



Orange Park Community Theatre

your key to entertainment!
2900 Moody Avenue, Post Office Box 391
Orange Park, FL 32067
www.opct.info

April 2017
OPCT Newsletter

The Stage Whisper

Calendar Events and a Message from our President

Welcome to April! I can't remember a time here at OPCT when we've been busier. So as I put my pen to paper for this month's letter, I was told by the editor that I could only talk about events going on and coming up or we were going to run out of room. So here's what's happening:

- **The Glass Menagerie** directed by our own Aimee Low enters it's final weekend – the run ends on Sunday, April 9th! If you haven't seen it yet, you still have a chance – don't miss it!
- The first production of next season is **Shrek, the Musical**. Auditions will be held on April 30th and May 1st. No, you do not have to be an ogre to audition – we call it "acting"! (Although, yes, some of us are living closer to the part than we'll ever admit.)
- **Beauty and the Beast, Jr.** will be performed by our **Youth Workshop** on the weekend of April 28th through April 30th and by our **Teen Workshop** on the weekend of May 5th through 7th. Tickets are now available at www.ShowTixNow.com for all performances and the price is \$7 per ticket.
- Are you interested in Directing a show here at OPCT? We're starting up **FREE Prospective Director** sessions to give you the knowledge you need starting on April 23rd. Go out to our website, www.opct.info and click on the Workshop tab. Scroll down to below the youth workshops for more information.
- And speaking of youth workshops, it's time to sign up the young thespian in your life for our **summer sessions**. The Youth Workshop (ages 6-12) will run from June 19th to July 14th (9 am to noon each weekday) and will perform *Seussical Jr.* directed by Tim and Sally DeBorde. The Teen Workshop (ages 13-18) will run from July 19th to July 7th (1 pm to 4 pm each weekday) and will perform *The Seussification of Romeo and Juliet* directed by Carla Lahey. Applications can be found on our website at www.opct.info under the Workshops tab.
- Every summer we offer our teenagers opportunities to volunteer with the theatre. For teenagers who are interested in working with our youth thespians, please contact Sally DeBorde at 904-955-4902 or sgdeborde@live.com
- **Seasons**, our May fundraiser is busy rehearsing. This musical event will be performed over Mother's Day Weekend (a great place to bring Mom) on May 11th and 12th at 7:30 pm.
- Also in rehearsal is **Legally Blonde** directed by Tricia Williams (who is currently starring in *The Glass Menagerie*) opens on June 9th and plays through July 2nd. Tickets for our preferred seating patrons go on sale May 12th and for our season ticket holders on May 19th.
- The **Annual General Membership Meeting** is Tuesday, May 9th at 7 pm. All Active Members, Season Ticket Holders and Board members are eligible to vote at the General Membership Meeting. Elections for 8 open positions will be held. If you are an active member, season ticket holder or board member wishing to run for a board seat or nominate someone for a board seat, please come to the April board meeting or contact Tim DeBorde at opct@att.net. (Our regular May Board Meeting will be held at 8 pm.)
- The **April regular Board Meeting** will be delayed until April 18th at 7 pm in deference to our members who observe Passover.
- Season tickets for the 2017-2018 plays go on sale in mid-June – three musicals and two plays – it's still the best bargain anywhere!

Come meet me at the theatre – there's plenty coming up!

"Act well your part: there all the honor lies."

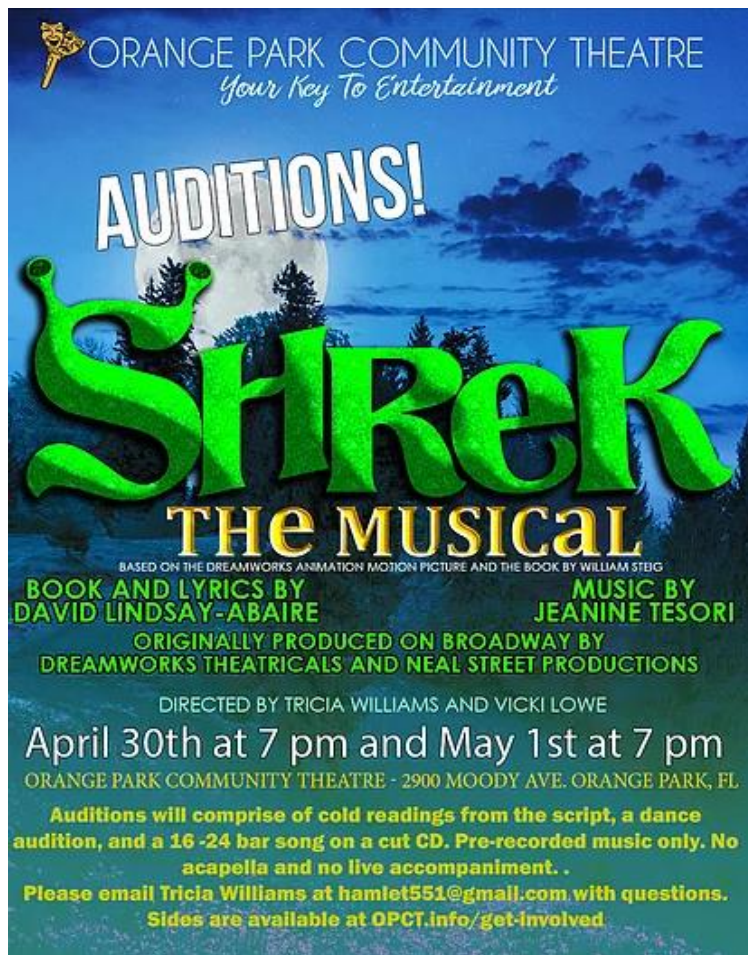
Tim DeBorde

Reservations for shows are taken on-line through www.ShowTixNow.com or by calling 276-2599.

(Tickets for the Youth and Teen workshops are taken on-line only.)

For theatre business, other than reservations, please contact us via email at opct@att.net

or visit our website at www.opct.info



Come support our Youth and Teens as they perform Beauty and the Beast Jr.

Youth:

- Friday, April 28th at 7 pm
- Saturday, April 29th at 3 pm & 7 pm
- Sunday, April 30th at 3 pm

Teen:

- Friday, May 5th at 6 pm
- Saturday, May 6th at 3 pm & 6 pm
- Sunday, May 7th at 3 pm

Tickets on sale now at www.ShowTixNow.com
\$7 per ticket

Directing at

Classes for Prospective Directors

On April 23rd, we are starting a free new program at OPCT for prospective directors interested in directing a show at OPCT.

Check out the flexible schedules at www.opct.info (under the WORKSHOPS tab)



Happy Birthday "Mama" Mike French

Friends and well wishers of OPCT gathered on March 25th to wish "Mama" Mike French a Happy 95th Birthday. The rehearsal hall was decorated in photos and memorabilia spanning her life beginning with her childhood; her marriages and children; her service in the WAVES during World War II; and of course, all that she has done with the theater including, Actor, Director, House Manager and "Guardian of the Gate". Gifts spanned everything from an engraved heart shaped jewelry box to her favorite, a large container of Red Twizzlers.

After the singing of Happy Birthday, Mike thanked everyone who had helped to make this one of the "Happiest Days of my Life".



The highlight of the party was a presentation of a Citation from The American Legion for her Meritorious Service and Loyal Americanism. The Citation was presented by Lt. Jeff Richardson of the American Legion followed by a trumpet salute of Anchors Awigh by Kyle Lowe.

The 2017-2018 Season



ORANGE PARK COMMUNITY THEATRE
Your Key to Entertainment

Season 48

SHREK THE MUSICAL

BOOK AND LYRICS BY DAVID GREENGLASS
MUSIC BY DAVID YIP
ORIGINALLY PRODUCED ON BROADWAY BY
DEANAMUSICALS AND REAL STREET PRODUCTIONS

AUGUST 11TH - SEPTEMBER 3RD

Directed by

Tricia Williams and Vicki Lowe

THE HAUNTING OF HILL HOUSE

FROM THE NOVEL BY
SHIRLEY JACKSON
ADAPTED FOR THE STAGE BY
F. ANDREW LESLIE

OCTOBER 13TH - 31ST

Directed by

Aimee Low

Kiss Me Kate

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY GALE PORTER
BOOK BY SAM AND BELLA SPEWACK

FEBRUARY 9TH - MARCH 4TH

Directed By

Brenda Cohn and Stan Mesnick

MONEY MATTERS

BY MICHAEL PARKER AND SUSAN PARKER

APRIL 6TH - 22ND

Directed By

Barbara Wells

WEST SIDE STORY

BASED ON A COLLECTION OF JEROME KORNBERG
BOOK BY ARTHUR LAURENTS MUSIC BY LEONARD BERNSTEIN
LYRICS BY STEVEN SODERBERG

JUNE 8TH - JULY 1ST

Directed by

Connie Senkowski and Bob Houston

2900 MOODY AVE., ORANGE PARK, FLORIDA 32073
CALL 904-276-2599 OR VISIT OPCT.INFO

Orange Park Community Theatre is a traditional community theatre.

We are all volunteers who serve our community to spread our joy of the arts. Please join us – if you have a skill that you would like to donate or just a willing set of hands, we will welcome you into our family and we'll put you to work.

Come help us make the magic that is
LIVE THEATRE!

OPCT is an equal opportunity theater. We do not discriminate based on sex, religion, ethnicity, disability, political leanings or preference. Please join us in celebrating human beings of all kinds.

OUR SEASON IS SPONSORED IN PART BY THE STATE OF FLORIDA, DEPARTMENT OF STATE, DIVISION OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND THE FLORIDA COUNCIL ON ARTS AND CULTURE.

OUR MUSICALS ARE ALSO SPONSORED BY THE TOM NEHL FUND OF THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION.



DOWNSTAGE ... by Emma Catharine



Editor's note: Emma Catharine grew up backstage at OPCT. She is currently pursuing a Bachelor's of Fine Arts degree in Stage Management at the University of Central Florida. Emma is a recipient of last year's OPCT Scholarship and a four year Disney Theatre Scholarship.

Hello, I'm Emma Catharine and my life has been taken over by "UCF Celebrates the Arts" – a 10 day celebration of theatre, music and arts that takes over the entire Dr. Phillips Center and most of Downtown Orlando. We start on Friday night by taking over the 2,800 seat Disney Theatre inside the Dr. Phillips Center – a venue which is just a little bit bigger than OPCT. It's all hands on deck and first up is a massive production of *Oklahoma!* I'll be in touch next month when the chaos clears to let you know how it all works out.

I'm sorry I missed *The Glass Menagerie* but I'm just too far downstage to get back home. Congratulations to Aimee Low, cast and crew for bringing a classic to our stage. And I'm cheering on our Youth and Teen Workshops as they bring *Beauty and the Beast Jr.* to stage – break a leg all!

Emma Catharine