect by veteran Bobbi Baranek. Every move was calculated and she fully embodied this character. It was a risk by Director Newbold to choose a woman to play such an iconic role as Scar, but it was a wise choice. Bobbi fully committed to this role both physically and vocally and it paid off for her and the production. With the addition of the Hyena chorus *Be Prepared* was another highlight of the show.

The Lioness pack, led by Sarabi (Elizabeth Stuart) and Sarafina (Abbie Fitch), were a harmonious pack. The choreography of the pack was seamless and allowed for some beautiful stage pictures. As a group, both their overall look and vocals contributed to some very good moments during the production in both *The Mourning* and *Shadowlands*.

Continued on page 4

Lion King, continued—

The production took a much-needed comedic change as Timon (Ben Bascuk) and Pumba (Adam Lenhart) were introduced. This duet was made famous by the movie and Ben and Adam did not disappoint. Their vocals were great in *Hakuna Matata* as well as during the *Luuu Hawaiian Treat*, but it was their use of vocalization and their physical manifestation of the characters that made them both so successful. Each of these young gentlemen landed every joke and worked well as a duo. They were truly a treat to watch and opened Act II with a bang.

Not to be outdone by Young Simba, “older” Simba, played by Trevor Gill-Snow, had the same high-energy as Young Simba, but also carried the guilt of his father’s death. Both in body and vocals, Trevor made for a great compatriot to both Timon and Pumba and as a love interest for the “older” Nala, played by Elizabeth Gozdowski. In both *Shadowlands* and *Can You Feel the Love Tonight*, Nala had some great vocals and worked well with both the Lioness pack and Simba.

Because this is such a lead driven show, it is easy to forget the chorus, but not in this instance. Whether the chorus was being used as animals in the opening numbers (a special shout out to the happiest giraffes I have ever seen), grasslands, jungle or Hyenas, the chorus kept the show moving and was involved through body, voice and movement. They were task oriented and made each scene more textured and diverse as if each had a story to tell just as important as the central intrigue. All the children involved should be extremely proud of how well they performed in this production.



Of course, someone had to put this all together and Director Shauna Newbold made some great stage pictures! Most notable scenes for me were Timon and Pumba during their philosophical discussion about stars, the Rafiki/Simba/Mufasa staging of *He Lives in You* reprise in Act II and, of course, the dynamite opening/closing number, *Circle of Life*. It should also be noted that Ms. Newbold used the stage well throughout the show and kept the pace brisk. Lots of imagination went into the overall look and feel of the show and it all culminated in a spectacular show that many of these kids will remember for a long time to come.

I would also like to give special mention to the choreography of Caitlin Hudson. It was simple, yet affective, but more importantly it utilized the students to the best of their ability. She utilized those who had more dance experience to do more intricate choreography (usually the Lioness pack) and kept other choreography less advanced so that all could feel accomplished.

Overall, she made great use of the stage and kept the choreography interesting no matter the level of dance.

Special mention must be given to the costume design of Michelle Johnson and the make-up design of Dylan Coale. This was far beyond most JR productions. The costumes were in the pattern and design of African tribes allowing the audience to easily distinguish various characters and/or animals. Each color pattern used worked perfectly to tell the story of the Lioness tribe, the zebra, etc. And the animal masks were a great idea to help keep the costume from becoming too clichéd.



Likewise, the make-up design was unique; every animal had a distinct look that had a bit of African tribal art combined with animalistic design. The marriage between costumes and make-up was harmonious and allowed for enhanced stage pictures throughout the show. With so much lush color in the make-up and costumes combined with an absolutely gorgeous set, I was overwhelmed with the sense of pageantry I had at the first time I saw *Lion King* several years ago on Broadway.

Lion King, JR was well-beyond what I expected of a “junior” production. Producers Tammy Fitch and Mark Pike pulled together a dynamite team of All Stars to culminate in a fully spectacular production. Those production elements, combined with great direction and choreography AND a phenomenal cast of some of the best young talent in NW Ohio/SE Michigan, made for an Outstanding production. Waterville Playshop should be insanely proud of what they have accomplished. Congratulations!

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Barton

Building News: WPS's New Home Under Renovation

By Dave Fitch

In March of 2017, Waterville Playshop was extremely fortunate to be able to rent the old fire station from the City of Waterville. Since then we have hosted auditions, rehearsals, stage production and board meetings, and an open house. The building is working out very well for our needs. After so many years, it is with great pride that we can now call someplace 'home'.

The building required a thorough cleaning and many members of our board and parents of cast members were more than gracious enough to dedicate their time to getting the building in usable shape. The great thing about being involved with a community based organization is the outpouring of help that everyone has given. Jenny and Deb Gill-Snow really stepped up by helping paint several rooms that had some 'funky' colors and Tanner Gill-Snow painted a mural on the wall in the office building.

Since the acquisition of the building Mark Pike, Tammy Fitch and myself have spent countless hours changing light bulbs, making minor electrical and plumbing repairs, removing weeds, and cleaning. We were also able to get all three overhead doors operational which helps immensely with set building in the old fire truck bays. I also want to say thank you to many people for helping with the upkeep of the building: Inge Klopping, Marsha Cochran, Chris Goodell and Angie Weber. Also, many parents and cast members donated paper products!

Waterville Playshop has been able to have rehearsals for Fiddler on the Roof and Lion King Jr, and we have also been able to help 3B Productions with rehearsal space when they've needed it to prepare for OCTA and The Wiz. It is great to be able to help our sister production company.

However, since acquiring the building, we have noticed many items that will need further repair. As part of our lease agreement, Waterville Playshop is responsible for any repairs up to \$10,000. Waterville Playshop is asking anyone with experience in repair or monetary assistance for the below listed repairs. If anyone is interested in helping please send an email to David Fitch at watervilleplayshop@gmail.org. Waterville Playshop will also accept donations of everyday perishables such as toilet tissue, paper towels, cleaning supplies, etc. We thank you in advance for any assistance you can provide.



List of Repairs (Exterior)

- Brick and grout repair
- Step cracking of exterior brick
- Exterior door re-painting
- Removal of antenna tower
- Rubber roof repair and cleaning
- Repair to rooftop air conditioning unit
- Miscellaneous exterior painting
- Cleaning of gutters
- Tree trimming for branches overhanging roof
- Clear ivy off west wall
- Re-caulking of exterior windows
- Patching of multiple exterior holes in brick
- Remove multiple protruding bolts from brick

List of Repairs (Interior)

- Replace sink, faucet and drain piping in kitchen
- Clean all drains for sinks in entire building
- Replace missing or broken outlet/switch covers
- Install shelves in multiple rooms for storage
- Painting of interior surfaces in multiple rooms
- Sound deadening in the rear rehearsal room
- Drywall repair from water damage

Make a donation to help Playshop make the necessary repairs by visiting www.watervilleplayshop.org. Contact David Fitch for additional information about how you can help and when work days are scheduled.

COMING UP!

Announcing AUDITIONS for Waterville Playshop's Fall 2017 Production of



The kingdom is in trouble! It is only when Prince Dauntless weds that its knights and ladies in waiting may be joined in marriage, and with Mama Aggravain, overbearing Queen of the land, that just isn't likely! Will Princess Winnifred pass Mama's special Princess Test? It's going to take some serious intervention by a mute king, a crazy jester and a devious magician!

Broadway's most recent revival of the show featured Sarah Jessica Parker as Princess Winnifred in a role made famous by Carol Burnett. This family friendly show is sure to be the perfect hit to kick off the Toledo area's holiday season! You definitely want to be part of the fun!

This lighthearted musical retelling of The Princess and the Pea features such songs as "Shy" and "I'm In Love with a Girl Named Fred!" Amy Gilmore, Director, promises to handle the production with "Sensitivity" and not a lot of "Spanish Panic!" Amy recently served as the Assistant Director for Playshop's 2017 OCTA Award-Winning Fiddler on the Roof. Cyndy Brookover assists on the project.

***Auditions will be held on Saturday, September 30 from 12:00 - 3:00 p.m.
and Sunday, October 1 from 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. at 808 Michigan Street,
Waterville (Playshop's space in the old firehall).***

Callbacks will be Monday, October 2 at 6:00 p.m.

Come prepared with a song of your choice that best showcases your Broadway-style talents. An accompanist will be provided for those who bring their sheet music! You must be in high school or older to participate.



Congratulations to the Cast and Crew of Waterville Playshop's *Fiddler on the Roof?*

Well done Michael Barlos, Amy Gilmore, Matt Zwyer and Brittney SeigneurHarris! Your vision led us to a successful performance at the Northwest Regional Festival of the Ohio Community Theatre Association at Owens Community College in early June. Special appreciation also to the production team led by Tammy Fitch. Come join the journey as we head south to Columbus for the State OCTAfest over Labor Day weekend 2017. Our cast takes the stage on Sunday, September 3, at 3:30 p.m. at the Crowne Plaza North.

The Ohio Community Theatre Association is made up of 102 theatres in six regions across Ohio. Fourteen member theatres are selected to participate at the state festival. Theatres receive no financial support toward this opportunity so it is up to our home community to assist us in sending our talented team to the event. Let's work together to demonstrate the strength of COMMUNITY in our THEATRE by contributing financially to make this honor possible. Visit www.watervilleplayshop.org to support Fiddler On the Roof! The Best Comes from the Northwest!

Awarded at the Northwest Regional OCTAfest:

- **The Cast of *Fiddler on the Roof*:** Outstanding in Vocal Ensemble
- **Nicole Spadafore:** Excellence in Musical Accompaniment
- **Matt Zwyer:** Excellence in Musical Directing
- **Quintin Bouillon:** Excellence in Musical Theatre Performance as Motel
- **Michael Barlos:** Merit in Directing
- **Joe Barton:** Merit in Costuming
- **Mark Taylor:** Merit in Musical Performance as Tevye

Playshop is joined by A Minister's Wife, Ft. Findlay Playhouse, and Cabaret, Cutting Edge Theatre. Come to lend your support to all of the NW's entries!



There's no pea under this mattress, er, burrito, but it is pure gold for Playshop! Chipotle is proud to partner with nonprofits around the country to support the work we do. And this little gem comes just in time for our OCTA trip. Bring your friends! Share the flyer! We challenge you to bring in \$650 for Playshop! Hey, that's only about 200 burritos, so we can do it! Stop by the Maumee Chipotle on Monday, August 28 for your late-day meal and 50% of your purchase will come right back to Playshop! It's a win WIN for everyone! See you there!

ONE FOR THE TEAM



Show your team spirit by joining us for a fundraiser to support Waterville Playshop. Come in to the Chipotle at **1385 Conant Street Suite A** in Maumee on **Monday, August 28th** between **4:00pm** and **8:00pm**. Bring in this flyer, show it on your smartphone or tell the cashier you're supporting the cause to make sure that 50% of the proceeds will be donated to Waterville Playshop.



If placing an order online during your fundraiser, please note you must choose the pay in-store option and inform our cashier of your participation before paying. Gift card purchases during fundraisers do not count towards total donated sales, but purchases made with an existing gift card will count.