
CURTAIN CALL

2019 CIVIC CIRCLE
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July, 2008

Amarillo Little Theatre

the place to be.....entertained!

Preparations are already underway for the beginning of ALT's exciting 2008-09 season. This year's collection of nine great productions promises to be one of the best seasons in ALT's history. ALT will be revisiting some of its most popular shows of all time along with some of the most current, contemporary theatre available today.

ALT's **Adventure Space** season will begin on August 14th with the brilliant new drama **Blackbird**. Winner of London's Olivier Award for Best New Play of 2007, this is one of the most current shows ever to play on an ALT stage. The remainder of the Adventure Space season includes **Ruthless!**, a wonderful musical spoof that will feature ALT's own **Jeff Jarnagin** in the starring role, **The Clean House**, a bold new romantic comedy written by one of the country's hottest playwrights, Sarah Ruhl, and **Rabbit Hole**, the winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Drama in 2007. What a collection of great theatre productions!

ALT audiences will also be mesmerized with the great work being presented at the Mainstage. The **Mainstage** season opens on September 11th with the spectacular **Smokey Joe's Cafe**. First presented at ALT in May of 2003, this great music revue still ranks as one of ALT's most popular shows ever. It will be a rockin' good time!

In October, ALT presents **Dracula**, a spine-tingling drama that will provide chills and thrills for the entire family.... a great Halloween treat. In January, ALT opens **Quliters**. Another extraordinary ALT hit from 1990, this folksy musical pays loving tribute to the grit and determination of pioneer women. In March, ALT opens a wonderful, new comedy **Over the Tavern**. Set in the nostalgic 1950s, this touching and funny new show is an hilarious look at growing up in a strict Catholic family. In May, the enchanting Rodgers and Hammerstein classic musical, **Cinderella**, will be a delightful season finale for audiences of all ages.

In addition to these nine terrific shows, ALT will continue to offer some fun special events throughout the season. These will include the possible return of **Always...Patsy Cline** and **Sweet Dreams, Peggy Sue**. ALT will also be reprising its extremely popular Christmas special **The Santaland Diaries** starring **Jeff Jarnagin** as Crumpet, the angry Macy's elf.

Of course, the best way to guarantee that you get the best seats for all of these great shows is to be an ALT season ticket subscriber. Season ticket holders get advance reservation privileges. ALT season tickets also save you money - almost 40% over regular box office prices. Furthermore, ALT season ticket holders get discounts to all special events and Academy classes. Now is the time to purchase your season tickets. You may either call the ALT box office or download the season ticket form at our website and mail it in.

Don't miss out on all of the fun and excitement of ALT's new season!! Order your season ticket package today.

IT'S EASY TO PURCHASE ALT SEASON TICKETS!

You may call the ALT office at 355-9991 and purchase over the phone or....
go to the ALT website at www.amarillolittletheatre.org.

At the website you may download the season ticket order form and mail or fax it to us.

Director's Notes



**Allen
Shankles**

There is much important information needing to fit into this issue of Curtain Call, therefore I intend to be brief in this column. It is mind-boggling to consider it, but I have already begun rehearsals for the first show of the new season - **Blackbird**. This show opens at the Adventure Space on August 14. I love the show and look forward to directing it, but I sure would have liked a little more of a break. No rest for the wicked?

ALT recently lost one of its most treasured volunteers as **Richard Kritselis** lost his battle with lung cancer. Richard had not been involved at ALT for a few years, but his commitment to ALT in the past still distinguishes him among our very finest. Richard, along with his wife Carol, and sons Keith and Nick, volunteered literally thousands of hours at ALT. Richard was a part of ALT's touring project for almost ten years, hauling the trailer from town to town, loading and unloading and running the sound board. He was tireless. Richard loved to dance whenever he worked the sound board. I loved to watch him because you

could tell that he was filled with such great joy. Richard was a man of small stature, but he had one of the biggest hearts and spirits I have ever encountered. ALT and I will miss him.

ALT's new season promises to be spectacular! We fear it will be a challenge to compete with the rising costs of gas and groceries, but we know that people still need to laugh and be entertained and we know there is no better place in our community for that than ALT. We sincerely appreciate our many loyal patrons and we look forward to sharing another great season with all of you.

I look forward to seeing you at the theatre(s).

ALT'S SEAT REPLACEMENT IN HIGH GEAR!!!

When ALT patrons enter the Mainstage auditorium for **Smokey Joe's Cafe'**, they will be amazed to see brand new theatre seats. The fundraising campaign is complete thanks to a \$25,500 grant from the Meadows Foundation which will be added to the almost \$90,000 contributed by ALT's generous patrons.

The ALT staff has completed removal of the old seats which have been donated to the River Road School District. The technical staff is currently working on thoroughly cleaning the floor in preparation for staining. The new seats are scheduled to be delivered and installed the first week of August.

Go to the "blog" on ALT's website www.amarillolittletheatre.org to see photos of this project in progress.

ALT wishes to thank the many generous patrons who helped to make this project successful.

Donations Made For New Theatre Seats

April 15-July 1, 2008

Chuck & Melody Alexander

Ella Auldridge

William M. Banister, M.D.

Bank of America Matching Grant

Bell Helicopter/Textron Matching Grants

Mrs. Bob Callan

Janice Cranmer

in honor of Steve & Susan Hoyl

George & Betty Dixon

B. A. Donelson

Gary & Becky Douglass

Patricia Fisher

Robert & Carol Forrester

in honor of Robert Forrester, Jr., Heather Forrester Russell, Margaret Forrester, Tate Forrester

Dr. & Mrs. Darrell Garrison

Judy & Reagan Hathcock

Gerald & Audrey Holman

Jim Kemp & Whitney Kelly

Phillip E. Kielpinski

Anonymous

Tommy & Pat McKay

Joe & Tommie Mercer

Evelyn Miskimens

Troy Don Moore

Dean & Beverly Morgan

Penny Pearson

Parman & Mary Reynolds

Tana & Ryan Roberson

Bill & Barbara Scott

Heather Shiple

in honor of her parents Patricia F. & Danny P. Bryant

Dr. Richard & Jimmie Smith

Catherine Stargel

Judy Stark

in memory of Bonny & Doris Wright

Shirley Summerton

Patrick & Roni Swindell

Ann Thompson

Margaret Willis

Ken & Glenda Wischkaemper

Academy Spotlight

Summer is soon coming to an end and the Academy is about to wrap up yet another series of successful summer camps. Our classroom has been busy from staging such stories as “The Stinky Cheese Man” and “The Frog Prince Continued” to recreating classic Broadway show tunes and learning the history of musical theatre. Special thanks to **Shannon Mashburn, Karen Walsh, and Brandon Bellar** for providing their expertise as Camp Directors as well our amazing Camp Counselors **Elizabeth Boston, Joann Early, Ryce Garren, Caroline Robinson and Katie Rowan.**

With camps almost done, it seems like hardly any time for rest before we start up another exciting Academy semester. To kick things off, we will be having an **ALTAC** (Amarillo Little Theatre Academy Council) meeting on **July 27th** at **3 pm** in the Terk Lobby at the ALT Mainstage. Any Academy parent is encouraged to come and give input on how we can make this next year an even more successful experience for our Academy kids.

Also, Academy students... mark your ALT calendars for **Junior/Senior Company** auditions on **Wednesday, August 13th**. Auditions will be held at the ALT classroom and those wishing to audition should prepare a 1-2 minute monologue. Junior Company (7-9th grade) auditions will begin at 5 pm and Senior Company (10-12th grade) will begin at 6 pm. Please dress in proper audition clothing. Questions? Don't hesitate to call me at 352-0731!

Finally, I am pleased to announce our 2008-2009 Academy season! Our Academy will be staging not two but three great shows that will surely be a delight for our ALT audiences. First up, in October we will be staging “**The Velveteen Rabbit**” at the Adventure Space. This classic tale is sure to be a heart-warming play for all ages and it will give our Academy students the chance to perform in our Adventure Space. In December, we will be full of the holiday spirit as we present “**The Best Christmas Pageant Ever.**” Based on the beloved book by Barbara Robinson, this show is filled with humor and charm and will be the perfect holiday treat. In March, we will be marching to 76 trombones as we enter the world of “**The Music Man.**” This show was a huge success for the ALT Academy 9 years ago and we plan on making it even bigger and better! Look for audition information soon!

With the success of last year and the talent we are fortunate to have in not only our students, but also in our instructors, I am confident in saying that our 2008-2009 Academy season will be one of it's brightest!

Jason Crespin
Academy Director

Notes from the Guild

Greetings everyone,

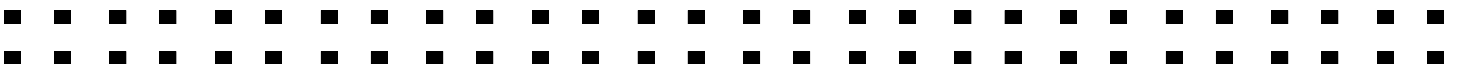
It is hard to believe that summer is halfway over already, and a new season is almost here. We have a lot of exciting things planned for the Guild this season. First, I would like to thank each and every one of you who filled 240 slots for ushering and concessions this past season. Second, each of you contributed in raising the \$7,000 we donated to ALT in June. Third, the Guild provided 25 weekend work call lunches this past season. As you can see, this is a tremendous effort. So to start our year off with a bang, we are having a **membership drive party on Tuesday, August 5 at 6:30 p.m.** Jim Kemp and Whitney Kelley have graciously volunteered their home for this event. Stay tuned for more information. It promises to be an exciting evening. If you are a member or wish to join the Guild, please go to www.amarillolittletheatre.org and download a membership form. We are trying to get a directory done by the end of August. See you at the theatre.

Justin Loe
ALTG President

ATTENTION!!!!

■ ■ ALT Academy dance and theatre schedules for the fall semester are now available. ■ ■
■ ■ Call the ALT box office or go to our website to download a schedule and registration form. ■ ■

■ ■ **REGISTRATION BEGINS MONDAY, AUGUST 18 @ 10:00 AM.** ■ ■
■ ■ **CLASSES BEGIN MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8.** ■ ■



AUDITIONS! AUDITIONS! AUDITIONS!

ALT is pleased to announce auditions for its first two Mainstage productions of the 2008-09 season.



SMOKEY JOE'S CAFE'

by Leiber and Stoller

AUDITION DATES

Monday, July 28 and Tuesday, July 29, 2008,
ALT Adventure Space @ 7:30 pm

Roles are available for **4-5 women** and **5-6 men**
(a **4-6 person dancing ensemble** will also be cast)

Auditions will consist of a prepared vocal selection not to exceed 60 seconds. We request that the vocal selection reflect the early rock and roll stylings of the show. All auditionees will do a short movement combination with the choreographer.



DRACULA

by Hamilton Deane & John L. Balderston

AUDITION DATES

Monday, September 15 and Tuesday, September 16,
2008

ALT Mainstage @ 7:30 pm

Roles are available for **6 men (age range 16-65)** and **2 women (age range 18-50)**

Perusal scripts for both shows are available at the ALT Offices for a \$10.00 refundable deposit.

For more information regarding these auditions, please contact the ALT Offices at 355-9991 or go to our website at www.amarillolittletheatre.org

altBLOG

Have you been to the ALT website today? If not, you should check it out! Not only are you able to access information about ALT's upcoming season at the Mainstage and the Adventure Space, audition opportunities and class schedules, but there is a brand new feature that will keep you up to date and give you a chance to "talk back" as well.

Go to www.amarillolittletheatre.org and you will see "New! alt BLOG." You will get the very latest news and opinions from Allen Shankles, Managing/Artistic Director; Tana Roberson, Scenic Designer/Volunteer Coordinator; Jason Crespin, ALT Academy Director. You will be able to "talk back" by posting your own comments in regard to each blog. This will be a great method of communication for all of ALT's special friends.

More Great News! Amarillo Little Theatre is now on MySpace at myspace.com/amarillolittletheatre. Sign up to be a friend soon!

Join us at ALT, the place to be!

VOLUNTEERS... WE NEED YOU!!

Ever wonder how the incredible sets, backdrops and costumes are created at ALT? These great works of art would never be accomplished without the dedicated work of a talented corps of volunteers. ALT is blessed with many excellent volunteers, but we need more. A season of eleven or more productions can burn-out even the most committed volunteer. That's why we need you.

No experience is necessary. Really! ALT's professional staff can teach you what you need to know to be a highly functioning member of the team. All that is required from you is the desire to get involved.

If you would like to get involved with set construction, painting, costumes or backstage crew work, please contact Tana Roberson, ALT Scenic Designer and Volunteer Coordinator. **You can call Tana at 355-9991 or email her at tana@amarillolittletheatre.org.**

Come be a part of an exciting and very successful organization. We can't wait to see you.