



HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL 2 on STAGE!

Disney's smash hit musical is LIVE on the CTG stage! The East High gang is all here for an action-packed extravaganza as Troy (Lawrence Patchin), Gabriella (Kamber Moen), Sharpay (Felice Wurst) and Ryan (Tim Kendall), and the rest of the Wildcats finish their Junior year and blast onto the summer scene. They all get jobs at the Lava Springs Country Club where Sharpay reigns supreme since her dad owns the country club and the club's manager Ms. Fulton (Alexis Crane) is anxious to please.

Keeping every ounce of the light-hearted fun that makes High School Musical a household name, this buoyant sequel takes on the questions of real kids facing the realities of the adult world. Friendships are tested, summer romances go haywire, and the meaning of success is re-defined. Growing with the characters, *High School Musical 2* doesn't miss one fabulous beat as the kids from East High get a taste of what it means to grow up.



Kamber Moen, Lawrence Patchin, Tim Kendall, and Felice Wurst

Rockin' songs and action-packed dance numbers make this an entertaining event for audiences of all ages. Under the direction of Patti Finley, the rest of the cast includes Preston Kennedy as Chad, Megan Tripp as Taylor, John Jurkowski as Zeke, Clare Tompkins-Cook as Kelsi, and Curtis Crawford as Jack Scott. Also featured are Caitlin Dugger as Martha, Katy Fortman, Marissa Munter, Bradi Mowry, and Madison Frisch as the Sharpettes, and Kaylee Bodtke-Stout, Jennifer Marte, Marcus Langston, Salina Mahoney, Kari Frzer, Sarah Johnson, Natalie Fortman, Kaitlyn Reuben, Sabrina Anderson, Chelsea Freeman, and Sandra Kate Burck. Tim Kendall serves as Assistant

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Santa Clarita Regional Theatre Presents RENT at COC

Jonathan Larson's ground-breaking musical, based loosely on Puccini's opera *La Bohème* opens March 6 at the Santa Clarita Performing Arts Center at College of the Canyons for a limited run.

Rent's creator, Jonathan Larson, died suddenly the night before the off-Broadway premiere of his show. Subsequently, the show won a Pulitzer Prize, and the production was moved to Broadway in 1996 where it gained critical acclaim and won a Tony Award for Best Musical.

Rent follows a year in the lives of seven impoverished young artists struggling to survive and create in New York's East Village. This musical is largely responsible for helping to increase the popularity of musical theatre among the younger generation. The Broadway production closed in 2008, after a 12-year run and 5,124 performances, making it the seventh longest-running Broadway show, eight years behind *The Phantom of the Opera*. The success of the show led to several national tours and numerous foreign productions, and in 2005, it was also adapted into a movie that features most of the original cast.

AIDS and both its physical and emotional complications pervade the lives of the central characters. David Kenny plays Mark, a filmmaker and the show's narrator, who shares an industrial loft on the lower East Side with his roommate Roger (JD Driskill), a musician. Maureen (Michelle Reyes), is a performance artist who is in a relationship with JoAnne (Lindsay Hough), a Harvard Law School graduate. Mimi (Nikki Berra) is their downstairs neighbor she becomes Roger's love interest as she struggles with a drug problem. The cast is rounded out by Sam Hyde as Tom Collins, Charlie Nash as Angel, a street musician

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Artistic Impressions

TimBen Boydston
Executive Director of the CTG,
Artistic Director

This is the beginning of a very special year for the CTG: We will be celebrating our **40th Anniversary!** It is a joy and an honor to serve the people of Santa Clarita with great live theatre. Look for special, celebratory events in the upcoming year that will culminate in a Gala celebration in November.

The holidays were terrific and if you missed *Miracle on 34th Street*, you missed a warm and wonderful treat. Congratulations to director **Greg Finley**, artistic team, cast, and crew who lifted our spirits and reminded us of the power of faith.

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Director, **David Kenny** is the Vocal Director, and **Kamber Moen** is the choreographer. **Jean Paletz** and **Melissa Jenkins** co-designed the costumes, the set was designed by **Jim Robinson** and **Frank Rock**, **Pat Robinson** decorated the set and served as prop mistress. **Mike Keane** is the stage manager.

High School Musical 2 is a crowd-pleasing, fun-filled, song-filled charmer with performances every Saturday evening at 8PM and Sunday matinees at 2PM and runs through March 6TH. There will be one Friday evening performance on March 5TH. Don't miss this fun-filled musical theatre experience. Call the box office at 661.799.2702. Ticket prices are \$12-\$15 for Juniors/Seniors and \$15-\$17 for Adults.

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 SO VERY MUCH!

Kudos also to director **Michael Davies** and the **Upstart Crows Production Company** who produced Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* on our stage in January. It is always wonderful to see the Bard done so well and we wish them Godspeed in their next production.

Many thanks to the City of Santa Clarita who allotted funds to complete the streetscape in Old Town Newhall. The ambiance in the completed blocks is terrific and we look forward to it being continued all the way to Lyons Avenue.

Congratulations to all of the directors in the upcoming season. The talent in our well is very deep and we are all in for an abundance of great theatre in our next season.

Don't forget to see the fun and energetic Disney's *High School Musical 2*, on stage now! What a great group of young people! See you at the theatre!

(...*RENT*, from page 1)

and Alexander Gomez as Benny, the landlord who reneges on his offer to let them live rent-free for the winter. Also featured are Melissa Joy Castro, Lysis (Charlie) Fecske, Allison (Fox) Fiene, Richie Fiene, Justin Fischer, Becky Hasquet, Brad Rennels, Christian Herrera, and Beth Ann Sweezer. The SCRT cast is under the direction of Leslie Berra, with choreography by Nancy Alterman, and vocal direction by Tom Lund.

Rent is a very adult show and is not recommended for children as it contains overt sexual situations, adult language, and provocative choreography. There will be only six performances at the Santa Clarita Performing Arts Center at College of the Canyons on March 6-7 (Sat-Sun), 13-14, (Sat-Sun) 19-20 (Fri-Sat). Friday and Saturday performances are at 8PM. Sunday performances are matinees at 2pm. Ticket prices are from \$12 to \$29 and may be obtained by calling the CTG box office at 661.799.2702.



Youth Workshop Updates

Patti Finley
Assistant Director of the CTG,
Artistic Director of the Family Season

Our Spring Semester workshops have begun and attendance is terrific! We're happy to have so many young people interested and involved in live theatre!

The **Adventures in Theatre** daytime workshop for home-schooled children is rehearsing for their production of **Gooney Bird Greene and Her True Life Adventures**, based on a book by Newbery Award-winning author, Lois Lowry. Twenty-one children are involved in this workshop, under the direction of **Patti Finley** and **Laura Lanoil**. The daytime performances run from March 22 through April 2 and there are evening performances on March 24 and March 26 at 7PM. Come and see this delightful production and support our workshop program.

Our after school **Act III** workshop is preparing the musical *Space Pirates* which should be fun for the whole family. Under the direction of **Michael Davies** and **Lissa Gibbs**, the students are having a terrific time learning the songs and dances. Their evening performance will be on Sunday, March 21 at 7PM

Tickets for both workshop performances are \$6 per person. These are not part of the regular season, but you may call the box office for reservations. Both shows will have festival seating.

Coming soon are our popular **Summer Youth Workshops**, so plan now to be a part of this great musical theatre experience. Classes will begin June 14, and the **KIDS** program will meet from 9AM – Noon with two-week sessions; **JUNIORS** will meet from 10AM – 2PM, with three-week sessions; **STARS** will meet from 10AM – 5PM for one five-week session. There will be more detailed information in the next issue of the newsletter.

Spotlight on Wade Bradford



If you saw our recent production of *Miracle on 34th Street* you got the chance to see **Wade Bradford** on stage. If you've taken English classes at College of the Canyons, Moorpark or Pasadena City Colleges, you may have seen him teaching. You may also have seen his works performed. Wade, CTG board member, is a man of many interests and talents.



"A plague o' both your houses!"
- Mercutio in *Romeo and Juliet*

Hysterium in *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*

He hails from the Pacific Northwest – Edmonds, Washington, to be exact – which he describes as “a soggy but beautiful corner of America.” He moved with his family to Southern California at age 19 and discovered Santa Clarita in the 1990s.

When he attended a performance of *A Christmas Story*, he discovered the CTG. “It reminded me of how much fun community theater could be. Whether as a board member, a performer, or simply an audience member, I've been hooked on the CTG ever since,” he said.

Since discovering the CTG, Bradford has been on stage several times, including *Romeo and Juliet*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*. Last year, he decided to run for a position on the board of directors, and was elected in June.

Many aspects drew him to the theater – beyond entertainment value.

“I learned that community theaters benefit not just the audience but the entire community. Theater nurtures self-confidence. It brings together people with so many different creative abilities. Theater brings community together,” he explained.

Bradford has seen firsthand how theatre can bring confidence through his work with children. He was the director of the Yorba Linda Civic Light Opera in the 1990s – writing and producing plays for children. Several plays he wrote for children have been produced and performed, and he's been able to attend some of the shows. “I like seeing what they do – how they interpret the show,” he said. His own children have participated in workshops at the CTG and he says “the workshops have provided a great outlet for socialization” for his daughters, who are homeschooled.

His daughters both performed with him in *Miracle* and he appreciates the way theatre nurtured the extrovert in them. As a board member, he's excited about the CTG's plans to bring a theater devoted to children to Santa Clarita.

Online Ticketing is Coming!

A new and exciting development for the CTG is coming soon! We are creating a brand new web site that will be easy to navigate and chock full of good information. One of the most exciting aspects of this web site will be the ability to purchase your tickets on line. Watch for further information as we jump into the 21st Century!

Lost and Found

If you or your child has lost a jacket, sweatshirt, or other personal item, please check to see if it is in our Lost & Found collection. All items not claimed by March 1 will either be donated to Goodwill or become part of our costume collection. Thank you.

The Producers Auditions

Director **Leslie Berra** announces the auditions for the CTG production of Mel Brooks *The Producers*:

Monday, March 8, 2010 - SIGN IN from 5PM-6PM for 4 hour-long audition slots starting at 6PM and finishing at 10PM

Tuesday, March 9, 2010 - SIGN IN from 5PM-6PM for 4 hour-long audition slots starting at 6PM and finishing at 10PM

Wednesday, March 10, 2010 - CALLBACKS

Please be prepared to sing approximately one minute of a Broadway showtune. Bring an accompaniment cd with no voices on the track. There will not be an accompanist at these auditions and acapella singing will not be allowed. Dress comfortably for a dance audition. This is a large cast show and all roles are open. Questions? Email the director at L.Berra@att.net.

Performance Dates: May 29-30 2010
June 5-6, 11-13, 18-20, 25-27.

All performances will be at the Canyon Theatre Guild on Main Street, Newhall in June and July

Remainder of 2009-2010 Season

CTG PLAYHOUSE

Downtown Newhall

April-May 2010

Be My Baby

Directed by Ingrid Boydston

June-July 2010

The Producers (Musical)

Directed by Leslie Berra

CTG FAMILY

Downtown Newhall

June-July, 2010

Tom Sawyer (Play with music)

Directed by Jeff Johnson

SANTA CLARITA REGIONAL THEATRE

at the Santa Clarita Performing Arts
Center at COC

March 2010

RENT (Musical)

Directed by Leslie Berra

Save these Dates!

- March 6 *Rent* opens at COC PAC,
Saturday at 8PM
- March 6 *High School Musical 2* closes
at CTG, Saturday at 8PM
- March 8 Board Meeting
- Mar. 8-10 *The Producers* auditions,
See article on page x.
- March 19 ACT III performance at 7PM
- March 26 AIT performance at 7PM

Cheri Marcovitch Art on Display



Cheri's work reflects her love for flowers and gardening. It includes large impressionistic floral studies as well as smaller, but no less exuberant pieces. Her paintings have been in exhibits at Barnes and Noble Booksellers, the Valencia Library, Canyon Theatre Guild, A Custom Furniture Company, and Accents Silk Flower Shop. More than 200 original watercolor paintings are in private collections. She has also added hand-painted furniture and wall decor to her repertoire. Her hand-painted furniture is carried in several high-end designer shops, and she does custom designs for private clients.

Cheri enjoys participating in local art festivals and art shows. Her watercolors have won many awards in the annual "Art Classic" competitions. Watercolors are her passion and she shares her skills in drawing and painting with children as an instructor in the Saugus Union School District. Cheri will tell you that she is, "excited about painting and I think that helps make it exciting and fun for the children."

The Board of Directors has approved the following directors for the upcoming 2010-2011 Season:

(All titles are subject to availability of performance rights)

CTG Playhouse Season

The Foreigner - Michael Davies, director

Little Shop of Horrors - Billy Davis & Patti Finley, co-directors (musical)

A Christmas Carol - Greg Finley, director

Ladies of the Camellias - Ingrid Boydston, director

Footloose - Leslie Berra, director (musical)

Family Season

Sleeping Beauty - Leslie Berra & Kamber Moen, co-directors

Willy Wonka - Patti Finley, director (musical)

Little Women - Randy Aronson, director

SANTA CLARITA REGIONAL THEATRE

Annie - Patti Finley, director (musical)

The Arts in Santa Clarita

If you would like more information on what's going on in the world of the Arts in Santa Clarita, put your name on the City's eNotify list. Just go to

www.santa-clarita.com/enotify

and click on Arts & Events