



Two Productions to Delight the Whole Family

Arsenic and Old Lace

Comedy, suspense, mystery, mayhem and a love story! After becoming engaged to the minister's daughter, Mortimer discovers that his matronly aunts have a bad habit of poisoning lonely old gentlemen with their homemade elderberry wine, then having his brother Teddy (who thinks he is Teddy Roosevelt) bury them in the cellar, which he believes is the Panama Canal. The situation grows worse when older brother Jonathan returns home looking for a safe place to hide from the police and brings with him a plastic surgeon who botched an operation on Jonathan and left him looking like Boris Karloff, the master of movie monsters and madmen.

The action becomes frantic as Mortimer tries to protect his aunts and Teddy and keep track of the dead bodies in the window seat, all the while fearing he will fall victim to the insanity that "practically gallops" in his family.



Marla Khayat and Sharon Cummings are Abby and Martha Brewster, the hilariously murderous spinster Aunts; playing their nephews are Jason Endicott as Mortimer, Randy Aronson as Teddy, and Billy Davis as Jonathan. Rachel Forster plays Elaine, Mortimer's fiancée, and Michael Collins plays Dr. Einstein. The cast also includes Dan Payne, Erik Klein, Ron Kari, Michael Keane, Jack Coppock, and Harald Krueger. Caroline Morgan is Assistant Director, Loren D. Burghout is stage manager (and Officer Brophy), set designers are Jim and Pat Robinson, Stephen "Nanook" Burkholder is designing the sound, and Flo Loring and Claudia Alexopoulos are designing the costumes.

Arsenic and Old Lace has been making people laugh for over 60 years and this production, under the direction of **Barbara**



Huntington, will carry on not only the play's great tradition, but also the CTG's tradition of producing high quality theatre.

The show opens with a champagne reception on **Friday, June 2**, with performances each Friday and Saturday evening at 8:00 pm through June 24. There will be some Sunday matinees at 1:00 pm, and some Sunday evenings at 6:30 pm. Ticket prices range from \$8 to \$13.

Call the box office now to make your reservations so you'll have the best selection of seats: 661.799.2702.

The World of Beauty and the Beast

We are all familiar with the timeless story of a lovely young maiden named Beauty (**Joy Norton**), who is forced to live in the castle of a frightening Beast (who is actually a handsome prince under an evil spell). But this re-telling of the tale by Carter Burch has a few twists and turns which will charm audiences of all ages, and features a delightful musical score.

The handsome and likeable Prince (played by **Matthew Lawrence**) has been placed under a spell by the evil Grand Wizard, Dredmon (**James Warnock**), who is out of sorts because no one seems to delight in his evilness anymore. The Court Jester, Bozmo, is played by CTG newcomer, **Shad Hunter**, who is turned into



a skunk for a good portion of the story. His "Best Friend" is Fenwick, Dredmon's former Assistant Wizard Second Class, who is hilariously portrayed by **Garrett Deagon**. The Beast, who is a kind and fair person, even when he is covered in fur, is played by **George Chavez**.

Other characters include Beauty's blustery and somewhat silly father, Otto Von Gooseberry (played by **Jymn Magon**), and her sisters, Patience (**Kamber Moen**) and Charity (**Rosa Ferreira**) have neither quality and not only take after their father, but are selfish as well.



This final production of this year's Family Season is under the direction of **Jennifer Rennels-Magon**, with **Patti Finley** acting as Assistant Director, and **Shannon Michael** as choreographer. **Erin Rivlin-Sakata** is vocal director and **Janet McAnany** and **Jill McGlynn** are the costume designers. **Jim and Pat Robinson** are designing the set, with scenic art by **Frank Rock**.

The World of Beauty and the Beast opens **June 3**, with performances at 1:00 pm on Saturdays and 6:30 pm on Sundays. There are some Sunday matinees. Contact the box office for specific times and reservations: 661.799.2702. Ticket prices are \$8 - \$13.

For more information on CTG events, contact the box office at 661.799.2702

Check the CTG website for updates on auditions and show times: www.canyontheatre.org

Greetings from the President

Wow "Oklahoma" was great. I think that the dream scene is some of the best work I have seen on the CTG stage. Great job and thank you to the actors and the artistic team.



Once again we have a Board of Directors election coming up. Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find the statements from the prospective candidates. I believe this year's election is of extreme importance. The future of the Guild is truly in the balance.

Now, more than ever, external pressures are affecting the CTG. Other organizations are starting daytime and summer children's programs. A children's theatre may open soon in the Newhall area. A recently formed theatre group is planning on producing four musicals a year at the COC Performing Arts Center. This increased competition will make it more difficult for CTG to expand and continue to be the preeminent venue for live theatre in Santa Clarita Valley.

We need knowledgeable, strong, and fair-minded people to serve on the Board. People who will focus on what is best for the organization. People who can make CTG a regional player while preserving the "family" feel. Read the statements and get to know the candidates. Strong, unbiased leadership for your Guild is critical now more than ever.

With your help, the Canyon Theatre Guild can and will continue to be the place to go for great theatre in Santa Clarita. Please vote wisely..

See YOU at the Theatre.

Ed Hill, President

If you have any questions about your membership, please contact Sharon Cummings at grandmomsdc@yahoo.com or phone the box office at 661.799.2702

Goldies! Goldies! Goldies!

by Ingrid Boydston,
Goldies Co-Chair

It's that time of year again! The date for the 2005-2006 Season's Goldie Awards has been announced (July 15th - mark your calendar's NOW), and the ballots will be arriving next month. For those of you new to the CTG, or as a refresher course for everyone else, here's GOLDIES 101.

The Goldies are the CTG's version of the Tonys/Oscars/Big Wonderful Awards of Your Choice show. Each year, directors submit the names of cast members to be considered for the award in several different categories. The acting categories are: Best Performance(s) by an Actor and Actress in a leading role, an Actor and Actress in a Supporting Role, Male and Female Youth in a Leading Role, Male and Female Youth in a Supporting Role, and Cameo Performance.

This gets even more complicated than it first appears. First of all, each director is only allowed to nominate one performer per category. Then the nominees have to be approved by the Board of Directors, but only as to whether they are nominated in the correct category or not. For example, a director couldn't nominate a player in a very small stage role as the best actor in a leading role, no matter how phenomenal the performance was. Also, you might be surprised to find that if you survey 8 different people about the same show, they may have eight different ideas as to who the leads, supporting and cameo roles are. Is the cameo someone who only has one scene? Or is in many scenes but has only few or no lines? Can a show have more than one lead? These are questions that are debated every single year. Shows are structured differently and what seems to be the perfect definition when you look at one show falls to pieces when you try to apply it to another show.

Each year the directors and we, the board, try our best to reach consensus but there are always differing opinions. You, the voter may agree with the director's choices and the boards' affirmation or you may not. Please just rest assured that we TRY REALLY HARD to be as fair as we can. ☺ We encourage you to just have fun and vote for the performances you would most like to

see celebrated. That's the true spirit of the Goldies!

Additionally, every director, every show and all of the designers on a creative team, including the lights, sound, set design and decoration, vocal directors and choreographers (where appropriate) are automatically nominated for each show (up to three per category). So on Saturday, July 15th, dress up in your fanciest and/or most fun clothes as we roll out the red carpet to celebrate all of the wonderful talent and hard work that went into producing our outstanding 2005-2006 Season of Shows!

Goldies 101 left a few questions unanswered? Have some fun. Visit our website at www.canyontheatre.org to look at lists of past Goldie winners, as well as look through last years' newsletters to find the Goldies-R-Us articles addressing in-depth specific Goldie topics. Or, if you like email me, through the website and I'll do my best to answer your questions.

FINALLY, want to get in on the real fun? Come behind the scenes and join Team Goldies. You can help stuff the ballots, decorate the tables or...? We'd love to have you join us. I can also be contacted through the box office at 799.2702. See you at the Goldies!

Directors Announced for the 2006-2007 Season

The Board of Directors has approved the recommendations of the Director Selection Committee for the 2006-2007 Season. The directors for our Regular Season are:

Fiddler on the Roof - TimBen Boydston and Patti Finley

Meshuggah-Nuns! - Craig Duswalt

Terror by Gaslight - Sharon Cummings

A Christmas Carol, The Musical -

Greg and Patti Finley

Romeo and Juliet - Michael Davies

Bye, Bye Birdie - Ingrid Boydston

You Can't Take It With You -

Barbara Huntington

For our Family Season, the directors will be:

Snow White - Tamarah Ashton-Coombs

Sarah Plain and Tall - TimBen Boydston

The Somewhat True Tale of Robin Hood -

Joe Miele

Congratulations to all of these talented directors. We're looking forward to another great season.



Artistic Impressions

TimBen Boydston, Executive Director & Artistic Director of CTG's Regular Season

It's springtime in Old Town Newhall, and the flowers in front of the theatre are not the only things that are growing. You may have noticed a new parking area sprouting up behind the theatre. This new parking lot should be completed for the opening of *Arsenic and Old Lace* and *The World of Beauty and the Beast*. It will be a great benefit to our handicap patrons and daytime operations. We are in the planning stages for the building of our patio area and are hoping to commence immediately upon the completion of our parking project.

Congratulations to director **Patti Finley**, choreographers **Musette Caing** and **Rena Lee Bailey-Barrett**, vocal directors **Greg Finley** and **Hebert Pabon**, the artistic team and the actors, and everyone involved in the great, hit show *Oklahoma*. The CTG tried for over five years to get the rights to perform this title and it was well worth the wait.

Patti Finley and **Laura Lanoil** also did a great job with our home school students in their rockin' fun production of *School House Rock Live!*

The Canyon Theatre Guild continues to grow in attendance and reputation. This would not be possible without a cadre of hundreds of volunteers. So let me close by saying thank you for your hard work, dedication and vision which makes it possible to bring live theatre to the SCV.

And finally, a special thanks to the County of Los Angeles for awarding me a grant to go to Stanford as a National Arts Leader!

Demand for Seats is High

Due to the increased popularity of our shows, PLEASE call and cancel if you are unable to use your reservations so we can release your tickets to others who'd like to see the show!
Thank you very so much!



California Bear Project

The Canyon Theatre Guild is participating in The California Bear Project through the City of Santa Clarita. This Art in Public Places program is based on a life-size fiberglass sculpture of the largest Grizzly Bear recorded in California. The bear lived in the Santa Clarita Valley when the community was a wild and open territory back in the 1870's. It was known as the "Monarch of the Mountains" and the symbol of the Grizzly Bear is depicted on the California State flag.

The CTG is supporting this project, and has purchased a bear from the City. Our Bear will be undergoing a "one-of-a-kind" visual transformation by a CTG professional artist. We are looking for a visual artist to help us "dress" our bear. If you are a visual artist and member of the CTG, and are interested in being a part of this project, please contact TimBen Boydston or Patti Finley at 661.799.2700 before May 31. There is a possibility of a stipend for the artist. To see examples of other completed bears, visit www.californiabearproject.com.

Annual Gala Planned

The Ninth Annual Night of a Thousand Stars Gala Fundraiser will be held on Saturday, **September 30, 2006** at the Valencia Country Club. This year's event will be a *Tribute to Musical Theatre*, at which each table will be decorated as a different Broadway Musical, and attendees will be encouraged to dress to suit the theme of their table. The entertainment will feature showstoppers from various musicals and the entire evening is being planned to transport you into the glamorous world of Broadway opening nights. Watch your next newsletter for more information.

For information on advanced reservations call now and get the musical of your choice!

Off-Site Facility Needed

As the quality of our productions continue to rise, the turnaround time for each shows' set-build sometimes must be shorten when a show is extended. Sometimes that leaves us with only two weekends to produce our magic. What we need is an off-site facility for the set pieces that take more time and care to construct (i.e., backdrops and complex flats). I am asking the membership if you know anyone who has access to such a facility who would be willing to loan/rent/donate space for our growing need for early set-build. If so please contact our Executive Director, TimBen Boydston, or me through our box office.

Frank Rock

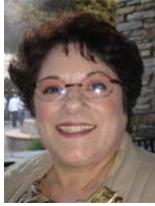


Save These Dates!!

- May 20 – Absentee balloting for CTG Board of Directors
- May 20 & 21 – Auditions for *"Fiddler On the Roof"* (see announcement)
- May 20 & 21 – Volunteer training session (see article)
- May 24 & 25 – Auditions for *"Meshuggah-Nuns"* (see announcement)
- May 27 & 28 – Volunteer training session (see article)
- May 27 & 28 – Final weekend of set building
- May 31 – deadline to contact the CTG re: California Bear Project (see article)
- June 2 – Opening & Champagne reception for *"Arsenic and Old Lace"*
- June 3 – Opening for *"The World of Beauty and the Beast"*
- June 5 – General Meeting & Elections to the CTG Board of Directors
- July 1 – deadline to make reservations to the Annual Goldie Awards
- July 15 – Annual Goldies Awards (see invitation)
- July 21 – Opening & Champagne reception for *"Meshuggah-Nuns"*
- July 29 – Opening & Champagne reception for *"Fiddle On the Roof"*
- Sept 30 – Night of a Thousand Stars Annual Gala

Youth Workshop Updates

Patti Finley, Director of Daytime Programs & Family Season Artistic Director



The Spring Adventures in Theatre Workshop production of **Schoolhouse Rock Live! Junior** has just ended its successful run. The response from the schools who attended has been very positive and the children who participated in the workshop all had a great time while learning about performing in a musical production. Special thanks to **Tom Lund** for helping out by appearing as "Tom," the teacher in the production; and to **Laura Lanoil**, Assistant Director and Vocal Director; **Kamber Moen**, choreographer; **Kim and Robert Lucas**, set designers; **Tanisha Tingling** who served as the Lighting Tech and **Jody Nalian**, who was Sound Tech. There were 15 home schooled children in this workshop ranging in age from five years to 15 years old.

Adventures in Theatre will begin again on August 22, when the workshop will begin preparing to present a rock musical, **Aesop's Fables**. Auditions will be by appointment and the workshop will begin immediately. The fee for this workshop will remain \$150 for the ten-week program, with two weeks of performances. For information, or to schedule an audition appointment, call Patti Finley at 799.2702. This daytime workshop is open to home schooled children, as well as part-time students and adults who are available during the day for rehearsals.

ACT III, our After Class Theatre will also begin August 22, from 3:30 pm - 6:00 pm each Tuesday and Thursday for ten weeks. The Fall production will be a musical adaptation of **Pinocchio** and will be open to children between the ages of eight and 14 years. The fee for this workshop is \$150 and class size is limited, so parents are encouraged to call NOW to reserve a spot for their child. The last ACT III workshop sold out and had a waiting list. Call 799.2702 to reserve a spot.

The SUMMER YOUTH WORKSHOPS are filling quickly. The CTG KIDS Session A is already sold out, as is the CTG JUNIORS Session #1. The other sessions have openings as of this writing, but we

recommend that you act quickly in order to insure your child a place in this popular program.

CTG KIDS is a two-week session open to children between the ages of 6 and 10 years old. There are sessions from 12:30 to 4:30 pm beginning July 3 and July 17; the session beginning July 31 will meet from 8:00 am - 12:00 noon. The fee for the CTG KIDS workshop is \$249 + \$25 registration fee, with a limit of 25 students per session. There will be a free public performance on the last day of each session.

CTG JUNIORS offers a three-week session for children between the ages of 10 and 13 years old. Session #2 will meet from 8:30 am - 12:30 pm beginning July 10th. Session #3 begins July 24 with classes from 10 am - 2:00 pm. The fee for this program is \$349 + \$25 registration fee with a limit of 25 students per session. There will be a free public performance on the last day of each session.

CTG STARS is a five-week workshop for teens between 13 and 17 years of age. This workshop will meet June 12 through July 14 and will meet from 10 am - 4 pm each day as the students prepare for their production of the 50's Rock and Roll Musical, **Grease!** There will be four public performances at the end of the workshop. Class size is limited to 30 students and everyone will have a chance to perform. Tuition is \$499 + \$25 registration fee. Call now to register – you won't want your teen to miss this experience!

All of our Summer Youth Workshops are musical theatre productions and will offer training in auditioning, singing, dancing, acting, and improvisation. For information or to enroll your child in one of these workshops, call the box office at 799.2702.

Your Membership

We are so excited to see so many new faces at the CTG. If you **share your membership** with someone who does not live at your address, each of you can keep your half of the membership and receive your own mailings at your own address (newsletters, flyers, invitations, ballots, etc.). Please contact Sharon and she can set this up! And remember, your membership is valid for a full calendar year and you **WILL** get a letter reminding you when it is time to renew!

Dear Goldie ...

Dear Goldie,

I have attended a couple of Goldie Awards and always had a great time! But I was wondering who pays for all of those fabulous trophies, the decorations, the rentals, the room, the security and the food; plus the expense of mailing the ballots to the voters and back to the tabulator?

*Signed,
Just Wondering*



*Dear Just Wondering,
We are so glad you asked! All of the expenses associated with the Goldies are paid directly out of price of admission tickets. We try to keep the ticket price affordable so everyone can attend while still presenting a night to remember. Unlike most of our other events, the Goldies is not a fund-raiser, it is a self-sustaining event. So when you buy your ticket, know you are doing more than simply purchasing a dinner at a banquet, you are helping put on the whole evening. Just by attending YOU are a member of TEAM GOLDIES! Don't forget, you can become more involved and join us for the entire process of ballot numbering, envelope stuffing etc. by calling the box office at 799.2702 or logging on to our website at canyontheatre.org and contacting us. Simply say, Yes! I want to be a bigger part of TEAM GOLDIES!*

*See you there!
"Goldie"*

CTG Scholarship

Do you remember **Lyle Wohlfarth** and **Daniel Barsky**? Of course you do! They were the first two recipients of CTG's Scholarship program. Both are currently attending college pursuing the degrees they will use to help them make the most out of their chosen careers. Applications for this year's scholarship have been accepted and

are in the process of being reviewed by the Scholarship Committee: **Ingrid Boydston, Patti Finley, Tamarah Ashton-Coombs** and **Marla Khayat**. Watch this space in the next issue to see who the next deserving recipient will be!



Spotlight on Dave & Doreen Barsky

This month's spotlight is on Dave and Doreen Barsky. Married for nearly 29 years, they've lived in Valencia since 1984. Like many couples, their involvement with the CTG started in 2000 with their son Daniel's interest in theatre. Daniel acted in and did sound design for numerous productions at the CTG and Valencia HS. He is currently studying sound design in the theatre department at Cal Arts.



Doreen appeared in *The Music Man* and *The Little Princess* and is a member of The Bawdy Broads and the Red Hat Society's Drama Queens chapter. For years she has painted the signboards in front of the theatre. These signboards adorn the cast dressing area and the white building.

Dave characterizes himself as a "techno-geek" who uses his beloved Apple computer in several creative ways. He uses Photoshop to create collages and enhance photos taken at rehearsals and fundraising events. He regularly supplies the full-cast photos for each CTG production.

When permission can be obtained from the publishers, Dave creates DVDs of shows for the cast members. He produced the video footage used during *Return to the Forbidden Planet*.

Dave has stage managed several shows, avoiding being "on" stage. He was finally enticed to appear very briefly in *To Kill a Mockingbird*. While stage managing *Destry Rides Again*, a crucial prop was knocked down, and he had to hurry on stage with a "deer in the headlights" look to reset the prop. For that, he received a tongue-in-cheek "Goldie Moment" award. He's looking forward to becoming the new editor of the CTG Spotlight, beginning with the next issue.

Editor's Note: an immense "thank you and good luck" to Dave Barsky who will be taking over as our newsletter editor starting the 2006-2007 season. And a special thanks to all the writers, contributors, proof-readers, and photographers who have helped make my job easier! Thanks!
Sharon

Volunteer Training Sessions

Want to know more about being a Volunteer? Training Sessions will be offered from 12 (noon) to 1 pm on Saturday and Sunday, **May 20, 21 and 27, 28**, in the CTG lobby. Come and learn about the many opportunities to put your special interests and skills to good use. Stay after the session to help with set building. Use your talents. Make new friends. Become an integral part of the CTG family. It's fun to volunteer!



Questions? Call me at 250.3664.

Marla Khayat
Outreach Coordinator

Reservation Reminders

 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.

 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.

REMEMBER TO RESERVE EARLY!

Be a Star on the Goldies Red Carpet!

You're invited to the Canyon Theatre Guild's

2005-2006 Goldie Awards

Please join us on Saturday, July 15, 2006

Santa Clarita Sports Complex ☆ 20850 Centre Pointe Pkwy. ☆ Santa Clarita

No-Host Bar 5:30 pm

Buffet Dinner 6:30 pm

Awards Presentation 7:30 pm

\$50 per person ☆ children 12 & under \$35

Black Tie Optional

s

Reservations must be received by July 1st

Call the Box Office (661) 799-2702



Canyon Theatre Guild



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1st Vice President.....Ingrid Boydston
2nd Vice President..... Michael Davies
Secretary.....Marla Khayat
Treasurer..... Greg Finley
Members-At-Large:
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Frank Rock.....Gary Schamber

Other People You Should Know

Executive Director & Artistic Director
of the Regular Season..... TimBen Boydston
Artistic Director of the Family Season &
Director of Daytime Programs.....Patti Finley
Membership/Newsletter Editor..... Sharon Cummings
Web Mistress.....Cat Christine Ellen

Contact Us

Box Office.....661.799.2702
<http://www.canyontheatre.org>

Important News Inside!

*Read the Candidate Statements and
remember to VOTE !!!!*

*See your invitation for the Annual
Canyon Theatre Guild Goldies and make
your reservations early.*

CTG Announces Open Auditions

"Fiddler On the Roof"

Co-directors TimBen Boydston and Patti Finley are holding auditions for men, women, and children of all ages for this special engagement production. Auditions for children under 18 will be Saturday, May 20 from 10 am - 12 Noon ONLY. Adults will be seen on Saturday, May 20 from 1:00 - 5:00 pm and Sunday, May 21 from Noon until 4:00 pm. Possible callbacks from Sunday evening through Tuesday, 5/21-23. No one will be asked to read until callbacks. Auditioners should be familiar with the show and must be available for all performances. The show will run from July 29 – August 20 at the COC Performing Arts Center.

"Meshuggah-Nuns"

Director Craig Duswalt will be holding auditions from 7:00 – 9:00 pm on Wednesday & Thursday, May 24 and 25. There are roles for 4 women and 1 man: Reverend Mother, Sister Hubert, Sister Robert Anne, Sister Mary Paul (aka Amnesia), and Howard Liszt. Performances will run July 21 – August 27 at the CTG.

*All roles for both productions require singing. All roles are open and auditioners should be prepared to sing 16 bars of a musical theatre song. Please bring your own accompaniment tape or CD, and your track should be music only (no voices). No a capella auditions will be permitted. Wear comfortable shoes for the dance audition.
For additional information, call the Box Office at 799.2702.*