



# Orange Park Community Theatre

your key to entertainment!

2900 Moody Avenue, Post Office Box 391

Orange Park, FL 32067

[www.opct.info](http://www.opct.info)

January 2017  
OPCT Newsletter

## The Stage Whisper

### A Message from our President: Welcome to 2017!

Our last show of 2016 was our Young Thespian's rendition of *Alice @ Wonderland*. It was a great success and thanks to all of our thespians, their families and our patrons who supported and cheered at their performances. If you haven't yet booked your tickets for *Bye Bye Birdie*, you'll want to do that as quickly as possible before the opportunity flies away from you. Opening night is January 13<sup>th</sup> and performances start at 8 pm on Fridays and Saturdays and 3pm on Sundays. The show closes with the matinee performance on Sunday February 5<sup>th</sup>. This classic musical is directed by Shelley Hayes with myself as the musical director and a very talented cast is ready to entertain you!

Having an "older" theatre, the construction projects never seem to really end. In 2016, we finished the new wing that is housing our new bathrooms and we expanded our outdoor entertainment section by building some fabulous outdoor picnic tables which also housed our graveyard for the Community Fall Festival. Over the holidays, John Kirkham, Arvid Nelson and Mark Pellegrin kept busy installing some much needed insulation in the rafters of our lobby to help keep us cool in the summer and warm in the winter! (I'm sure we'll keep this trio busy in 2017 – so yes, volunteers are always welcome to help lend a hand.)

In family theatre news:

- A few members of our theatre family have passed away - our prayers and sincerest condolences go to the families of our long-time patron, Paul Bue who passed away on November 29th and Allen McCall, the father of Director/Actor Kurt McCall on December 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- Director and OPCT former Executive Vice President, Susan Carcaba (*Wrong Turn at Lungfish*, *Be a Good Little Widow*, etc.), along with her husband Juan, have downsized and moved to Mt. Dora. While we will miss them working on our stage, we will look forward to using their guest room during our trips to Orlando. (No Susan, we're not kidding...)

Meet you at the theatre,

*Tim DeBorde*

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



## CALENDAR

**Bye Bye Birdie** opens Friday, January 13<sup>th</sup> and performs through Sunday February 5<sup>th</sup> – Tickets are now on sale –

on-line through [www.ShowTixNow.com](http://www.ShowTixNow.com) or by calling 904-276-2599.

### Upcoming Auditions:

Glass Menagerie – January 22 & 23 at 7 pm

Legally Blonde – February 19 & 21 at 7 pm

More details at our theatre website at [www.opct.info](http://www.opct.info)

OPCT Board Meeting – January 10th at 7 pm

# Bye Bye Birdie Opening Night is January 13th!

## Do YOU have YOUR ticket yet?



The week before opening night has various names among us theatre geeks but the one that I can print herein is simply “tech week”. Named because this is typically the only week that a full stage crew gets to bring all of the effects together with the actors and, if everyone makes it through this week, they reward themselves with opening night! So here’s a sneak peek at some of the people who have come together to entertain you.

Shelley Hayes is directing this classic. And although this is her directorial debut, you have seen her on stage in numerous shows here at OPCT since 2001 including *The Addams Family*, *Phantom – the Musical*, *Carousel* and her personal favorites – *Gypsy* and *Heartbeats*.

Josh Katzman will transform into Albert Peterson in his first leading role! He was last seen on our stage as Vinnie in *Lucky Stiff*. Josh is originally from New York City and holds a degree in the Performing Arts. He has performed in almost 40 productions in NYC, New Jersey and Florida. His favorite theatre credits include: *Guys and Dolls* (Nicely-Nicely Johnson), *Fiddler on the Roof* (Motel), *The Music Man* (Marcellus Washburn), *Oklahoma* (Jud Fry), *Oliver!* (Mr. Bumble) and *Gypsy* (Herbie).

Jennifer O'Brien has taken on the role of Rosie for this production and will be sharing the stage with her daughter, Jordan, for the first time! She has an Associate's Degree in Musical Theater from Florida School of the Arts. Jennifer was most recently seen in *Mary Poppins* at OPCT and in the ensemble of *Memphis the Musical* at Players by the Sea. Favorite performances have included roles in *A Chorus Line* (Connie,) *Guys & Dolls*, *South Pacific* (Bloody Mary,) and *Oklahoma* (Aunt Eller.)

Karen Coughlin is so excited to be performing for the first time on the Orange Park Community Theatre stage as Mrs. MacAfee! She has been singing and performing in plays and musicals since she was 7 years old. Some of her favorite roles include, *Lil' Abner* (Daisy Mae), *Grease* (Sandy), *Home For Christmas* (Norma) and *Grease* (Marty)

Samantha Jenkins is very happy to be playing the role of Kim MacAfee for this show. This is not the first time Sammie has taken to the stage at OPCT – in fact, this Douglas Anderson School of the Arts Musical Theatre sophomore student is making her fourth appearance.

Tim DeBorde is the Musical Director for this show. Over the years he has appeared on the stage in such productions as *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Phantom - the Musical*, *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*; Directed *The Addam's Family*, *Insane with Power*, *Pirates of Penzance*, *Carousel*. In short, this page isn't long enough to list all of his shows but if you've seen more than two shows at OPCT, you've seen his work.

Greg Barnes, with this production, finishes out his triple play. This is the third play at OPCT in a row this year that he has stage managed! A true “Iron Man” of the OPCT techie crowd – stage crew everywhere bow down to him!

Choreographer is Missy Losure. Orchestra Director is Charlie Mann. Producer is Vicki Lowe. Cast Organizer and “she who must be obeyed” is Sally DeBorde. Costumes by Sandy Summerton and Regina Manning.

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### Registration is now open for our TWO Spring Young Actor's Workshops:

- ☐ “Youth” (Elementary School – ages 6 to 12) will meet on Mondays and Wednesdays starting on February 20<sup>th</sup> to April 30<sup>th</sup>. (Registration ends Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>.)
- ☐ “Teen” (Junior & Senior High School – ages 13 to 18) will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays starting on February 21<sup>st</sup> to May 7<sup>th</sup>. (Registration ends Feb. 21<sup>st</sup>.)

Both groups will be performing Beauty and the Beast Jr. on separate weekends.

The cost of either workshop per actor is only \$225.

Applications can be found at [www.opct.info](http://www.opct.info) or call 904-254-1455 for more information.



*If you'd like to help make special memories for a child, a donation can be made directly to our Young Actor's Workshop program.*



## Upcoming Auditions

ORANGE PARK COMMUNITY THEATRE  
*Your Key To Entertainment*

**AUDITIONS!**

**THE GLASS MENAGERIE**  
BY TENNESSEE WILLIAMS

January 22nd & 23rd at 7pm  
ORANGE PARK COMMUNITY THEATRE - 2900 MOODY AVE. ORANGE PARK, FL

**Cast: 2 Men and 2 Women**

Amanda Wingfield, a faded Southern belle of middle age, shares a dingy St. Louis apartment with her son Tom, in his early twenties, and his slightly older sister, Laura. Although she is a survivor and a pragmatist, Amanda yearns for the comforts and admiration she remembers from her days as a debutante. She worries especially about the future of her daughter Laura, a young woman with a limp (an aftereffect of a bout of polio) and a tremulous insecurity about the outside world. Tom works in a shoe warehouse doing his best to support the family. He chafes under the banality and boredom of everyday life and struggles to write, while spending much of his spare time going to the movies — or so he says — at all hours of the night.

PLEASE PREPARE A 1 MINUTE MONOLOGUE FOR AUDITIONS.  
THERE MAY ALSO BE READINGS FROM THE SCRIPT.

Directed by Aimee Low. Monologues should be memorized, about one minute in length and dramatic in nature.

ORANGE PARK COMMUNITY THEATRE  
*Your Key To Entertainment*

**AUDITIONS!**

**LEGALLY Blonde**

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY  
LAURENCE O'KEEFE AND NELL BENJAMIN

BOOK BY  
HEATHER HACH

BASED ON THE NOVEL BY AMANDA BROWN  
AND THE METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER MOTION PICTURE

**FEBRUARY 19TH AT 7 PM AND FEBRUARY 21ST AT 7 PM**  
ORANGE PARK COMMUNITY THEATRE - 2900 MOODY AVE. ORANGE PARK, FL

Auditions will comprise of cold readings from the script,  
a 16 -24 bar song on a cut CD and a dance auditions.  
Please email Tricia Williams at [hamlet551@gmail.com](mailto:hamlet551@gmail.com) with questions.  
Sides are available at [OPCT.info/get-involved](http://OPCT.info/get-involved)



### DOWNSTAGE ... by Emma Catharine

*Editor's note: For those of you that have been following Emma's adventures, you may recall that when last we heard from her, it was by text as she was running across the University of Central Florida campus during finals week where she is pursuing a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Stage Management . We now join our show in progress...*

**Happy New Year, everyone!**

Last month, I was unavailable to write a full column due to an intense amount of studying for the five exams and six projects that had to be completed in the span of the final two weeks of the semester, while also assisting with a Broadway dance master class. Needless to say, I was exhausted. But now, after a few weeks at home and a week spent in New York City, I am ready to return to my classes, better than ever!

When I explain to people that I am majoring in stage management, I get a lot of funny looks. How exactly does a person go to school for that? Do I just sit around all day and watch recordings of shows and practice calling light and sound cues? Nope! My head professor's motto is that to make it in the big leagues, you have to know everything about the theatre — so that's exactly what we learn. Last semester, my classes included Stagecraft, where I built all the sets for our productions — it was exhausting; Stage Electronics, where I learned even more about lighting and sound design (thank you Tim DeBorde for all of the lessons of the past — they really gave me a head start) and I learned how to solder circuit boards; Acting One, which is pretty self-explanatory; Survey for Theatre Majors, which functioned as an introductory course to everything in the theatre world, especially on how Theatre UCF works; and Introduction to Stage Management, where, yes, we did spend a week watching a recording of a show and practiced calling cues.

The last few months were absolutely exhausting, but my passion and my drive have not left me yet. Alright, that's all for now. Break legs to the cast and crew of Bye Bye Birdie, I wish you all the best! (And yes, I'm sneaking home just to see it!)

Until next month, I'll be downstage — just a few hundred miles further downstage than usual!

*Emma Catharine*

**THE ONES  
WHO ARE  
CRAZY  
ENOUGH TO  
THINK THEY  
CAN CHANGE  
THE WORLD,  
ARE THE  
ONES THAT  
DO**

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.



**WE LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU**

**Reservations: On-line through [www.showtixnow.com](http://www.showtixnow.com) or call (904) 276-2599.**

**For all other theatre business, please contact us via email at [opct@att.net](mailto:opct@att.net) or visit our theatre website at [www.opct.info](http://www.opct.info)**