



Volume 20, Issue 4

April 2010

TCT Presents

May 6-8, 2010

7:30 p.m.

&

May 8, 2010

2:00 p.m.

Sponsored By



**NORTH MISSISSIPPI
MEDICAL CENTER**



Somewhere in the Midwest in the 1950's, Chad – a hip-swiveling, guitar-playing roustabout – is being released from jail. In a dreary little town nearby, Natalie is dreaming of love and adventure. And so TCT's Gum Tree production of *All Shook Up* opens. According to NBC, *All Shook Up* is "The best retro rock show since *Grease*."

Loosely based on Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* with music from Tupelo's native son Elvis Presley, *All Shook Up* is by Joe Dipietro who also wrote the book and lyrics to the TCT hits *I Love You*, *You're Perfect*, *Now Change* and *Over the River and Through the Woods*. The show is a light hearted romp which also deals with important social issues.

Starring as Chad is TCT veteran Greg Pirkle. Greg last appeared on the Jess Mark Stage in *Big River* and is remembered for his wonderful performance in *Smoke on the Mountain*. Allison Griswold stars as Natalie. Although she is known to

many patrons for her dancing and choreography skills, Allison is also a very talented singer.

Other featured players include several of TCT's most experienced and talented actors: Sherrie Black as the Mamie Eisenhower-type town mayor, Alex Hargett as Natalie's best friend Dennis, and Suzanne Oakley as museum curator Miss Sandra. TCT is excited to introduce five new actors in supporting roles - Dave Dawson as town Sheriff Earl, Gary Hancock as Natalie's father Jim, Ophebia Pegues as honky tonk owner Sylvia, Christopher Miller as the mayor's son Dean, and Sarah Weatherby as Sylvia's teenage daughter Lorraine.

This very talented cast is joined on stage by an amazing chorus which includes Allana Austin, Kevin Barrington, Ben Childers, Sarah Childers, Liz Dawson, Bobby Geno, Parks Graham, Chris Hussey, Jessica Isby, Garyon Judon, Lisa Martin, Sierra Richardson, Anna

Patterson, Emily Patterson, Morgan Ricks, Dalton Russell, Zhenia Sandanova, Carolee Smith, and Tammy Smith.

Tom Booth is serving as director for *All Shook Up*, with Tracie Conwill as assistant director, Debra Robison as musical director, Jessica Nelson as accompanist and Lindsey Tanner as stage manager. Rounding out the technical staff are Steve Miller as production manager, Bronwyn Teague as light designer, Clara Seitz as light and sound technician, with Marianna Coffey and David Atkins assisting backstage.

Tupelo Community Theatre will present *All Shook Up* May 6-8 at 7:30 p.m. with a Saturday matinee at 2 p.m. at the Lyric Theatre during the Gum Tree Festival. *All Shook Up* will also be performed during the Elvis Festival on June 3 at 7:30 p.m. and June 6 at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for students and may be reserved by calling the TCT office at 844-1935.

Rock and Roll with Theatre Camp!

“In the beginning there was nothing but rocks. Then someone invented the wheel. And then, things just began to ROOOOLL!” – *Smokey Joe’s Café*

This summer students who attend TCT’s annual Theatre Camp will have an opportunity to discover the roots of rock and roll. This year’s theme is **Rock and Roll Summer**. Students will be able to explore the origins and uses of theatre, art, and music along with hands on activities designed to enrich and entertain. Join us for this trip into Rock and Roll history with artists like Elvis Presley and Chubby Checker!



TCT’s Theatre Camp 2010 will be held the week of July 26-30. There will two sessions each day. Students who will be in grades 1 through 4 in the fall will meet from 8:00-11:30 a.m. each day. Students who are rising fifth through eighth grade will meet from 1:00-4:30 p.m. There will be a performance on Friday to showcase the students’ work.

TCT is pleased to have as camp counselors this year talented actress and director Suzanne Oakley for Music; Marianna Coffey, art and drama instructor from Tupelo Middle School, for Art; and Camp Director and Drama Instructor Allana Austin – actress, director and theater teacher at THS.

The cost for the week is only \$100. You may fill out the registration form below and return to the TCT office. Contact the TCT at 844-1935 for more information.

Camper’s Name _____

M _____ F _____ Grade Next Fall _____

Address _____

City, State _____ Zip Code _____

Parent or Guardian Name _____

Day Phone _____

T-Shirt Size (Please circle) Youth: S(6-8) M(10-12) L(14-16) Adult: S M L XL

Health related or other concerns regarding camper:

**Deadline for registration is July 16, 2010. Cost is \$100. Make check payable to TCT and mail to TCT, P. O. Box 1094, Tupelo, MS 38802
For more information call the TCT office at 662-844-1935**

Music, Monet & Margaritas

The Lyric Krewe is gearing up for its annual fundraiser, *Music, Monet & Margaritas*, and they need you! A planning meeting will be held for those interested in helping with the event on Tuesday, May 11 on the Park Heights rooftop at 5:30 p.m.

The annual street fiesta will be held Saturday, June 19 in front of the Lyric Theatre on Broadway. This year's event will again feature live music by the Jam Band, as well as a silent art auction and delicious food. Tickets are available at the Lyric box

office by calling 844-1935. All proceeds from this event support the educational and outreach programs of Tupelo Community Theatre.

For more information or to volunteer for the event, please contact Jennie Bradford Curlee at 662-842-4521 or jcurlee@cdfms.org. You may also contact the TCT office at 662-844-1935 for more information.



2010-2011 Season Announced



TCT is proud to announce its 2010-2011 season. There's something for everyone in it – some "oldies but goodies" as well as new shows. Some music, some drama, and LOTS of laughs. Watch your mailbox this summer for the season ticket brochure. Order your tickets early to get the best seats!

We open our season with the world's longest running musical, *The Fantasticks*, which tells an allegorical story about two neighboring fathers who put up a wall between their

houses to ensure that their children will fall in love and marry. With unforgettable songs like "Try to Remember," it's no wonder that the musical has been running for more than 50 years.

Our holiday offering will be the classic Kaufman and Hart comedy *The Man Who Came to Dinner*. Set in the small town of Mesalia, Ohio, this Broadway hit tells the story of the famous radio personality Sheridan Whiteside who comes to visit factory owner Ernest Stanley. As he approaches the house, Whiteside slips outside the front door and injures his hip. Hilarity ensues as he settles in to recuperate.

In late winter, TCT will bring a brand new comedy to its stage to chase away those winter blues. *The Dixie Swim Club* is a touching comedy about five Southern women who became friends on their college swim

team. The group sets aside a weekend every August to recharge their relationships in a beach cottage on North Carolina's Outer Banks.

TCT brings back the classic comedy *Harvey* in the spring. *Harvey* tells the story of Elwood P. Dowd who starts to introduce his imaginary friend, Harvey, a six-and-a-half-foot-tall rabbit to guests at his sister's society party. Elwood and Harvey have unexpected influences on the doctors at the sanitarium where his sister is mistakenly committed.

To close the season, TCT will stage the new hit musical *The Drowsy Chaperone*. Just released for community theaters to perform, it won the 2006 Tony Award for Best Musical. Some of our patrons may have seen the recent touring production of this uproarious hit at the Orpheum. It's sure to be a hit with our TCT patrons.

TCT PERSONNEL

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

TCT
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Renee Baldwin
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Tom Booth



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Arts Commission



Auditions for Summer Youth

Pied Piper Playhouse and Tupelo Community Theatre are partnering to produce the Stephen Swartz musical *My Son Pinocchio* for 2010 Summer Youth. Auditions for the production will be Friday, June 4 at 6:00 p.m. and Saturday June 5 at 1:00 p.m. Due to the Elvis

Festival, auditions will be held at **THE LINK CENTRE ON WEST MAIN STREET – NOT THE LYRIC.**

The classic tale of an aging toymaker and his puppet, Pinocchio, takes on timely issues in Disney's *My Son Pinocchio*. Grammy Award-winner and master melodist Stephen Schwartz (who also wrote the hit *Godspell*) adds a compelling score of original



songs to the beloved classics "When You Wish Upon a Star" and "I've Got No Strings." Join the Blue Fairy, Stromboli and a lively cast of characters as Geppetto journeys beyond the Toy Shop to discover what makes the "perfect child."

No advance preparation is needed, but everyone will be expected to be able to act, sing, and dance. Auditions are open to students in fifth grade through college. Jimmy Grisham, director of last year's *Music Man, Jr.*, will be directing. If you need more information, please contact the TCT office at 662-844-1935. Production dates for the show are July 22-24, 2010 at the Lyric.