



"It's A Wonderful Life" Opens the Holiday Season

The heartwarming holiday tale of George Bailey and his life in Bedford Falls made famous by moviemaker Frank Capra will be presented on stage at the CTG when "It's A Wonderful Life" opens Friday, Nov. 28.

The popular story of everyman Bailey, his dreams quashed by family obligations and civic duty, is sure to entertain and enlighten audiences of all ages. When George feels his life has been meaningless and contemplates ending it, his Guardian Angel, Clarence, descends on Christmas Eve to save him from despair, showing him what the world would have been like had he never been born. He learns that he has had, indeed, a wonderful life.

Goldie Award-winning actors **John Candelaria** and **Joy Norton** star as George and Mary Bailey. Newcomer **Randy Aronson** is Clarence Odbody and **Jeffrey Rollins** plays evil tycoon Henry F. Potter. **Frank Rock** is Mr. Gower, Young George is **Jake Fitch**, **Jason Endicott** plays George's brother, Harry; Mother Bailey is **Patti Finley** and Violet Petersen is played by **Brittany Batong**.



Henry Potter & Clarence Odbody

Loretta Norton is Aunt Tilly, cabdriver Ernie is played by her husband, **Darren Norton**, and policeman Bert is played by **Loren Burghout**. **Mike Harvey** is Uncle Billy, **Ginger MacDonald** is Potter's secretary, **Wade Bradford** is Sam Wainwright, **Victoria Daves** is Mrs. Hatch, **Jakquelyn Taylor-Sullivan** plays Mrs. Andrews, **Anne**

Tucker is Mrs. Thompson, **Joe Miele** plays bartender Mr. Martini, and **Vicki Lightner** is Mrs. Martini. **John Bigelow** is Mr. Carter and **Jeff Hyde** plays both Mr. Welch and Potter's Goon.

The Bailey children are played by **Kyle Stone** as Peter, **Jeremy Friedman** as Tommy, **Paige Aronson** as Janie, and **Kelly Naoum** as Zuzu. Other cast members include **Adam Glazier** as Freddie, **Craig Vogeley** as a newspaper boy, **Bob Rhodes** as Marty Hatch, **Suzanne Grove** as Young Violet, **Amanda Eyrich** as Young Mary, **Sam Hyde** as Mickey, and **Warren Steinman** as the Principal. Townspeople are played by **Nathaniel Dobies**, **Kristen Hansen**, **Kathleen Johnson**, **Kaylin Mahoney**, **Kristen May**, **Ian McQuown**, **Alana Meyers**, **Shannon Michael**, **Sara Spalione**, and **Beth White**. The voice of Franklin will be **Michael Davies**.

This is the second time the production has been mounted by the Guild; it played in December 1998 at the Guild's old location up Sierra Highway. This new version, directed by **Greg Finley**, features some unique scenic techniques that will remind audiences of Capra's original vision for Bedford Falls. Finley's production team includes **Marc Steinfeld** as assistant director, **Loren Burghout** and **Darren Norton** as stage managers, **Garrett Finley** as sound designer, **Marc Steinfeld** and **Joe Miele** as lighting designers, choreographer **Musette Caing**, and **Sharon Eyrich** and **Claire Friedman** as co-costume designers. **Jim Robinson** and **Frank Rock** are the set designers, **Pat Robinson** is set decorator and props, and **Loren Burghout** is the technical lighting advisor.



The Bailey Family

Important Dates

Nov 12 – "Charlotte's Web" opens (see Adventures In Theatre article)

Nov 28, Fri – "It's A Wonderful Life" Opening and Pre-Show Champagne Reception (see article for performance dates)

Dec 1, Mon – General Meeting, 7:30 pm

Dec 2, Tues – "Music Man, Junior" opens (see A.C.T. III article)

Dec 16, Tues – "Holipalooza!" (see article for details)

No Board Meeting in December

Jan 9, Fri – Newsletter articles due

Jan 12, Mon – Board Meeting

Jan 17-18, Sat-Sun, Auditions for "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers" (see article)

Jan 23, Fri – "The Diary of Anne Frank" Opening and Pre-Show Champagne Reception

Jan 24, Sat – "Ramona Quimby" Opens

For more information on these events, contact the box office at **661-799-2702**

"It's A Wonderful Life" opens **Friday, November 28** with a 7 pm champagne reception and artists' gallery opening, followed by an 8 pm curtain. Performances are scheduled Friday and Saturday evenings at 8 pm through Dec. 20; 2 pm matinees are scheduled Sundays Nov. 30 through Dec. 21 and Saturdays Dec. 6, 13 and 20. Sunday evening 7 pm performances are scheduled

Dec. 14 and 21. An additional performance has been scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 18 at 7 pm. Tickets for all performances are \$16-\$12 for adults and \$12-\$9 for juniors and seniors. Reservations need to be made early – call the box office now at 661-799-2702.

I'm Sorry, the Bridge was Out, They HAD to Spend the Night!

That's right, on the big night itself, Halloween, the cast and crew of *"I'm Sorry the Bridge is Out, You'll Have to Spend the Night"* pulled out all the stops to present an unforgettable evening of interactive theatre that lasted all night! The evening, organized by **Ingrid Boydston**, started with costumed patrons arriving in the spookily decorated lobby (by the entirely non-spooky **Pat Robinson**) for food and drink. Many thanks to **Alanna Blair** for handling the box office, **Carol Rock** for organizing, and to **Frank Rock** and **Bill Quinn** for picking up and delivering the treats. Theatre-goers also visited the special one-night-only bar "manned" by a truly lovely **TimBen Boydston** and his ghoulish sidekick, **Loren the Grim-Reaper Bughout**.

Once in the theatre, each patron received a special bag stuffed full of tricks and treats by TimBen, and **Ed, Dana, Kayla** and **Courtney Hill** to enjoy during the show. Many thanks to the always helpful Hill family! Kudos to every cast and crew member who did a fabulous job of handling the "im-promptu" gags thrust at them by the audience and the hostess for the evening, the truly bizarre Emvira, portrayed shamelessly by Ingrid Boydston.

During the first act, the ever-diligent TimBen and Pat took it upon themselves to prepare the desserts that greeted the howling (with laughter) crowd at intermission. After the show wrapped up, a terrific cookie bouquet with gift certificate, donated in part by Cookies by Design was raffled off to the lucky **Rick and Dee Winsman!** The costume contest was judged by our irreplaceable and irrepressible techies **Caroline Morgan, Heidi Meiseles, and Jenny Loring**, with prizes going to several lucky winners including **Duane and Pauline Harte, and Annie and Matt Easterbrook**. The night was rounded out with dancing provided by **Dave "The Wave" Forster**. Many thanks to all who helped make the evening one of fun and laughter, including **Michael Davies** for directing such a hilarious show for us to mess with!

President's Message

Greetings Fellow Guild Members,

Is it possible? Is that the smell of TURKEY in the air, and has Patti already told me three times that "the Christmas lights had better be up by December 1st" or I will be in BIG TROUBLE?! Yes, it's true! Wow. 2003 has just flown by, hasn't it?! And speaking of time flying by, it's hard to believe that our Halloween shows are over already! Congratulations to the casts of "I'm Sorry the Bridge Is Out, You'll Have to Spend the Night" and "The Hobbit." Both shows were big hits, audience pleasers, and directors **Michael Davies** (Bridge) and **Jymn Magon** (Hobbit) can be very proud of their casts and crews for putting on EXCELLENT Halloween presentations!

Don't miss our Christmas production of "It's A Wonderful Life" which opens on the evening after Thanksgiving and runs through December 21st. The heartwarming adaptation of the movie will most certainly please everyone in your family; a perfect opportunity to enjoy the theatre together. So, make your reservations early, because you're not going to want to miss this one!

And don't miss the fabulous HOLIPALOOZA on December 16th. It's the inaugural fundraiser starring the wonderful children of the CTG, and it will feature food, fun, and lots of opportunities for everyone to support the theater. Chairwoman/creator **Leslie Berra** wants to see EVERYONE there, but there are only 280 seats available for the night, so book your reservations early!

It's been a great year! The 2003/2004 season is off to a record-breaking start, the prospects for completion of our 2nd phase of construction are on schedule, and the theater is thriving! Why? Because of YOU! The CTG family is stronger than ever and growing faster than the City of Santa Clarita itself! Every one of you reading this newsletter deserves a big "thank-you" and a hearty "congratulations" for making this past year great!

When you're a participating member of the Canyon Theatre Guild, you really do have A WONDERFUL LIFE!!

SEE YOU AT THE THEATRE!

Greg Finley

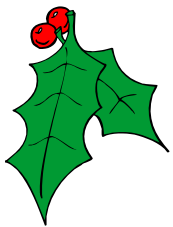


Crazy CTG Kids who participated in the Halloween show and the after-school workshop, "Music Man, Junior"

Holipalooza!

Get ready for the premiere of HOLIDALOOZA! - a holiday musical extravaganza spotlighting the talented youth of the SCV on Tuesday, December 16, 2003 at 6 pm!

Auditions were held October 29 and we have a terrific show planned. Our fabulous cast includes: **Jake Fitch, Brendan Reza, Leah, Joshua** and **Jonah DiPaola, Caleb DiPaola, Kelly Durban, Colin, Danny and Kelley Sickafoose, Raymond Castro, Tammy Wurst, Grace Kimball, Chelsea Glickman, Danny and Kevin Morgan, Amanda Gallardo, Corey Ruffner, Lisa Tenorio, Shannon Bouknight, Kamber Moen, Amy James, Ryan Kenney, Alexandra Atalla, Shanna and Ashley Pinsker, Nikki Berra, Felice Wurst, John and Danielle Ballentine, Lauren Barlow, Jenna Ebersberger, Nikki Kilker, and Megan and Kara Hayes.**



The evening's emcees, who will also perform, include **Daniel Barsky, Tom Lund, Kasey Rock, Shannon Sickafoose, Nathaniel Dobies** and **(Andrew) Fish**. The evening will also include performances by Dance Studio 84.

Many thanks to those on the entertainment committee: **Patti Finley** (Co-chair), **Carol Rock** (Producer), **Laurie Morgan** (Vocal Director), **Garrett Finley** (Vocal Director), and choreographers **Musette Sickafoose, Melanie Kimball, Jan Marie Rennels, and Chandler Smith.**

Proceeds from this, our first-ever holiday fundraiser, will go toward funding our next ACT III Workshop. ACT III is an after-school theatre workshop for junior high and high school students that teaches theatre basics (including improvisational skills, character development, vocal technique, and dance), and culminates in performances of a major musical theatre production. In 2002, the CTG received grant funding to cover the cost of this important program. Unfortunately, this year the grant funds were not available and students had to pay a fee to participate which, in some cases, was prohibitive. *It is our goal to raise enough funds to cover the costs of the next workshop so it can once again be offered free of charge.*

The Guild considers it of vital importance to offer a safe, structured environment for our young people after school where they can build their self-esteem and self-confidence through the joy and discipline of performing. To that end, the CTG has created this wonderful new fundraiser with several opportunities for our members to lend their support:

Opportunity Drawing

By now you should have received your \$2.00 donation/discount coupons in the mail. For every \$2.00 donation ticket purchased, you receive a \$2.00-off coupon to be used for admission to a CTG regular season performance.

Each ticket sold goes into the pot for the Opportunity Drawing the night of the Holipalooza. The winning ticket holder will receive a \$500 cash prize!

Additionally, we have instituted an incentive program for our young people (18 and under) - prizes for most tickets sold include Disneyland Passports, Magic Mountain tickets, and Edwards Movie Money. Please - NO door-to-door selling.

If you did not receive your tickets, wish to sell more tickets, or are interested in participating in the incentive program, please contact Leslie Berra at 661-296-4530. All proceeds will go toward the Holipalooza Fundraiser. Special thanks to **Sharon Cummings, Pat Robinson, Melanie Kimball, Laura DiPaola, Shana Wurst** and **Musette Sickafoose** for their help with the Opportunity Drawing mailing.

Stars for Students

Looking for a special way to honor that young person in your life? Perhaps they got a really good grade, or you wish to celebrate a special role in a CTG production, or you just want to tell them they are special and you love them? What better way than a star on our Wall of Stars? And what better way than *HALF-PRICE*?! That's right - between now and December 16, you may purchase a \$50 star for only \$25 with the only restriction being that you must purchase that star to honor a loved one age 18 and under (that includes babies!).



Special forms for this limited time offer are available at the theatre box office. All proceeds will go toward the Holipalooza Fundraiser. Special thanks to **Sharon Cummings** for her help with this project and to **Rick and Dee Winsman** of Saratoga Engraving for generously offering to donate all of the stars and engraving!

Change for the Future

Let's make a CHANGE FOR THE FUTURE. Looking for somewhere to dump all that spare change that's collecting dust? Next time you come to a CTG performance, bring it in and dump it in our CHANGE FOR THE FUTURE canisters located in the box office and concession areas. Between now and December 16, all proceeds will go toward the Holipalooza Fundraiser.



How You Can Help

Lastly, help with the event is another great way to contribute!! If you would like to volunteer to work at the Holipalooza, please contact me at 296-4530.

Make Reservations Now

Please call the Box Office (799-2702) to make your reservations for this fabulous fundraiser! Ticket prices are very reasonable (\$20/\$15 Adults; \$15/\$10 Juniors and Seniors). Doors open at 6 pm with hors d'oeuvres, cider, and eggnog, and a photo op with Santa (you may bring your camera or we will take your picture for \$5.00). Entertainment starts at 7 pm and the Opportunity and other prize drawing tickets will be pulled right after intermission. Please bring in a non-perishable food item or new, unwrapped toy to benefit the SCV Food Pantry and Santa Clarita Sheriff Station Toy Drive and you'll be entered in a special drawing for your own star on our Wall of Stars!



Thank you for your support - it is through the tremendous efforts of our members and volunteers that we are able to give back to the community.

Leslie Berra

Holipalooza Chairperson

Artistic Impressions

As the holidays approach, the Canyon Theatre Guild family has much to be thankful for. The Guild continues to grow! If you're one of the new members, I would like to welcome you to the family.

The reason that there are now over 2,000 season ticket holders is simple: great shows! Congratulations to director **Michael Davies** and the cast and crew of "I'm Sorry the Bridge Is Out, You'll Have to Spend the Night." This high-camp send-up of the monster movie genre broke Halloween show box office records. Their interactive Monster Mash fundraiser performance was a smashing success, and those who saw it are clamoring to make it an annual event!

Also, congratulations to **Jymn Magon** and his cast and crew for a wonderful retelling of the Tolkien classic "The Hobbit." Kudos to the talented wizards who utilized live action and shadow puppetry to great effect. We heard from many of our patrons that they enjoyed the innovative staging a great deal.

Words cannot express how thankful I am to the Gala 2003 co-chairs **Dana Hill** and **Lori Larson**. They and their crew of dedicated, hard-working volunteers put together our most successful Night of a Thousand Stars Gala fundraiser ever. Together we netted over \$30,000 for our parking lot project. A special thanks to **Mirko** and **Karen Ilich** of **Traveling Times**, **Radisson Seven Seas**, and **Carnival Cruises**, who donated the top sellers of auction.

Special thanks to **Patti Finley**, Director of Daytime Programs, and her instructors, cast, and crew for their terrific production of "Charlotte's Web." Over 2,000 elementary school children, many of them attending a live play for the very first time, were enchanted and amazed as the classic tale of was brought to life.

Speaking of our youth, you won't want to miss the talented kids of the CTG as they sing and dance into your hearts and bring holiday cheer with the first ever "Holipalooza!" on December 16! Make your reservations now to get the best seats!

When you call to make your reservations, you may find a second cheerful voice at the box office. We'd like to welcome the newest addition to our staff, **Felice Wurst**.

A few last thanks: first to **Ingrid Boydston** and her crew for the many hours spent put-

ting the costume rooms in order, and secondly to **Loren Burghout**, and **Jim** and **Pat Robinson** for their work in manufacturing and installing our upgraded patch cords.

From our family to yours, Happy Holidays, and we'll see you at the theatre!

TimBen Boydston
Director of Operations

CTG + SUSD = SUCCESS!

What do you get when you take 30 or 40 elementary school teachers and show them how to direct a play in the classroom? Hopefully you get hundreds of students having the opportunity to learn about literature, science, and history while also getting the rare chance to act and learn about the performing arts! That is what appears to be happening due to a collaboration between the Canyon Theatre Guild and the Saugus Union School District (SUSD).

Thanks to grants that were written by **Jan Bandich** of the SUSD and the CTG's **Ingrid Boydston**, two workshops have already been presented with teachers receiving a full day of hands-on instruction in the fine art of producing plays (musicals no less!) in the classroom setting. Every teacher at each workshop also gets to pick a musical theatre title aligned to state standards for literature, science, or history to produce at his or her school.

The next set of workshops will be even more intensive with teachers receiving not only two days of training, but personal consultation on the plays as they produce them. All workshops have been led by **Ingrid Boydston** with assistance from either Goldie award winner **Michael Davies** or 3rd grade teacher **Linda Candib**. This is just another example of how the CTG brings the wonderful world of live theatre to the kids of Santa Clarita!

Help Needed

Schedules are still being set up for helping with the Snack Bar for the run of "It's A Wonderful Life." Please phone **Marla Khayat** at 661-250-3664 or the box office at 661-799-2702 if you can help.

You do not have to work all the performances – pick the one (or more) that fits your schedule best! Thanks! All help is greatly appreciated! Volunteers are what make our theatre special!

Outreach Thanks & Needs

Business Expo. On October 11-12, the CTG had a prime location at the CTG Business Expo, thanks to **Doug** and **Sue Sink** of REMO. **TimBen Boydston** set up a background of chests, costumes, hats, jewels, and props. This eye-catching display encouraged people to stop and talk about the CTG and our programs. Volunteers who answered questions, distributed flyers, and added names to our mailing list were: **Mary** and **Brendan Reza**; **Frank**, **Carol**, and **Frank Rock**; **Kathi Lund**; **Tim Ben**, **Ingrid**, and **Analyn Boydston**; **Cheryl** and **Raymond Castro**; and **Lisa** and **Cecilia Tenorio**.

Kid's Expo. The first-ever Kid's Expo was held October 18th and was intended to show what the SCV has to offer children. We had a fantastic response to our home-school, after-school, and regular programs. The CTG handed out 9 different flyers for its various programs. The combination of a costume display and a video of "Katastrophe Kate" continually running, caused kids to stay glued to our display! Helping to make this so successful were: **Marie** and **Courtney Fix**, **Kathi Lund**, **Carol Rock**, and **TimBen Boydston**.

Pre-Holiday Celebration. November 8th was the pre-holiday celebration at Granary Square. Fliers were distributed advertising "It's A Wonderful Life" and "Holipalooza!" while the audience enjoyed vocal performances by **Laurie Morgan**, **Joy Norton**, **Nikki Berra**, and **Tamara Wurst**. Thanks to these performers and to **Leslie Berra** who coordinated the music and served as emcee.

Upcoming Events. Many thanks to all who help make these events happen. 'Outreach' activities give us the opportunity to 'reach out' and 'touch' the community – to show who we are, what we can do, and how well we do it! And there is always a need for more volunteers. Mark your calendars for these upcoming events:

☎ Nov 21, annual Santa parade at Valencia Town Center

☎ Dec 7, The Kid's parade in Newhall (we need children 12 and younger, plus a coordinator)

☎ Dec 7, NMNMH Tree Lighting

Watch for more event announcements and help us reach out!

Marla Khayat
Outreach Coordinator

Upcoming Shows

Auditions were just held for the following shows which will be presented in January and February 2004. Be sure to mark your calendar for these two tremendous shows.



This Pulitzer and Tony Award-winning drama tells the true story of Anne Frank,

a young Jewish girl forced to escape persecution by the Nazis, hiding for two years in a concealed attic with her family. Suitable for the whole family, this show is an excellent vehicle for teaching tolerance and understanding. The playwright embraces the optimism and tenacity of youth by documenting this brave girl's journey into history. Through this play, Anne Frank has achieved her dream to "...go on living, even after my death." Our production is being directed by **TimBen Boydston**.



Dramatized by Len Jenkin and based on the books of Beverly Cleary, this play is the second literature-based offering of the Canyon

Theatre Guild's family season. Directed by **Jim Robinson**, this show brings to life the unpredictable, exasperating, boisterous, and independent Ramona Quimby, who is always getting herself into trouble and aggravating her older sister, Beezus. Join her family and friends as Ramona experiences the trials and tribulations of being in the 3rd grade. You and your children are sure to enjoy Ramona's entire quirky, loving family.

Auditions for "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers"

Are you ready to kick up your heels? Director **Ingrid Boydston** will be holding auditions for "Seven Brides



for Seven Brothers" on Saturday, January 17th from 10:00 am to 4:30 pm and Sunday, January 18th from 12:30 pm to 4:00 pm. Call backs will be Sunday January 18th from 4:30 pm to 8:30 pm. Come prepared to sing approximately 16 bars of a song to pre-recorded accompaniment. Bring your own tape or CD. Wear appropriate clothes and shoes for the dance audition.

Yes, there are seven brides and seven brothers, but every bride also has a suitor and a family. Do the math, 25-30 singing, dancing men and women of all ages are needed! Sorry, there are no auditions for children who appear less than 15 years old.

Ideally, everyone should be able to sing and dance, but if you are stronger in one area than the other, come on out and audition anyway. At the very least, you will get more experience auditioning, and we'll try to make the experience as fun as possible.

Assisting with this rip-roaring good time show is **Michael Davies**. Choreographic duties will be handled by **Musette Caing** and **Rena Bailey-Barret** with **Michelle Smith** and **Steph Moir** directing the vocals.

Spring Semester Workshop Classes Are Forming!

Patti Finley, CTG's Director of Daytime Programs, is currently scheduling auditions for admission to the Spring semester of our two daytime workshop programs.

Adventures in Theatre, our workshop for home-schooled children, part-time students, or adults with free daytime hours, will begin on January 12, 2004, with auditions being scheduled from 11 am to 2 pm on that date. The audition will consist of some theater games (improvisation) and a reading from the script for the spring production, "*Henry and Ramona*" (one of the Beverly Cleary "Ramona" series). There are roles for boys, girls, teens, and adults. The workshop currently meets on Monday and Wednesday from 11 am to 2 pm, but this scheduling is flexible, depending on the needs of the majority of those enrolled. The performances will be scheduled for the middle of March. Enrollment fee is \$129 per student, with family discounts and some scholarships available. For additional information, or to schedule an audition appointment, call Patti at 254-0064.

Our **A.C.T. III** (After Class Theatre) will be presenting "*Annie, Junior*" as its spring workshop production, and auditions for this workshop will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday, January 13 and 14, 2004, from 4 to 6 pm. In addition to the roles for the little girl orphans, there are several roles for older teens (both boys and girls), so the ages for participation in this ONE WORKSHOP ONLY have been changed to include children ages 8 through 16. Normally, this workshop is for junior high and high school students. To schedule an audition appointment, call Patti at 254-0064. The audition will include singing (you bring a prepared song with an accompaniment track), reading from the script, and learning a short dance combination. The fee for this workshop is \$200 per student, but if our Holipalooza! fundraiser is successful, we may be able to eliminate or reduce the enrollment fee. This workshop will meet after school for two hours a day, four days each week for ten weeks, and will culminate in four performances of the show.

We hope to see all of you budding actors and actresses at the auditions!

Costume Room Cleanup!

If you have spent any time in the white building lately, you'll have noticed a huge difference - the costume rooms have been completely cleaned! This Herculean task has been attempted with varying degrees of success in the past, but this time we think we've done it! If you've ever worn a CTG costume, ever seen a CTG costume, or ever hope to have anything to do with one, will you please throw your arms around the following people when you see them and promise never ever to do anything to mess up the costume rooms again?! All kidding aside, these folks deserve our sincere thanks for all they do to make us look good. The costume room clean-up was headed by **Ingrid Boydston** and included **Flo Loring**, **Lynn McQuown**, and **Jill McGlynn**. They were aided by **Kayla Hill**, **Courtney Hill**, **Felice Wurst**, and **Amber Clark**. A most special thank you is extended to **Loren Burghout** who was there to lift, heave, and hoist all those bins you see on the tops of the racks! Thanks also to **James Warnock** who built the racks and installed the locks. The doors are to remain locked so we can keep the rooms in order.

If you have questions about costumes or our costume polices, please see our Director of Operations, **TimBen Boydston**, to whom we are also grateful for procuring all the barrels and bins and for organizing the costume room vision in the first place!

Adventures in Theatre Workshop

The CTG's Adventures in Theatre workshop is designed to meet the needs of home-schooled children. Now in its third year, this 8-week workshop meets twice a week, for 3 hours each time. The students this semester range in age from 7 years to 17 years old. They have learned basic stage terminology, creative expression, character development, and how to work as a team. In addition, we have worked on movement, set design and construction, and basic makeup. There are several adults who volunteered their free daytime hours to help with the workshop's production of "Charlotte's Web."

Patti Finley, the CTG's Director of Daytime Programming, directed "Charlotte's Web," with assistance from **Joy Norton**. This is a fully-mounted production, with scenery, costumes, theatrical lighting, sound effects, etc., and all the performers (with the exception of the adults) are workshop participants. The cast includes: **Joy Norton**, **Savannah Mersola**, and **Natalie Kovacs** as the three Storytellers. **Vanessa Westlake** is Wilbur, **Clare Tompkins-Cooke** is Fern, and **Leah DiPaola** is Charlotte. The Arable family is portrayed by **Bill Quinn**, **Musette Caing**, and **Joshua DiPaola**. The Zuckermans are **Loren Burghout** and **Mary Ferguson**, with **Johnny Ballentine** playing their hired hand, Lurvy. Other animals on the farm are: **Emilee Yanik** as Templeton, the Rat; **Juliette Valaer** and **Jonah DiPaola** as The Goose and the Gander; **Beth White** as the Sheep and **Mary Ravello** as the Lamb; **Brandon Winkler** is "Uncle" the large pig, and the baby spiders are played by **Justin Honigsfeld**, **Tyler Honigsfeld**, and **Shelly Winkler**. Additional roles are being filled by **Laura DiPaola**, **Valerie Valaer**, and **Patti Finley**.

Frank Rock and **Loren Burghout** designed the versatile set, with the workshop students helping with the painting. **Jill McGlynn** designed the costumes and **Garrett Finley** handled the sound design. **Leslie Berra** was the Sound Tech Mentor, with the technical positions being filled by **Cathy Kovacs** on sound and **Cathie** and **Danielle Ballentine** on lights.

Daytime performances of "Charlotte's Web" began November 12, and though these daytime shows have been reserved as "field trips" for children from our local elementary schools, there are usually some seats

available. All daytime performances are currently scheduled for the morning hours on November 12, 13, 14, 17, 18, 19, 20 (call the box office for the specific times). For specific hours of the daytime performances, call the box office at 799-2702.

A.C.T. III Workshop (After Class Theatre)

This after-school workshop is in its 2nd year at the CTG. Director of Daytime Programming, **Patti Finley**, is also directing this year's production of "Music Man, Junior." The workshop is geared to Junior High and High school students, but this year also includes some younger children to fill the younger roles in the play.

Funded by a City of Santa Clarita grant last year, the CTG offered the workshop free of charge to both the students and the audiences. The program became fee-based this year. "We hope to be able to raise enough money through a special fundraiser we have planned, so that we can offer this workshop free of charge next semester," said Finley. Vocal director, **Leslie Berra** echoed that sentiment, "Even a nominal fee is prohibitive for some of the kids, and we want to be able to provide this program for ALL who are interested." (See article on the "Holipalooza!" for details on the fundraiser.)

There are currently 26 students participating in the "Music Man, Junior" workshop. This program offers instruction in theatre terminology, creative expression through theater games, character development, acting, dancing, and vocal coaching. The students also help with the set construction and wardrobe duties.

The instructional/directing team includes **Patti Finley** as Director, **Michael Davies** as Assistant Director, **Leslie Berra** as Vocal Director, **Musette Caing** as Choreographer, and **Loren Burghout** as Mentor Stage Manager. The student cast includes **Lauren**

Barlow* as Marian Paroo and **Nathaniel Dobies*** as Harold Hill. Harold's sidekick, Marcellus, is being played by **Shannon Michael***; **(Andrew) "Fish"*** is Mayor Shinn and **Tracy Gelfman*** is Eulalie, the Mayor's wife. The Shinn daughters are **Nikki Berra*** as Zaneeta and **Danny Devan*** as Gracie. Marian's mother, Mrs. Paroo, is **Kelly Durban*** and Winthrop is being played by **Danny Morgan***. The School Board/Barbershop Quartet includes **Kevin Morgan**, **Johnny Ballentine***, **Kelley Ryan*** and **Sam Hyde***. The Pick-a-Little Ladies are **Brittany Cosenza***, **Kate Clarke***, **Shanna Pinsker***, and **Tamara Wurst***. **Jenna Ebersberger*** is Amaryllis and **Sam Hyde** does double duty as Charlie Cowell. Others in the cast include **Raymond Castro*** as Tommy, the town's bad boy; **Veronica Chestnut***, **Ashley Moller*** and **Leah DiPaola*** as additional Pick-a-Little Ladies; **Joshua DiPaola***, **Jonah DiPaola*** and **Colin Robert*** as River City boys; and **David Hoffman** as the Constable. (Names with asterisk* participated in outreach performances for Kids Expo and/or the Friendly Valley Fun Tours group.)



Performances of "Music Man, Junior" will be on **Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, December 2, 3, 9, 10 at 7:00 pm**. Reservations are strongly recommended. Ticket prices are \$5 and there will be festival seating.

Reservation Reminders

We are really excited to have so many people becoming season ticket holders, but that means *no more great seats available at the last minute*. Therefore, please remember these hints to get the best seats:

Reservations need to be made at least **TWO WEEKS** in advance to ensure preferred seating. The more people in your party, the sooner you need to call us.

Additional tickets must be paid for at the time they are reserved.

The **box office** is open Tuesday through Thursday from 11 am to 6 pm, and Friday through Sunday from noon to 7 pm. You may either phone **661-799-2702** or come by in person.

If you have any questions, call **Alanna Blair** (Box Office Manager) at the box office and she will assist you.

Your Membership

We are so excited to see so many new faces at the CTG. And in addition to seeing all the marvelous productions, you can become part of the shows by hosting, selling refreshments, sewing costumes, painting sets, and so much more. Contact **Sharon Cummings** (Membership Secretary) or the box office for more information.

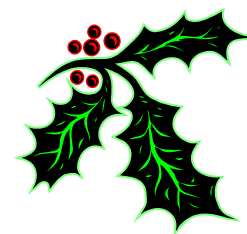
What about renewing your membership? Did you know you can renew on line? When you get your renewal letter, go to the CTG website; from there select "membership." Fill out the form, put in your credit card number, and submit. You can even purchase gift memberships this way - just put an explanatory note in the "comments" section. This is a secure, quick, and easy way to keep your membership from lapsing: <http://www.canyontheatre.org>

If you have any questions concerning your membership, contact Sharon at 661-250-0761 or at scummings@earthlink.net. And remember, your membership is valid for a full calendar year!

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Question: What are the Goldies?

Answer: The Goldies are CTG's annual awards for Best Show, Best Actor/Actress, Best Set Design, etc, etc. All paid-up members are entitled to vote for these awards, however, you may "opt-out" and not receive a ballot. This option may be changed at any time. Just let Sharon know if you do not want to receive a ballot.



2003-2004 CTG Board of Directors

- President Greg Finley
- 1st Vice President Michael Davies
- 2nd Vice President Ingrid Boydston
- Secretary Carol Rock
- Treasurer Jim Robinson
- Members-At-Large:
 - Ed Hill Michele Krantz
 - Marla Khayat Darren Norton

Other People You Should Know

- Director of Operations Ben Boydston
- Box Office
 - Alanna Blair & Felice Wurst
- Membership Sharon Cummings
- Director of Daytime Programs
 - Patti Finley
- House Managers:
 - Marla Khayat & Diane Atsales

Contact Us

- Box Office 661-799-2702
- <http://www.canyontheatre.org>

Holiday Gift Idea

What do you give that person who has everything? How about the gift that keeps giving for a year – a membership to the CTG! Fill out a member form with the recipient's information and turn it in to the box office (or go on line and put a note in the comments section) – we will either mail the member card to you, or directly to the lucky recipient ... whichever you chose. Phone the box office at 799-2702 for additional information.



Mystery Corner

Our previous mystery photo was Goldie award-winning director, actor, and CTG Board member, **Michael Davies**, portraying King Arthur in "Camelot" in a tour of National Trust Properties in England in 1975.

This issue's mystery person is another well-known CTG member. Know who she is? This is her headshot when she was a child actress. The answer will be revealed in our next issue, so stay tuned.

Upcoming mystery photos are being solicited. Either send them to your editor as jpeg files, or give her a copy to be scanned and returned to you.



And Finally!

You are invited to the City of Santa Clarita's

Newhall Art Walk



Part of the development of the Newhall Arts and Theatre District

Sponsored by the Arts & Events Office
Phil Lantis, Organizer

Business owners on San Fernando Road have partnered with the City to make space available in their businesses to display the commissioned art pieces during the month of December 2003. The art works have been constructed with materials purchased in the business or items donated by the owner of that business.

Artist Reception

December 4, 2003

5-6:30 pm



At the Canyon Theatre Guild

The free reception is open to everyone.
Come meet the artists and get a map showing where the other art pieces are being displayed. All art works are within walking distance of the theatre.

The art will remain displayed in the businesses December 1st – 31st, 2003