

Volume 17, Issue 7

June 2007

June 21 & 22, 2007

7:30 p.m.

June 23, 2007

2:00 p.m.

At the Link Centre
1800 W. Main Street

Sponsored by



The McCarty Company

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TCT Summer Youth Presents



TCT is going back to school! Summer Youth Theatre will present *School House Rock! Jr.* June 21-23 at the Link Center. Based on the popular television series *Schoolhouse Rock*, this show is a hip and fun educational production which teaches students and audiences of all ages that learning can be fun.

The story centers around Tom, a new school teacher nervous about his first day of teaching. He tries to relax the night before school starts by watching television. Suddenly, the Schoolhouse Rock bunch appears in his room and proceeds to show him how to win his students over with imagination and music. Some of the well-known *Schoolhouse Rock* songs include "A Noun is a Person, Place Or Thing," "Three

is a Magic Number," and "Conjunction Junction."

The ensemble cast includes more than thirty local actors ranging in ages from eight to eighteen. They sing! They dance! They unpack their adjectives! They can sing the Preamble to the Constitution!

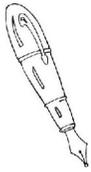
The production staff is headed by Marianna Coffey in her TCT directorial debut. She is ably assisted by TCT mainstays Allana Austin and Amye Goussett.

The talented cast includes: Bahaa Awad, Malick Awad, Brianna Barnett, Rose Boterf, Mary Jennings Bouchillon, Bentley Burns, Maggie Davis, Lauren Dye, Madison Dyson, Caitlin Gardner, Riley Gordon, Jessi Grimmett, Mylie Haire, Precious Hill, Mollie Clark

Hudson, Gabe Jordan, Mary Claire Kelly, Megan Kwasinski, Amber Langford, Hannah Lippard, Zierra Long, Katie Lundy, Laura Lundy, Georgia McGee, Isaac Palmer, Allison Peterson, Alex Reeves, Melodie Sanchez, Ericka Sherrill, Kevin Teeter, Rachel Williams, and Tessa Willoughby,

Performances will be June 21 and 22 at 7:30 p.m. and June 23 at 2:00 p.m. Call the TCT office at 662-844-1935 today to reserve your tickets. You don't want to miss this wonderful production!

Please note that because of construction at the Lyric that *Schoolhouse Rock, Jr.* will be performed at the Link Centre on Main Street.



Notes from the President

As my second year as President of the TCT board of directors comes to an end, I want to take this opportunity to thank all of the many volunteers who helped make this past season a huge success. I am proud to be associated with such an outstanding organization. One of the highlights of the year was the successful capital funds campaign that raised more than \$500,000. Congratulations to Polly Bailey, Renee Baldwin, Craig Helmuth, Rosemary Jarrell, Lynn Nelson, Tonya Smith and Judd Wilson on being re-elected to the board of directors as the Class of 2010. Thanks to each of them for agreeing to serve another three year term on our board. They are proven leaders at TCT. I personally would like to thank each member of the TCT board of directors for their dedication to our theatre. You are a hard working group, but you do know how to have fun!

Beauty and the Beast was a huge success. We performed four shows over Gum Tree weekend to sold-out audiences. Jess Mark and his cast and crew are to be commended for bringing this classic fairy tale to life on the stage of

the Lyric. I have heard nothing but rave reviews from our patrons. We were glad to have you as our guests!

The *Tea with Belle* was well attended. Many little girls came in princess costumes to meet Belle. Thanks to Jackie Green and Martha Ann Wilson for chairing this event. Also, thanks to Melody Webb (Belle) for making each little girl feel like a princess. It was a magical moment for each of them.

School House Rock, Jr., directed by Marianna Coffey with Allana Austin and Amye Gousset assisting, is in rehearsal. This Summer Youth Production will be held on June 21-23. Because of the construction at the theatre, this show will be presented at the Link Centre.

Speaking of the construction, we are right on target with our fly loft project. If all goes as planned, the project will be completed in the middle of September. That would be just in time for our season opener.

We are most appreciative to Paul and Catherine Mize for hosting Casino Night at their home. Also, thanks to Outback for provid-

ing the delicious meal. It was a fun night that supported a great cause (TCT)!

Theatre Camp will be held July 16-20. Allana Austin, Suzanne Oakley and Marianna Coffey will serve as directors. The theme is Earth, Wind and Fire. Not only will the campers learn about theatre, but they will also learn about Mother Earth. The camp is open to students who have completed kindergarten through the seventh grade. There will be performances on Friday to showcase the students' work.

At the May meeting of our board of directors, we accepted the resignation of Steve Ludt. Due to recent health problems, Steve felt that it was best to cut back on some of his activities. He has promised that he will still volunteer on occasion. Thanks to Steve for his many years of service to the theatre. We will miss him, but wish him well.

Have a safe and happy summer! I hope to see you soon at TCT.

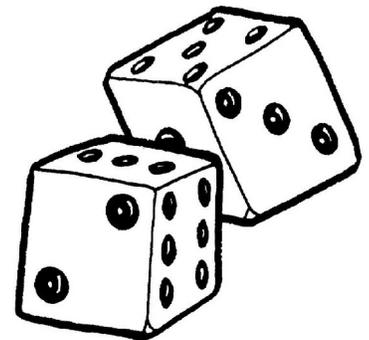
-Tommy Green,
President



Casino Night Success

Even with thunderclouds threatening on the evening of June 8, everyone had a great time at TCT's Casino Night. Wonderful music by Johnny Fears' jazz combo provided the background to diners eating the delicious food donated and prepared by Outback Steakhouse on the lawn of Buzzy and Catherine Mize's home. Participants at the "gambling" tables had a huge time winning (and losing) their fun money. Jonathan McDowell was the big winner of the night, winning more than \$5000 in fun money...and winning the door prize package.

A special thanks to Buzzy and Catherine Mize for hosting and to Outback for providing the food. And thanks to all the volunteers who helped with this extra special event!



Spotlight on our Patrons



It's never too early to start cultivating TCT's next generation of patrons, as the recent highly successful *Tea with Belle* proved. Dressed as little princesses, dozens of young ladies discovered the magic of live theater on the afternoon of May 6, 2007. Pictured below are (l to r) Ainsley Ryan and Ella Pittman as they anxiously wait-

ed to enter the Lyric to see Belle. The picture on the right shows their pleasure when they finally met the beautiful star of their favorite musical.

Thanks to Martha Ann Wilson and Jackie Green for helping to arrange this special event to introduce our youngest new patrons to TCT. Thanks to Melody Webb who wowed and inspired them all. And thanks to all the young princesses who attended. We hope to see you soon at another TCT production!



Directors Needed



Martin Scorsese, move over! Second only to selecting a season of shows that our patrons will enjoy is selecting the directors to make those shows the best they can be. If you would be interested in being considered to direct one of the shows listed on the back page (or in helping choose and direct next year's Summer Youth production), call Tom Booth at the TCT office at 662-844-1935. He'll fill you in on the details about the criteria we use to select directors and how to apply.

TCT PERSONNEL

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Polly Bailey
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Season Sponsor:  **BancorpSouth**

This project funded
in part by a grant
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Arts Commission



Season Tickets Coming Soon!

Watch your mailbox later this summer for the best ever season ticket brochure. The upcoming 2007-2008 season is sure to be a hit and season tickets will go fast.

On the slate first will be *Greater Tuna*, an uproarious comedy set in Tuna, Texas with two men playing ALL the parts. Next up will be *Anne of Green Gables*, a dramatization of the classic popular children's story about an orphan growing up on Prince Edward Island.

Helping to warm the heart on a cold January night will be the sequel to one of our most popu-



lar musicals, *Smoke on the Mountain: Homecoming*. Later in the spring, laugh and cry with the rest of us as you watch *Curious Savage*, a classic comedy about a wealthy widow whose children worry about their inheritance. Closing out the season will be the Gum Tree musical *Gypsy*, one of the great classics of musical theater.

LET US ENTERTAIN YOU in grand style. Get your season tickets early to ensure that you get the best deal and best seats for the best season ever at TCT!

It's not too late to sign up for TCT Theatre Camp!
July 16-20