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The View from The Balcony.....

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Tina Salamone Palace
THEATRE



In this issue, we're taking a break from our Staff Spotlight feature *12 Questions With...* so that I can address something vitally important to the Marion Palace Theatre: MEMBERSHIP.

Did you know that, while we do business as The Marion Palace Theatre, the legal name of this not-for-profit entity is the Palace Cultural Arts Association? It's an association. A member-based organization. Anyone who joins in membership has a voice in how things happen in this amazing landmark. Whether you join at the \$25 level or the \$2500 level, when you attend the annual meeting, you have the same opportunity to be heard. Members don't get extra votes because they are able to contribute at a higher level than their neighbors—all PCAA members are equals.

Of course, it's true that, like every theatre in the country, we have a tiered system for giving complete with added member benefits at each graduated level. The new membership drive/annual fund brochure will be arriving in your mail soon so you can see all of that. But please take special note of the primary benefit of giving...to help sustain the theatre. Your investment in The Marion Palace Theatre ensures its continual operation. Simply put, we need you. We need ALL of you. At whatever level of giving is comfortable. This venue is one of a handful of atmospheric theatres that remain. Without our membership, we would move out of the SAVED/RESTORED category of historic theatre listings and into the CLOSED/DEMOLISHED column.

I cannot envision that happening here as it has so often across the country. In the six months that I've been in town, I have seen your heart. One of the most impressive aspects of the Marion community is that you truly own The Palace. You don't simply acknowledge that there's a landmark theatre in your backyard. You take pride in it. You embrace it. It is a part, in some way, of every person I've met so far.

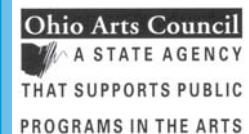
And why wouldn't it be? This is more than a pretty building, more than merely a place to enjoy some light-hearted entertainment. The Marion Palace Theatre is an architectural sight to behold, worth the visit just to look at it without anything happening on stage. It's the regional performing arts center where new and varied artistic and cultural activities can be exchanged. It's a place where students can appreciate their first live performances in theatre, dance and music. It's the performance home for grade school programs, middle school presentations and high school musicals. It's an economic engine that can help area restaurants, gas stations, hotels and gift shops when theatre patrons require extended services. It is so many things to so many people with a heart of its own.

Now maybe that's waxing a touch too poetic for some people. I can appreciate that, but if it is, I would ask you to take a moment to think about how your life might be different if The Marion Palace Theatre were no longer here. That's how I tend to look at anything of value, by the impact of what it would be like if it were gone. How far would you have to travel to see quality, affordable entertainment? How would things change if this place where people come together for a shared experience became a vacant lot? Do you remember the awe and pride you felt when you first stepped into the auditorium? How would you feel knowing that the once incomparable interior that we all cherish can no longer be shown to a new generation?

Your continued or new-found membership support is so very much appreciated. On behalf of the staff and the Board of Directors of The Marion Palace Theatre, I pledge our continued effort to keep you proud of this local treasure and thank you in advance for your membership.

This Season's
Programming

Sponsored in part by:



Box office hours:
M-F, 9am-5pm
Saturdays, 9am-noon
The box office is located at:
270 W. Center St. in downtown Marion.
To charge:
740/383-2101 or marionpalace.org.



THE TOM YANNITELL SILENT FILM & ORGAN CONCERT SERIES

Dennis James on the Wurlitzer

The Kid and Easy Street on the big screen

Sunday, April 25, 3pm

Tickets: \$8 Adults / \$5 Students

Don't miss the antics of Charlie Chaplin on the big screen and the mastery of Dennis James on the Mighty Wurlitzer Pipe Organ.



Hansel and Gretel
Performed by ArtReach

May 2, 3pm

On the Main Stage

Tickets: \$8

Something mysterious is happening in the woods, and Hansel and Gretel are hot on the trail. This musical romp features a strange old lady in the woods who happens to be part giant, part ogre, part elf and part troll. Could she be a witch, too? Only Hansel and Gretel will find out! Follow our sleuths as they sing, dance, and discover the hidden truth about the dear old lady in that gingerbread cottage!



Johnny Steiner
in Concert

May 2, 3pm

In the May Pavilion

Tickets: \$10

Travel "Coast to Coast" with one of the Marion area's favorite sons, Johnny Steiner on Sunday, May 2 at 3:00 p.m. when he delights young and old alike with an afternoon of vocal entertainment. You'll hear classics like "Tennessee Waltz," "Deep in the Heart of Texas," "Oklahoma," "I Left My Heart in San Francisco," and of course, "Beautiful Ohio."



Palace 09-10

Dinner Theatre Production



(L-R) Edye Cook-Skidmore (Truvy), Jordan Carlson (Shelby), Ann Schertzer (M'Lynn), and Ashley Horton (Annelle)

Meet the Cast...

Ann Schertzer (M'Lynn)
 Ashley Horton (Annelle)
 Edye Cook-Skidmore (Truvy)
 Jordan Carlson (Shelby)
 Mary Stoneburner (Miss Clairee)
 Sue Klingbeil (Ouiser)

The Story...

The story is set in Truvy's beauty salon in Chinquapin, Louisiana, where all the ladies who are "anybody" come to have their hair done. Helped by her eager new assistant, Annelle (who is not sure whether or not she is still married), the outspoken, wise-cracking Truvy dispenses shampoos and free advice to the town's rich curmudgeon, Ouiser ("I'm not crazy, I've just been in a bad mood for forty years."); an eccentric millionaire, Miss Clairee, who has a raging sweet tooth; and the local social leader, M'Lynn, whose daughter, Shelby (the prettiest girl in town), is about to marry a "good ole boy." Filled with hilarious banter and not a few cutting, but humorously revealing, verbal collisions, the play moves toward tragedy when, in the second act, the spunky Shelby (who is a diabetic) risks pregnancy and forfeits her life. The sudden realization of their mortality affects the others, but also draws on the underlying strength -- and love -- which give the play, and its characters, the special quality to make them truly touching, funny and marvelously friendly company in good times and bad.

Thank you to Whirlpool Corporation for their sponsorship of this Dinner Theatre event.



Steel Magnolias

Written by Robert Harling
 Directed by Tina Salamone

In the MAY PAVILION
 Friday & Saturday, April 16 & 17
 Dinner 6:00 p.m. / Show 7:30 p.m.
 Sunday, April 18
 Lunch 12:30 p.m. / Show 2:00 p.m.

The Meal...

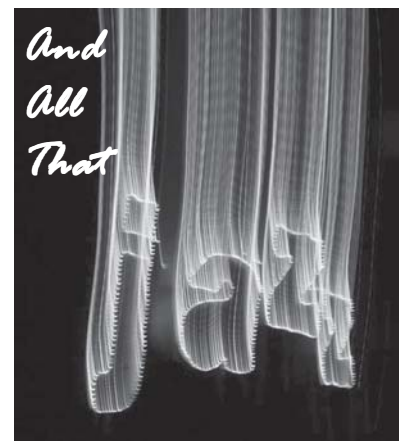
Hal Clase and All Occasions Catering are serving:
 Southern Fried Chicken (BBQ sauce on the side)
 Stuffed Shells
 Mashed Potatoes with Gravy OR Mashed Sweet Potatoes
 Corn Casserole, Plated Salad, Dinner Rolls
 Southern Fruit Cocktail Cake a la Mode (Cuppa, Cuppa,
 Cuppa) OR Strawberry Pie



Sue Klingbeil
 (Ouiser)

Volunteer Orientation

All those who currently volunteer but have not yet attended an orientation and those who are interested in joining the Palace volunteer program are invited to attend the next mandatory orientation on Saturday, April 24 at 10:00 a.m. The training is scheduled for the May Pavilion. Please enter through the Pavilion doors. Topics for discussion include scheduling, dress code, seating protocol and more. Please RSVP to Daniel Bradshaw (740/383-2101 or events@marionpalace.org).



A High School Jazz & Swing Band Concert

Thursday, April 15,
 7:30 p.m.
 Tickets:
 \$8 Adults
 \$5 Students

The Marion Palace Theatre has plans to join the Smithsonian Museum's Jazz Appreciation Month celebration when the sounds of jazz and swing fill the Theatre with "And All That Jazz," a concert featuring performances from several area high school jazz/swing bands. Playing in this year's concert are Pleasant (directed by Rob Hayes), Mt. Gilead (directed by Tom DiNuoscio), Colonel Crawford (directed by Dustin Clements), River Valley (directed by Ken Flaglor), and Harding High School (directed by Rick Baird). Now in its fourth year, this event highlights a year's worth of dedication and practice, as the young musicians' talents shine through their playing. Patrons will hear a variety of music at this event. Tunes will include: *Harlem Nocturne, Birdland, Woodchopper's Ball, Blue Monk, Summertime, Blue Skies, Blue Trane, Dynamo, Drive Time, Hip Sticks, April in Paris, Power Trip*, and many more. Our thanks to the **U.S. Open Commission**, which supports the area's young musicians by sponsoring this concert at the Marion Palace Theatre.

MORE ENTERTAINMENT AT THE PALACE

THE U.S. ARMY FIELD BAND -- Marion Community Credit Union presents *The U.S. Army Field Band* Wednesday, April 7, 7:30 p.m.

DEAR JOHN -- April 9, 7:30 p.m.; April 10 & 11, 2:00 & 7:30 p.m. (Rated PG13)

THE MARIONAIRES -- Saturday, April 24, 7:30 p.m.

RIDGEDALE H.S. THE MUSIC MAN -- Friday, April 30 & Saturday, May 1, 8:00 p.m. nightly

MARION CONCERT BAND -- Sunday, May 9, 3:00 p.m.

THANK YOU, WHIRLPOOL CORP.

This 1928 theatre requires a great deal of operating assistance, and from time to time, folks will ask us what we need. Therefore, we keep a running wish list. At the top of that list were a washer and dryer to help with cleaning costumes, linens, and artists' laundering needs. Thanks to Whirlpool, we have crossed those items off our list. If you or someone you know would be interested in helping us eliminate a few more items from our list, please check out our needs below.

- Radio System for Front of House/Backstage Communication
- New Lighting Instruments
- Sound and Light Boards (Pavilion)
- Microphones
- New Legs (side stage drapes)
- Heating & Air Conditioning in Dressing Rooms and Box Office areas
- Laptop Computer
- 52" Flat Screen TV (Pavilion)
- LED Projector (Pavilion)
- Stress Mats
- Fiberglass Ladder and/or Adjustable Ladder
- Storage Shelving Units
- Locking Coolers
- Small Refrigerator
- File Cabinets
- Kitchen Supplies (White dish cloths & towels, clear acrylic water pitchers, hot pads, serving utensils, etc.)
- Aluminum Can Recycling System (32 Gal Bruts)
- Cash Register
- Wireless Credit Card System
- Secondary Popcorn Popper
- Box Office Signage
- Stanchion & Rope System (Pavilion)
- Interior/Exterior Lighted Poster/Display Boxes
- For more ideas, contact the theatre (383-2101)

CONTACT US! The Palace offers several ways to stay informed about upcoming events. Would you like to receive the Applause by email? Would you like to receive weekly event email updates? Would you like to receive First Friday information emails? Contact us info@marionpalace.org