



CenterStage

The Official Theatrix Newsletter

September 13, 2009

ACT I, Scene 1

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Fall Classes:

Now that the drama of getting back-to-school is over, it's time to think about getting into Theatrix Classes. Fall Classes begin next week and we have a lot to offer.

Ryan McIntyre will be leading the brawl in the "Stage Combat" class while Melissa Blue prepares you for your next audition in "Audition" class and teaches the subtleties of "Acting for the Camera". Jackie Stein will be sharing her expertise with actors in the Stage Make-Up class.

Rebekah Rickards' class will be kicking up their heels in "Contemporary Dance Movement" while Joe Levander's groups learn to think quickly on their feet in "Intro to Improv", and the "Improv Troupe" will be sharpening their Improv skills for performance.

Sign-up today! You may come to the first class with your Registration form in hand. Click on Fall Classes in the left column to see the complete listing of classes. (Note: You must be registered in a Fall Class to audition for IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE:THE MUSICAL.)

It's A Wonderful Life: *The Musical*

Last year's production of "It's A Wonderful Life: The Musical" was so well-received that we're bringing it back -- by popular demand! We are going to adopt and establish this musical stage version as our annual Holiday Season musical.

The IAWL cast is comprised of Theatrix students who are currently enrolled in a Fall class, adults, and "Adult Mentor Actors". Our Mentor Actors are a select, seasoned group of actors who have years of experience onstage. They are pre-cast in their roles, and add not only a professional quality and dimension to the show, but they also serve as mentors and coaches to the younger actors onstage.

Auditions for IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE: THE MUSICAL are Sept, 18 and 19, 2009 and callbacks are Sunday, Sept. 20. Each auditionee should be prepared with a 1 minute monologue and a 16-32 bar cut of a song. Audition times may be scheduled by emailing Kathi-Lee (theatrix@cox.net). Each audition slot is 5 minutes, and each auditionee will be asked to stay and do a cold read from the script with other actors. Some will be asked to attend callbacks. AGAIN: The only roles which are "pre-cast" are the Adult Mentor Actor roles.

Performances of IAWL will be at the Barry Robinson Theatre Dec. 4-13, 2009. Tickets are available online at our website.

Theatre Angels:

Who are they?

Contact Us:

Rocco Wilson

Kathi-Lee Wilson



Stage Craft: What are props?



A theatrical property, commonly referred to as a prop, is any object held or used on stage by an actor for use in furthering the plot or story line of a theatrical production.

Smaller props are referred to as "hand props". Larger props may also be set decoration, such as a chair or table.

The difference between a **set decoration** and a **prop** is use. If the item is not touched by a performer for any reason it is simply a set decoration. If it is touched by the actor in accordance to script requirements or as deemed by the director, it is a prop.

Director's Notes:

...and Speaking of Props ...



Rocco Wilson

Props are a very important component for the audience and the actor.

For the audience, it helps make the connection with the actor by associating the fictional character with an actual real thing. For the actor, the prop is a device to help further the plot by its use. Actors also use props to enhance the communication with the audience.

One of the most important concepts for an actor to comprehend is to respect props as property. This is property that is bought, rented, borrowed and/or owned by the theatre company.

We teach the actors that "If it's not your prop, don't touch it". This concept isn't restricted to the stage or production; it applies to the real world as well.

In a world where instant gratification overshadows intellectual and real property rights, there seems to be a marked increase in the "entitlement" defense for procuring souvenirs from a particular show.

This "Entitled Procurement" of souvenirs, otherwise known as **STEALING**, costs money and time to replace. Unfortunately, it doesn't stop there. Some people actually steal stuff and give it to others as "gifts", which somehow justifies their actions in a flawed "Robin Hood" syndrome that helps feed the "Entitlement". The recipients may not realize that they are receiving stolen property, but they are never the less part of the problem.

We are currently looking for "missing" props that we need to find, replace or be returned. Some of these props belong to other people or organizations. Please help us retrieve these lost items.

The list is frankly too long to itemize, but among the items are a stage "flint-lock" pistol, antique handcuffs with keys, brass "Gong", and a magic "appearing cane". If you find yourself in possession of these, or other props, will you kindly return them to Theatrix Studios? We would be most grateful! *Thanks, Rocco & Kathi-Lee*



What's Happening Now?

- Kids On Broadway Photo Cds are ready to be picked-up.
- Theatrix Classes begin this week.
- "It's A Wonderful Life: The Musical" auditions begin Friday.

What's Coming up?

- **Les Miserables DVD Release Party** at Theatrix Studios on Sunday, September 27th. All those who have ordered (and paid for) DVDs may receive them at the party. DVDs will have both Red and Black Cast performances. Special Features include behind-the-scenes footage: rehearsals, Sitz Probe, interviews and more.

DVDs will contain a folder where you can download performance photos to your personal computer for viewing and/or printing purposes.

Please understand that we must be in strict compliance with Music Theatre International regarding the recording and duplication of DVDs.

If you are a cast member, crew member, orchestra member (or a parent of the aforementioned) you may purchase a DVD. If you haven't placed your order, please do so immediately by emailing Theatrix Productions. We will send you a registration form to fill out and send in with your payment.

- **Parent Corps Meeting** will be scheduled for late September.
- **"A Wine Tasting" Fundraiser** will be scheduled in Mid-October.
- **"Theatrix Open" Golf Tournament** will be scheduled for Spring 2010.

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