



MASC

Monroe Actors Stage Company
www.masctheatre.org • (618) 939-SHOW (7496)

August 2009

Opening our 10th anniversary season: 'The Diary of Anne Frank'

MASC opens its 10th anniversary season with Pulitzer Prize-winning "The Diary of Anne Frank," by Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett. MASC veteran director **Kathy Campbell** is at the helm of this powerful yet touching portrayal of 13-year-old Anne, who goes into hiding with her family in a secret attic in Nazi-controlled Amsterdam.

Quoting from the pages of her own diary, this is the story of Anne's coming of age and having to face the realities that most adults can't even imagine. Yes, it is a drama, but the themes of hope and humanity are uplifting and heartwarming. There is a lot of interest in this production, so we suggest getting your tickets early.

The stage set, depicting the cramped attic, is under construction and promises to be our most intricate undertaking to date. MASC is sponsoring two daytime performances for our county's eighth graders Sept. 17.

Cast members include **Warren Frank** as Anne's father, Otto; **Jennifer Ceradsky** as Anne's mother; MASC newcomers **Megan Crawford** as Anne, **Kaitlyn Wirth** as her sister, Margot, and **David Naber** as Peter. Rounding out the cast are MASC veterans **Lucie Coats** as Miep, **Kristy Weber** as Mrs. Van Daan, **Sam Baker** as Mr. Van Daan, **Richard Hunsaker** as Mr. Kraler, and

Jim Meers as Mr. Dussel. Kathy, her Assistant Director **Doylene Daniels**, her crew, and her cast of talented actors are excited about this show and hard at work to bring you another great theatrical experience at MASC.

PATRON'S CHOICE AWARDS GALA

The Patrons Choice Awards Gala, held July 30 at The Falls, was a tremendous success. The Friends of the Theatre outdid themselves this year. The food was excellent and the silent auction orchestrated by **Kelly Shilliday** and Friends was outstanding and provided the momentum to take our Gala forward into future years as a major fundraiser and social event of the year.

MASC members were made to feel like stars with the screaming fans and paparazzi on the Red Carpet entrance coordinated by **Jean Getchman**.

MASC wants to give special thanks to **Judy Brauchy** for chairing the gala this year and to **Kelly, Jean, and Ann Frank** for the wonderful centerpiece competition and all the Friends who helped make our second annual gala a success and a great memory.



Monroe Actors Stage Company and The Friends of the Theatre present the Patrons Choice Award Winners. Back row, from left: **Mike Francois**, Waterloo, Best Actor in a Featured Role, for "Love, Sex and the IRS"; **Mark Tullis**, Columbia, Best Actor in a Leading Role for "I Hate Hamlet"; **Nate Chilton**, Prairie du Rocher, Best Actor or Actress in a Cameo Role for "Dial M for Murder." Front: **Renda Chase**, Columbia, Best Actress in a Leading Role for "Nonsense"; **Liz Sawyer**, Waterloo, Best Actress in a Featured Role for "Nonsense"; **Lynn Venhaus**, Belleville, Director of "Nonsense," won the Patrons Favorite Show Award.

SHOW TIMES

"The Diary of Anne Frank"

September 11, 12, 13 and 18, 19, 20.

Show times: Friday and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m.

■ Sundays at 2:30 p.m.

Tickets: \$10 general admission

■ \$8 for seniors and students

To assure your seat, purchase your tickets in advance online at www.masctheatre.org or at The Courthouse Café in Waterloo or Bon Vivant Wines in Columbia.

You may also make reservations by calling the ticket line at 939-SHOW (7469).

MASC establishes new membership program

The new membership program was designed to open our membership to all our supporters and patrons. There are a lot of ways to volunteer time without ever getting on stage. As we grow, we find more and more ways for you to share your expertise and interest with us.

You can become a voting member of MASC by purchasing a season ticket and volunteering at least 20 hours per year. There are many ways to help. Some are listed here:

Ushering, ticket sales, ad sales, set building, costume and sewing help, crafts and painting, technical assistance for productions, assistant directing, house management, facilities repair and maintenance, committee involvement for planning and carrying out functions, like patrons mailers, press releases, being a MASC ambassador for other organizations.

If you wish to participate and receive our member e-mails notifying you of our goings-on, you can sign up in the lobby during one of your visits to the theatre; you can attend one of our 9 a.m. Saturday workdays on most Saturdays (except show weekends); or you can go to the MASC Web site <http://www.masctheatre.org>, click on the "Volunteers" page and register online. That page also has a calendar of activities for members.

Of course there is also the opportunity to become an actor or help out on one of our productions. **Auditions for "Fools,"** our November production, are scheduled for Sept. 13 and 14 at 7 p.m. at the theatre.

Even if you just want to observe, please feel free to come watch and listen. Auditions are a lot of fun also. Director **Tammy Duensing** is looking for an assistant director. This is another way to become involved with a play production without having to get on stage.

Interested? Contact Tammy Duensing at (618) 284-7766. *Fools* is a comedy with a lot of fun characters. Auditions consist of readings from the script so come on down and join the fun.

MASC Board of Directors

The following individuals will serve on the 2009-2010 MASC Board of Directors:

Tammy Duensing, *President*; Mark Tullis, *Vice President*; Doylene Daniels, *Secretary*; Warren Frank, *Treasurer*; Sam Bakerl John Campbell; Lee and Karen Eggemeyer; Pat Hunsaker; Christine Miller.

Season ticket sales

One of the best ways to secure your seat to "Anne Frank" and all the other shows of our season is to purchase a season ticket. We sold more than 420 season tickets last year and we want to top 500 this year. You can get your season tickets now with a credit card by logging on to our Web site and clicking the "season ticket" tab. If you want to mail in your check, you will need a season ticket brochure which can be downloaded from the Web site, if you don't already have one. Season tickets can be purchased at the box office for "Anne Frank" also.

We have a special promotion this year for all those who are on the fence. Come to see "Anne Frank" and you can use the value of your ticket stub toward the purchase of your season ticket for the last four shows of the season. Anyway you go, you get one show for free with the purchase of a season ticket. Keep in mind that a MASC season ticket for five quality theatrical productions is less than a single seat at the Fox or Rep. And it is a great way for you to help us show how important MASC is to the community.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Arts for Life awards and AACT awards. MASC is not only creating a great reputation in its own community, but it has also made its presence known in the regional and national theatre communities as well.

MASC's "Nunsense" was awarded the **Best Small Ensemble Production Award** from the Arts for Life Recognition Guild in St. Louis and MASC actress **Liz Sawyer** was awarded the **Best Comedic Actress Award**. The American Association of Community Theatres recognized the set for last season's "Mornings at Seven" in its national festival in Tacoma, Wash., coincidentally on the same day the "Nunsense" won its awards June 28.

We are excited about the new theatre facility opening up in the new Waterloo High School.

MASC hopes to become involved with community events there along with our main stage season at the Capitol. The opportunities for great theatre experiences continue to grow.