

Fort Findlay Playhouse



THE FORTTELL



October 2019

Shirley Nebergall, Editor

Fort Findlay Playhouse

Established October 13, 1954

Incorporated April 22, 1955

300 W Sandusky St
Findlay, Ohio 45840
419-423-7168

Website: www.fortfindlayplayhouse.org

Email: fortfindlay1955@gmail.com

Facebook: The Fort Findlay Playhouse (FFP)

Instagram: @fortfindlayplayhouse

FFP Board of Trustees

| | | Term Ends |
|----------------------------|--|-----------|
| President: Samantha Henry | slynnffp@gmail.com | 2020 |
| V. President: Rob Stauffer | rob091008@gmail.com | 2020 |
| Secretary: Megan Meyer | megan.falter@gmail.com | 2021 |
| Treasurer: Wes Taylor | wataylor@woh.rr.com | 2021 |
| Vicki Garner | vgarner531@gmail.com | 2020 |
| Jordan Gottschalk | gottschalk.j112@gmail.com | 2022 |
| Heidi Raymond Munoz | adlehieder@live.com | 2022 |
| Jim Toth | jaytee060@gmail.com | 2021 |
| Aeryn Williams | aertnwffp@gmail.com | 2022 |

Other Contacts

FFP Patrons: ffppatrons@gmail.com

FFP Webmaster: jaysmith@fortfindlay.com

Meetings

Board: 1st Wednesday of the month

General Membership: 4th Wednesday of the month

(If a meeting night falls on a final dress, board meetings are typically moved to the following Monday. GM meetings aren't rescheduled.)

Forttell Staff

Editor: Shirley Nebergall (shirleynebergall@yahoo.com)

Proofing: Alicia Creger

Show Clip Art 2019-2020: J.R. Smith

Photos: Kay Arico, Tom Miller, Facebook

Contributors: Tom Miller

Next Issue's Deadline

5 p.m., Sunday, December 15

(Deadline for all issues - 5 p.m.)

on the 15th of even numbered months)

Box Office - Note New Times

All tickets are \$15 and can be purchased online by going to tickets.fortfindlayplayhouse.org

24/7 during ticket sale dates only.

Tickets may be purchased by phone at (567) 525-3636 Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Tickets may also be purchased in person at the Playhouse (300 W. Sandusky Street) on Mondays from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

We accept cash, checks, Visa, MasterCard, Discover, and American Express. There are no ticket or credit card fees, whether purchased online or in person.

Online ticket sales close 2 hours before curtain on show nights.

Unsold or unclaimed seats will be sold at the door.

House opens 1/2 hour before curtain.



Cast Chosen for December Production

Set in 1947, *Miracle On 34th Street* is a story filled with love, faith, and a bit of Christmas magic. Doris Walker (Samantha Henry) has learned that the real world can be a harsh place filled with heartbreak and disappointment. She is bound and determined to shield her daughter, Susan Walker (Camdyn Tiech), from the unnecessary pain of learning fairy tales aren't real. All of that changes when Kris Kringle (David Marquart) shows up and challenges everything Doris has believed. With the addition of a new friend, Fred Gayley (Adam Willford), Doris learns that faith and love are just as much a part of life as heartbreak and disappointment.

Other New York residents include:

Sawyer: Jordan Gottschalk

Dr. Pierce: Wes Taylor

Mara: Jill Coppus

Finley: Adam Sielschott

Halloran: Jennifer Mason

Al: Dustin Hunter

Drunk Santa: Patrick Davis

Johnny's Mom: Sarah Hipple

Rich Person: Laurie Dye

Megan: Ruby Mason

Duncan: Heather Hardy

Johnny: Cole Hermiller

Child #1: Mariko Weese

NYC Pedestrians: Bonnie Vue, Dennis Clark, and Courtney Baker

Macy's Elves: Talan Simsa, Noah Williams, Riley Frey, Ava Lackey, and

Sojourner Smith

Elves: Sophie Goeller, Jacob Meier, DJ Williams, and Felicity Hull

Elf Theater: Brodie Stuhler, Addyson Cheney, Natalie Lammers, Logan Dorman, Vanessa Krupp, Steven Treece, and Walter Oestreich

Ensemble: Teagen Berger, Crosby Willford, Adam Sielschott, Jennifer Mason, Corinna Coppus, Dustin Hunter, Emily Penton, Crystal Willford, Sarah Hipple, Abbey Hensley, Ruby Mason, Meraya Willford, Cole Hermiller, Sheryl Burtch, Talan Simsa, Noah Williams, Riley Frey, Ava Lackey, Sojourner Smith, Sophie Goeller, Jacob Meier, DJ Williams, Felicity Hull, Brodie Stuhler, Addyson Cheney, Natalie Lammers, Logan Dorman, Vanessa Krupp, Steven Treece, Walter Oestreich, Bonnie Vue, Dennis Clark, Courtney Baker, Mariko Weese, and Steven Treece

Directed by Aeryn Williams, produced by Kim Marquart, and presented through special arrangement with Dramatic Publishing, *Miracle on 34th Street* will run December 5-8, and 12-15 at the Playhouse.

Miracle on 34th Street was adapted by Mountain Community Theater from the novel by Valentine Davies and is based upon the Twentieth Century Fox motion Picture, *Miracle on 34th Street*.

The Sunday performances begin at 5 p.m.; all other performances begin at 8 p.m. The house opens 30 minutes prior to the performance. Benefactors, Angels, Patrons, and Single Patrons may make ticket arrangements beginning on Monday, September 23. General public tickets go on sale September 30, and are \$15.



Northwest Website:
www.octanorthwest.com

OCTA Website:
www.OCTA1953.org



Congratulations to the cast and crew of *Angel Street*

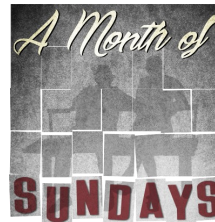
Seated (l-r): Nikki Needles,
Jack Henry, Amy Berger
Standing (l-r); Simon
Matteson, Alicia Creger,
Dustin Hunter, Juan Flores,
Dotty Dewulf, J.R. Smith,
Heidi Raymond



Fort Findlay PLAYHOUSE 2019-2020 Season Committee Heads

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Annex | Heidi Raymond |
| Annual Banquet | Aeryn Williams |
| Box Office | Jim Toth, JR Smith |
| Building Maintenance/Security | Tom Miller, Boyd Durain |
| Community Outreach | Samantha Henry |
| Computer Maintenance | Denis Rodrigues |
| Costumes | Aeryn Williams |
| <i>The Fortell</i> Newsletter | Shirley Nebergall |
| FFP Recognition Award | Jim Toth |
| Gizmos | TBD |
| Grounds | George Rustemeyer, Heidi Raymond |
| Hair | J Ladd, Jordan Gottschalk |
| Historian | Jim Toth, George Rustemeyer |
| House | Lori Foster |
| Intermission | Linda Toth |
| Lights | Boyd & Georgia Durain |
| Membership Morale | Jordan Gottschalk |
| Nominating Committee | Kim Marquart |
| OCTA Delegate | Shirley Nebergall |
| Patrons | Betty Hipp, Lindsay Taylor |
| Play Reading | Patrick Davis |
| Policies/Procedures | Jeff Lee, Megan Meyer |
| Programs..... | Megan Meyer, J.R. Smith |
| Program ads..... | CJ Miller, Krista Miller |
| Props | Dawn Rose, CJ Miller |
| Publicity..... | George Rustemeyer, Iman Thambi |
| Set Dressing..... | Vickie Garner |
| Sound | Denis Rodrigues |
| Tool Maintenance..... | Georgia Durain, Patrick Davis |
| Website/Social Media | George Rustemeyer, J.R. Smith |

If you wish to be part of one of these committees, please feel free to speak to the committee head or the FFP president.



Auditions Announced for Winter Production Coming in January 2020

Winter is coming and you'll want to get out of the house, so what better way than spending your evenings at the Fort Findlay Playhouse? Auditions for *A Month of Sundays* will be held on Monday and Tuesday, January 6 and 7 at 7:30 at the playhouse.

A Month of Sundays, a play by Bob Larbey, is a bittersweet comedy about growing old. Two irascible curmudgeons flirt with senility and women as they plot a way out of their retirement home. Named after the monthly Sunday visits from their family, this touching comedy about life in the twilight years explores the inevitable process of aging that affects us all. Bob Larbey's *A Month of Sundays* is a humorous reminder to laugh about getting older, because there's nothing else we can do about it.

Director, Julie Lane and producer, Laurie Dye will be casting two men (able to play a minimum age of upper 60s), two females (40s), one female (20s to early 30s), and one male (40s).

Presented through special arrangement with Samuel French, *A Month of Sundays* will run February 20-23 and February 28 - March 1 at the Playhouse. The Sunday performances begin at 5 p.m.; all other performances begin at 8 p.m. The house opens 30 minutes prior to the performance. Benefactors, Angels, Patrons, and Single Patrons may make ticket arrangements beginning on Monday, February 3. General public tickets go on sale February 10, and are \$15.



What to see in the Northwest Region and other local theaters

Sherlock Holmes and the Elusive Ear

October 25 - November 3

Toledo Repertoire Theatre (Main Stage) - Toledo

www.toledorep.org

419-243-9277

The Greek Plays: Lysistrata and Oedipus Rex

November 7 - 10

Heidelberg University - Tiffin

www.gundlachtheatre.org

419-448-2305

Middletown

November 7 - 10

University of Findlay - Findlay

www.findlay.edu/liberal-arts/theatre/production-season

419-423-2787 (marathoncenterarts.org)

Mamma Mia!

November 8 - 16

Oregon Community Theatre - Oregon

www.oregoncommunitytheatre.org

419-691-1398

The Revolutionists

November 8 - 16

Village Players - Toledo

www.thevillageplayers.org

419-472-6817

Disenchanted!

November 14 - 17

Perrysburg Musical Theatre - Perrysburg

www.perrysburgmusicaltheatre.org

tickets via website

The Addams Family

November 14 - 17

Waterville Playshop - Waterville

www.watervilleplayshop.org

419-270-1204

Psych

November 15 - 24

Black Swamp Players - Bowling Green

www.blackswampplayers.org

bsplayer@wcnet.org - subject line "tickets"

Spring Awakening

November 21 - 24

Cutting Edge Theatre Company - Toledo

www.cuttingedgetheatre.org

419-494-4814

The Game's Afoot

November 29 - December 8

Williams County Community Theatre - Bryan

www.williamscountycommunitytheatre.com

419-636-6400

Making God Laugh

December 5 - 15

Van Wert Civic Theatre - Van Wert

www.vwct.org

419-238-9689

A Christmas Carol: Live Radio Show

December 6 - 15

Archbold Community Theatre, Inc. - Archbold

www.archboldcommunitytheatre.com

419-264-5717



Mr. Spitznagle Gives Local Cops Adrenaline Rush

by Tom Miller

Anyone who has helped tear down a show at the end of a run has experienced the massive amount of work that gets accomplished in just a few hours to turn the stage back to a blank wall. Often a lot of props and materials are taken to the Annex and filed or plopped in the most logical or easy location.

Next, a huge amount of work goes into the preparation of the next show. Not only do we have scheduled set builds and practice, but we also rely on our volunteers to come and go when they can to build and gather up set pieces. Now, couple this with a concerned neighbor observing a "homeless person riding a bicycle" going into the Annex at odd times.

Police step up patrols. Finally, after several days, they notice a light on in the Annex at two in the morning. They want to catch the intruder but the door is locked. The dispatcher calls for a key holder to meet the two patrol officers and let them in. The officers enter the spooky building and each go a different direction. With no warning, one of them happen to find "the body" from *Arsenic and Old Lace* plopped on the barber chair on the second floor. No one else was in the building. Someone had simply left a light on.

Please be sure to turn off the lights!



University of Findlay Volunteers At The Playhouse

by Tom Miller

Orientation for incoming freshmen at the University of Findlay includes volunteering at local organizations. The Fort Findlay Playhouse utilizes this opportunity to accomplish lots of items on the to-do list.

This year, fourteen students were dropped off in the afternoon of August 17th. Some spent their day painting the red on the east side of the building. others cleaned the dust and spider webs in the stairway going up to the balcony. Heidi Raymond and George Rustemeyer directed the landscaping team.

Working on an Eagle Scout project, CJ Miller organized a group of volunteers and some of the students to organize the prop room.

Kudos to all who helped that day.



Congratulations to...

...Elizabeth Orley and Zachary Huffman who were married on August 31.

...FFP participants in area productions; Patrick Davis and Andrew Varney (Black Swamp Players production of *Murder at the Pie Auction*), Lily Rutledge (Toledo School for the Arts production of *Les Miserables*), Iman Thambi (Cutting Edge Theatre Company production of *Spring Awakening*), and Sheryl Burtch (Ritz Players production of *To Kill a Mockingbird*).

...Findlay Area Youtheatre on their production of *James and the Giant Peach*, and to FFP participants who were involved; Samantha Henry, Lindsay Taylor, Zachary Thomas, Jordan Gottschalk, Julie Lane, CJ Miller, Isaac Weese, Kennedy Garmon, and Lily Rutledge.





“OCTA Seasons of Love”

By Shirley Nebergall,

FFP's Ohio Community Theatre Association Delegate



“OCTA Seasons of Love” was the theme for this year's Ohio Community Theatre Association annual conference. Thespians from

Ohio and beyond gathered over the Labor Day weekend in Perrysburg, Ohio, at the Hilton Garden Inn, Home 2 Suites, and Owens Community Center.

Because of the different types of packages available for this year's conference, the actual attendance is yet to be announced, but there were fewer people registered than expected. There were 158 full registration packages and 240 were expected.



Those present could watch 14 excerpts invited to perform at state from the 43 presented at the six regionals held over the course of the summer. They were also treated to the two OCTA JR invitees from the 5 troupes who presented their shows at the OCTA JR Festival. After each excerpt, a panel of three adjudicators each gave three-minute critiques to the cast and crew. These critiques often include ways that could possibly improve the production. The excerpts can also give a look into plays and musicals that theaters might want to see performed in their local theater.

This year, attendees were treated to comedies, dramas, and musicals. When attendees were not watching the excerpts, there were also ten different workshops available. This year there were mini themes throughout the weekend including St. Patrick's Day, July 4th, Halloween, Christmas, New Year's Eve, and Valentine's Day. There were also seven contests over the weekend, just for fun.

During the annual meeting on Saturday, board members and delegates voted on a proposal to go from an 18-member OCTA board to a 15-member board. This proposal was defeated. The election for the board was also held. Northwest members of the OCTA board are Joe Barton (President), Millie Butts, Jason Niemeyer, and Jesse Bernal.

During the evening hours, there were games, parties, an MTI sing-a-long and, of course, time to catch up with OCTA friends. On Sunday evening there was a banquet, as well as a dance, a New Year's Baby and Father Time costume contest, a New Year's toast at midnight, and late night games.

At the Monday breakfast buffet, awards were presented for all areas of theater. The cast and crew of the FFP excerpt of *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* were recognized for Ensemble Vocal Performance, Musical Accompaniment, and Set Design for the excerpt (see list on page 6).

In the technical competitions, the Playhouse was awarded an Excellence in Set Design for the entire production of *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*. In my role as *Fortell* editor, I received awards for Outstanding in Writing & Overall Quality, Outstanding in Masthead Design & Layout, Outstanding in Use of Graphics & Photography, and Excellence in OCTA News.

Other Northwest Region members who were recognized over the weekend include Gary Buerk of Waterville Playshop and 3B Productions, who was named to the OCTA Hall of Fame, and Jesse Bernal of Waterville Playshop and 3B Productions, who was given the President's Award. The NW Region was also named the leader in the OCTA patron program.

The finale of the luncheon on Monday was the presentation of the theme for the 2020 state conference to be held in Cincinnati, Ohio, at the Holiday Inn & Suites (4501 Eastgate Blvd., Cincinnati) and West Clermont High School over the Labor Day weekend (September 4-7). This will also be an AACT (American Association of Community Theaters) competitions year. Region 3 AACT Fest will be held in Ohio in 2021.

The theme will be “Roaring 20s”, and will be hosted by the Southwest Region, with Dan Maloney as conference chair. Details about the 2020 state conference will be posted on the OCTA website throughout the year at www.OCTA1953.org, but it has already been announced that OCTAFeud will be revived.





You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown



Awards Received at the 2019 Regional Festival

Merit in Musical Theatre Performance
– David Marquart as Schroeder
Excellence in Musical Theatre Performance
– Ashley Carey as Sally Brown
Excellence in Ensemble – The Cast
Excellence in Dance Execution – The Cast
Excellence in Directing – Aeryn Williams
Excellence in Musical Directing – Aeryn Williams
Excellence in Orchestra – Tom Carey, Desra Dabney,
Bethany Giedeman, Braden Richards
Merit in Costumes – Samantha Henry
Merit in Light Design – Julie Lane & Casey Wurm
Excellence in Set Design – Aeryn Williams, Patrick Davis,
Heidi Raymond Munoz

Invited to perform at OCTA State Festival

Awards Received at the 2019 State Festival

Merit in Ensemble Vocal Performance - The Cast
Excellence in Musical Accompaniment - The Orchestra
Outstanding in Set Design - Aeryn Williams, Patrick Davis,
Heidi Raymond Munoz

FFP Representatives to Regional and State Festivals

Cast: Ashley Carey, Seth Carey, Patrick Davis, Jordan
Gottschalk, Samantha Henry, David Marquart

Crew: Courtney Baker, Amy Berger, Joe Barton, Tom Carey,
Desra Dabney, Dotty Dewulf, Juan Flores, John Garner,
Vickie Garner, Bob Henry, Wendy Henry, Tyrek Hyde, Anitra
Jordan, Julie Lane, Vashti Larson, Kim Marquart, Andrea
Adams-Miller, Krista Miller, Angela Massara, CJ Miller, Tom
Miller, Heidi Raymond Munoz, Aren Norman, Braden
Richards, Lindsey Taylor, Wes Taylor, Zachary Thomas,
Craig VanRenterghem, Aeryn Williams

Supporters: Jeff Bury, Shirley Nebergall, Jerry and Janet
Reichert (FFP Angels)



**Before
and
after the
except,
all set
pieces
had to
fit in a**



10 x 10 square backstage. That takes planning!!



LOOKING AHEAD

(all events take place at FFP unless otherwise noted)



| | | |
|--|--|---|
| Board Meeting | Wed., November 6 | 7:30 p.m. |
| Ticket sales begin for <i>Miracle on 34th Street</i> Benefactors, Angels, Patrons, Single Patrons General Public | (note changes on page one) Mon., November 18 Mon., November 25 | 567-525-3636 Monday-Wednesday-Friday 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. |
| General Membership Meeting | Wed., November 27 | 7:30 p.m. |
| <i>Miracle on 34th Street</i> | Thu. - Sat., December 5 - 7, 12 - 14 Sun. December 8 & 15 | 8:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m. |
| Board Meeting | Wed., December 9 | 7:30 p.m. |
| <i>Fortell</i> Deadline | Tues., December 15 | 5:00 p.m. |
| General Membership Meeting - cancelled | Wed., December 25 | 7:30 p.m. |
| Board Meeting - cancelled | Wed., January 1 | 7:30 p.m. |
| Auditions for <i>A Month of Sundays</i> | Mon. - Tues., January 6 - 7 | 7:30 p.m. |
| General Membership Meeting | Wed., January 22 | 7:30 p.m. |
| Board Meeting | Wed., February 5 | 7:30 p.m. |
| Ticket sales begin for <i>A Month of Sundays</i> Benefactors, Angels, Patrons, Single Patrons General Public | (note changes on page one) Mon., February 3 Mon., November 10 | 567-525-3636 Monday-Wednesday-Friday 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. |
| <i>Fortell</i> Deadline | Sat., February 15 | 5:00 p.m. |
| <i>A Month of Sundays</i> | Thu. - Sat., February 20 - 22, 28 - 29 Sun. February 23 & March 1 | 8:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m. |
| General Membership Meeting | Wed., February 26 | 7:30 p.m. |
| Auditions for <i>She Loves Me</i> | Mon. - Tues., March 2 - 3 | 7:30 p.m. |
| Board Meeting | Wed., March 4 | 7:30 p.m. |
| General Membership Meeting | Wed., March 25 | 7:30 p.m. |

2019-2020 NW Regional Reps

Brittney Kupresanin: bseigne@gmail.com

Jeffery Albright: info@act419.org

Inge Klopping: ikloppi@bgsu.edu

Bob Marzola: bmarzola1@gmail.com

Rebecca Schmidt:

Dawn Trumbull: dawnmtrembull@gmail.com

Bob Welly: bob.welly@gmail.com

Facebook: OCTA's Northwest Region

Website: www.octanorthwest.com

Email: octanorthwest@gmail.com

State website: www.octa1953.org

2020 Regional: June 6 or 13 (TBD) - Owens Community

College Center for Fine and Performing Arts

30335 Oregon Rd., Perrysburg, Ohio 43551

