
CURTAIN CALL

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July, 2009

Amarillo Little Theatre

proudly presents

THE 2009-10 SEASON

In just a few short weeks, ALT's exciting 2009-10 season will begin. This collection of nine great productions promises to be one of the greatest, most popular seasons in our history. It should be....our audiences helped us pick the shows!

The season will begin at the Adventure Space on August 20 with the new comedy **Moonlight and Magnolias**. This hilarious show is loosely based on legendary film producer David O. Selznick and his quest to produce "Gone With the Wind." This is truly one of the funniest new scripts we have encountered in several years and we are certain it will be a hit with ALT audiences. The remainder of the Adventure Space season includes the truly frightening suspense thriller **The Woman in Black** which is scheduled for October, the wonderfully romantic new musical, **The Light in the Piazza** scheduled for February 2010, and the intense drama **Equus** which will perform in April 2010.

ALT's Mainstage season will explode onto the stage September 24 with the opening of **The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas**. This fun and raucous musical was last produced at ALT in 1999 and it continues to be one of our most popular shows ever! In December, the Mainstage season continues the fun with the hilarious, classic comedy **You Can't Take it With You**. This wonderful show will be an over the top treat for the entire family. In January 2010, ALT presents the heart-warming play based on the best-selling book, **Tuesdays With Morrie**. Filled with its many great lessons on life, this is a show that you won't want to miss. More comedy fills the stage in March as **The Dixie Swim Club** opens. This great new show focuses on five female friends who get together once a year to reminisce and have fun. If you liked *Steel Magnolias*, this show might be your favorite of the season. Finally, the ALT season will conclude in May with the classic musical **Grease**.

Of course, the very best way to guarantee that you have the best seats possible for each of these shows is to purchase an **ALT Season Ticket** package. Ticket packages come in packs of 5 or 4 and can be mixed and matched to allow you to see the shows you want to see. Season ticket packages also save you money - almost 40% savings over regularly priced tickets. Finally, season ticket holders receive discounts on Academy tuition and for other special events like **The Santaland Diaries**, **The Flying J Wranglers** and more.

Now is the time to purchase your "ticket" to all of the fun and excitement of ALT's new season. Please contact the ALT box office today to purchase your season tickets or for more information.

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

PURCHASE ALT SEASON TICKETS TODAY!!!
CALL THE ALT BOX OFFICE AT 355-9991, EMAIL JEFF AT
jeff@amarillolittletheatre.org OR GO TO OUR WEBSITE AT
www.amarillolittletheatre.org
TO DOWNLOAD THE SEASON TICKET FORM.

Director's Notes



**Allen
Shankles**

The lights dimmed on the 2008-09 season with the completion of the ALTA Awards on Saturday night, June 27. This is always one of my favorite nights of the year as it is a great opportunity to applaud many great volunteers and performers. I call it a "love fest" as everyone in attendance surely loves ALT.

The special event with Linda Eder was a terrific evening for ALT. Ms. Eder is certainly one of the finest voices to ever appear on our stage. She did a full 90 minute show and our audience was not ready for her to finish. I want to thank the many generous people who helped to make this event successful. I particularly want to thank our good friends Mike and Ellen Brister and John and Doris Kaczmarek for their extraordinary support. The event would not have been successful without their help.

Believe it or not, we are just days away from starting rehearsals on the 2009-10 season. We held auditions for **Moonlight and Magnolias** on Monday and Tuesday, July 6 and 7. I will be directing the show. This is among my favorite scripts of the year. It is one of the wittiest, most fun scripts I have read in a while and I think our audiences are going to love it.

Speaking of the new season, I believe that we have put together one of the finest collections of nine shows ever. The goal is to bolster our box office numbers, which were down about 10% this past season. I am counting on our audiences to support these shows strongly.

The new season looks poised to present some major challenges. Funding pledges and advertising sales look as though they will collectively be down over \$40,000 from last year. Now is the time for those of us who really believe in this organization to buckle down and push past these tough times. As I move into the "next 25 years" of my career here, I intend to do just that. Come along for the ride.

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

ANNUAL ALT AWARDS GALA CULMINATES SEASON!

About 140 guests braved one of the most vicious rainstorms in history to attend the 2009 ALTA Gala on Saturday, June 27 at the ALT Adventure Space. Rain couldn't dampen the excitement as a great meal and cocktails were followed by a retrospective of the season and the awards. Following are the nominees in each category with the award winner's names in bold.

Outstanding Newcomer

Melodie Weis in *Blackbird*
Ryan Sustaita in *Dracula*
Alexis Jergenson in *Ruthless!*
Nick Palmieri in *Over the Tavern*
Kayla Jenkins in *Cinderella*

Supporting Actress in a Musical

Lindsey Williams in *Smokey Joe's Cafe'*
Heather Manderson in *Ruthless!*
Kayla Jenkins in *Cinderella*
Lyndsee Rich in *Cinderella*
Lindsey Williams in *Cinderella*

Leading Actress in a Play

Melodie Weis in *Blackbird*
Candy Boxwell in *The Clean House*
Chriselda Reyes in *The Clean House*
Carrie Huckabay in *Over the Tavern*
Heather Manderson in *Rabbit Hole*

Supporting Actor in a Play

Jonathan Mobley in *Dracula*
Ryan Sustaita in *Dracula*
Don Washburn in *The Clean House*
Nick Palmieri in *Over the Tavern*
Robert Kratochvil in *Rabbit Hole*

Featured Performance in a Musical

Josh Bates in *Smokey Joe's Cafe'*
Jason Crespin in *Smokey Joe's Cafe'*
Annika Johansson in *Smokey Joe's Cafe'*
Katie Rowan in *Smokey Joe's Cafe'*
Chelsea Sissom in *Smokey Joe's Cafe'*

Leading Actor in a Musical

Chuck Alexander in *Smokey Joe's Cafe'*
Brandon Bellar in *Smokey Joe's Cafe'*
Devlon D. Jones in *Smokey Joe's Cafe'*
Kenneth (Boola) Patterson
in *Smokey Joe's Cafe'*
Josh Bates in *Cinderella*

Supporting Actress in a Play

Lynae' Jacob in *The Clean House*
Anne Lankford in *The Clean House*
Cindi Bulla in *Over the Tavern*
Amy Gilliland in *Rabbit Hole*
Amy Spears in *Rabbit Hole*

Leading Actor in a Play (a tie)

Don Washburn in *Blackbird*
Shawn Walsh in *Dracula*
Mark Jones in *Over the Tavern*
Joseph Lundegreen in *Over the Tavern*
Bobby Schaffer in *Rabbit Hole*

Leading Actress in a Musical

Jeni Roller in *Smokey Joe's Cafe'*
Chana Smith in *Smokey Joe's Cafe'*
Annika Johansson in *Ruthless!*
Alexis Jergenson in *Ruthless!*
Annika Johansson in *Cinderella*

Supporting Actor in a Musical

Scott Royster in *Smokey Joe's Cafe'*
Justin Loe in *Cinderella*
Scott Royster in *Cinderella*

Outstanding Volunteers of the season were also recognized. **Michelle Roberts** received the **Jill Cowan Memorial Award** as the Outstanding Technical Volunteer of the season.

The **Daniel J. Schwartz Award** was awarded to **Team Garren (Ryce, Lissa and Jason Garren)** as the outstanding volunteers of the season.

Academy Spotlight

Time sure seems to fly by when you're having fun and that's exactly what this summer's Academy camps have been doing. Having fun! The Academy has been busy with packed camps full of Shel Silverstein poems and stories to singing and dancing classic Broadway show tunes. Special thanks go out to **Jayme McBride, Shannon Mashburn, Karen Walsh,** and **Brandon Bellar** for providing their expertise as Camp Directors as well as our amazing Camp Counselors **Jancee Bennett, Evan Domme, Joann Early, Annika Johansson, Laura Robinson,** and **Maddie Todd** for all their help. Speaking of camps, we still have a couple more to go. Our 8-12th grade "**Camp Broadway**" runs from July 20th to July 31st. This camp will feature classic "Movie Musical Moments" and will be a treat for all. In August, we will be having two Dance Intensive Camps for 1st-7th grade (August 11-14th) and 8th-12th grade (August 18-21st.) These camps will feature instruction in Ballet, Hip Hop, Lyrical & Musical Theatre. Sign up soon as space is limited!

At this summer's annual Amarillo Little Theatre Awards, we were able to recognize some hardworking individuals who have given so much to the Academy this past year. **Caroline Robinson** was recognized as our 2008/2009 Theatre Intern, **JT Sherrer** received the **Elise Keely Carlton Spirit of the Theatre Award,** **Katie Rowan** was named **Student of the Year,** and **Erin Martindale** was awarded our **Parent of the Year.** This was a great night to not only honor the ALT Season, but the Academy as well. Congrats to all!

Academy Students.... mark your calendars for **Junior/Senior Company auditions** on **Wednesday, August 12th.** Auditions will be held in the Terk Lobby of the Amarillo Little Theatre and those wishing to audition should prepare a 1-2 minute (dramatic/comedic) monologue and expect to perform in front a panel of judges. Junior Company (7-9th grade) auditions will begin at 4:30 pm and Senior Company (10-12th grade) will begin at 6pm. Please dress in appropriate audition attire. Questions? Don't hesitate to call me at 352-0731.

Finally, I am very excited to announce two of the three Academy shows that will be a part of our Academy season next year. With such success of our three productions last year, we had to keep the momentum of a three show season going. With so many options at hand, I have yet to finalize our first show. I currently have a show in this November 6th-8th slot, but am awaiting a script that may take it's place. Look for the announcement of this play at registration in August. It will surely be a show that will challenge our talented students! The fun Saturday morning cartoon series "**School House Rock! Live!**" will be our first musical and will feature a small cast in the Adventure Space January 8-10th. This musical treat makes learning about nouns, the preamble, and conjunctions a fun filled night! Our BIG spring musical will be the heart warming musical "**Honk!**" running March 26-28th. This musical features a large cast and tells the story of the Ugly Duckling. "**Honk!**" has won multiple awards including the 2000 Olivier Award for Best Musical (beating the Lion King and Mamma Mia!) In true ALT fashion, this season will hold nothing back and will keep all involved very busy! With such a successful year and the passion for theatre and dance from not only our students, but our instructors, I know that ALT is truly training tomorrow's talent today! See you at registration!

Jason Crespin
Academy Director

Notes from the Guild

Hello, Guild Members

Just a short and sweet note about our annual gift to ALT, a rundown of our new leadership, and Guild plans for the upcoming Membership Drive. We were pleased to provide a gift of \$8,000 to Amarillo Little Theatre this season. In addition to volunteering time to work shows, crew lunches, fundraisers, and assisting wherever we are needed, the Guild is proud to be a financial contributor to our theatre as well.

Your new officers for the 09/10 season:

President - **Amy Gililand,** Vice President - **Kim Shreffler,** Treasurer - **Cindi Bulla**

Recording Secretary - **Amy Spears,** Corresponding Secretary - **Gail Dickerson**

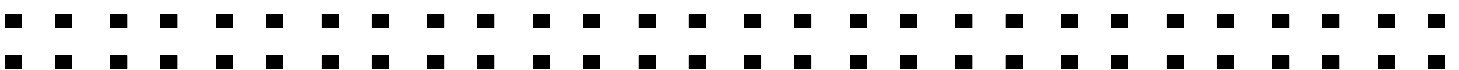
Save the date! August 11th will be our Kickoff Party for new membership (location and details to follow). This season opening meeting is very important in that our Committee Chairs will be finalized for the season. If you'd like to chair a committee, email the Guild in advance of the meeting with your name and committee choice (amarillolittletheatreguild@yahoo.com). Have a wonderful, relaxing summer.

Melanie Sanders
Vice President
ALT Guild

ATTENTION!!!!

■ ■ ALT ACADEMY DANCE AND THEATRE SCHEDULES FOR THE FALL SEMESTER ■ ■
■ ■ ARE NOW AVAILABLE. CALL THE ALT BOX OFFICE OR GO TO OUR WEBSITE ■ ■
■ ■ www.amarillolittletheatre.org TO DOWNLOAD A SCHEDULE AND REGISTRATION FORM. ■ ■

■ ■ **REGISTRATION BEGINS MONDAY, AUGUST 17 @ 10:00 AM AT** ■ ■
■ ■ **THE ALT MAINSTAGE OFFICE. CLASSES BEGIN MONDAY, AUGUST 31, 2009.** ■ ■



AUDITIONS! AUDITIONS! AUDITIONS!

Amarillo Little Theatre is pleased and excited to announce open auditions for its first Mainstage and second Adventure Space productions of the 2009-10 season.



By Larry King, Peter Masterson and Carol Hill

AUDITION DATES

Sunday and Monday, August 2 and 3, 2009 @ 7:30 pm
ALT Mainstage auditorium

Directed by
Allen Shankles

Music Direction by
Jim Gardner

Choreography by
**Anne Lankford &
Shawn Walsh**

Roles are available for **12-16 men** (age 16 and up) and **12-16 women** (age 16 and up).

Auditions will consist of a prepared vocal selection not to exceed 60 seconds.

An accompanist and CD/tape player will be available. Everyone will also be required to perform a short movement combination taught by the choreographers.

Some auditionees will be asked to do cold readings from the script.

The Woman In Black

by Stephen Mallatratt
from the book by Susan Hill

AUDITION DATES

Monday and Tuesday, September 14 and 15, 2009 @ 7:30 pm
ALT Adventure Space

Directed by
Jeff Jarnagin

Roles are available for **1 man** (age range 25-40), **1 man** (age range 40-65).

The character of "The Woman in Black" is a non-speaking role. **1-3 women** will be cast for this role.

Anyone interested in this role should attend the auditions to indicate interest.

Casting will be done based on physical appearance.

Scripts and/or scores for both shows are available at the ALT box office with a \$10.00 refundable deposit.

If you have questions or need additional information regarding these auditions, please contact the

ALT offices at 355-9991 or email at info@amarillolittletheatre.org