



# prairie arts

24 Park Ave East, Princeton IL 61356

<http://PrairieArts.org>

(815) 875-2787

## COMING ATTRACTIONS

**August Gallery:**  
**Laura Johnson**

**September Theater:**  
**"Deathtrap"**

**September Gallery:**  
**Matt Adams**

**October Gallery:**  
**Matt Denault**

**November Event:**  
**Paper Cutting**  
**with Keith**  
**Bonstetter**



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Since its formation in 1995 in Princeton, Illinois, the Prairie Arts Council has sponsored hundreds of successful programs, classes, musical and theatrical productions and visual arts exhibits for people of all ages and abilities. We are dedicated to our mission of increasing the vitality and diversity of arts programming in the Illinois Valley.

So many people contribute to the Prairie Arts Center, that any attempt to thank everyone turns into a long list of names, usually on the back page. This time, we are moving it **"front and center"**

This is a sincere THANK YOU to everyone who has helped us behind the scenes. In addition to all of our members, and the artists who shared their talents with us, we express appreciation:

### **for working behind the curtain**

Taylor Carlson, Mike Choiniere, Tommy Rose, Gary Talsky, Taylor Tieman and Cameron Tieman

### **for refreshments and cookies:**

Karen May, Larry Smith, June Harmon, Anna Roadhouse, Dixie Schroeder and Diane Van Drew

### **to cast and crew**

Matt Boehm, Caryn Brown, Joshua Bush, Maddie Devert, David and Shelley Gorenz, David Gray, Lauren

Frost, Laurie Innis, Aaron Isaacson, Eric Johnson, Christie Lucas, Riley Lucas, Jill Marti, Jeff Ohlson, Abigail Rabe, Adam Rabe, Ken and Dixie Schroeder, Gary Talsky and Dave Walters

### **for our ushers**

John and Mary Damon, Kay Telfer and Patti Moynihan

### **for gallery painting and basement work**

Dick Uttenhove and John Iocca

### **to everyone who brought appetizers to share:**

Marilyn Anthony, Kathy Ballard, Sarah Brooks, Pam Byrne, Sue Cimaroli, Ami Chamberlain, Sue Cox, Jan Esme, Steve Esme, Sue Garvin, Charlie Gebeck, Mary Sue Goldsmith, Pam Hanson, Jeanne Hutchinson, Laura Kann, Jan Lohaus, Karen May, Julie McCutchan, Linda McCabe, Carol McGee, Patti Moynihan, Erica Rabe, Anna Roadhouse, Tracy Boylan

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# RECENT MEMORIES



This was a celebration to honor the Gorenz Family for all of their contributions to this community.



The Prairie Arts Center is the perfect place to start and finish a 5K run, right? This "Shamrock Shimmy 5K" was to benefit the Bureau County United Way



This photo of John Iocca and Carlotta Dodels was taken by Dave Cook for the Bureau County Republican. (Too beautiful not to share one more time)



We had a great time watching Neil Simon's "Plaza Suite" (a comedy trifecta)



Kevin Shyne and Sue Garvin at the "Lunch in the Park" Bake Sale. Thanks for donating all the goodies, and we raised \$233





## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

# SUE GARVIN

In this edition of the newsletter, we would like to put the spotlight on a volunteer who has done a LOT to make the Prairie Arts Center what it is today — Sue Garvin!



Sue has helped organize everything from workshops to fundraisers, receptions, rummage sales, galas, teas and bake sales.

She also serves as an officer of the Prairie Arts Council Board of Directors as our Secretary.

Her contributions to the PAC have been invaluable and are very much appreciated

## THANK YOU, SUE!

## Volunteer Spotlight



### TEN YEARS AGO...

Patrick Reeves and Boy Scout Troop 1068 began work on a deck and ramp to improve accessibility to the rear door of the Gallery.

Patrick planned and supervised the construction as part of his goal to become an Eagle Scout.

## THANKS, PATRICK!

and thanks to Troop 1068



The Prairie Arts Council announces their production of Deathtrap, a thriller-mystery-comedy. Deathtrap will be performed in conjunction with Princeton's 48th Annual Homestead Festival on September 6 and 7 at 7:30 p.m. and September 8 at 2:00 p.m.

Director Joe Ennenbach of Peru has cast five local actors, including: Ken Schroeder of Princeton as Sindey Bruhl, Karen Roger of Utica as Myra Bruhl, Josh Bush of Princeton as Clifford Anderson, Jill Marti of Princeton as Helga ten Dorp, and Gary Talsky of Spring Valley as Porter Pilgrim.

Deathtrap is produced by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc. Written by Ira Levin, it is the story of Sidney Bruhl (Ken Schroeder), a successful writer of Broadway thrillers, who is struggling to overcome a dry spell which has resulted in a string of failures and a shortage of funds. A possible break in his fortunes occurs when he receives a script from Clifford Anderson (Josh Bush) a student in the seminar he has been conducting at a nearby college—a thriller that Sidney recognizes immediately as a potential Broadway smash. Sidney's plan, devised with his wife Myra's (Karen Roger) help, is to offer collaboration to the student for co-credit. Or is it? Add in wacky medium Helga ten Dorp (Jill Marti) and the Bruhl family lawyer, Porter Milgrim (Gary Talsky) and Deathtrap provides twists and turns of devilish cleverness, and offers hilariously sudden shocks in such abundance that audiences will be spellbound until the very last moment.

Production staff also includes production manager Dixie Schroeder, Dave Walters on set construction, costumer Jill Marti, stage manager Maddie Devert, and set artist Laurie Innes. Tickets may be purchased online at [prairiearts.org](http://prairiearts.org) or by leaving a message at 815-875-2787.

(shown below is the Deathtrap cast in a "read through" session)



## AUGUST EXHIBIT

# Laura Johnson



### Starved Rock Hot Glass

The art of glassblowing by local artist and shop owner Laura Johnson will be showcased in our gallery during the month of August

Johnson first became interested in the art of glassblowing during a high school field trip to a Chicago art show renowned for three-dimensional artwork. While attending the University of Illinois, she began taking lessons with celebrated glassblower Todd Manicki in Farmer City, IL. After her graduation, Johnson opened Starved Rock Hot Glass in her hometown, Ottawa, Ill. Her business includes glass art, custom orders, cremation glass and glassblowing lessons.

"Glass is one of the most exciting and unique mediums to work with," says Johnson. It's extremely fast-paced, physically demanding and keeps you on your toes! I love glassblowing because you are never done learning and always coming up with new ideas. As my passion for glass art continues to grow, I am so grateful to do what I love everyday and have the opportunity to share my art with others!"

<https://www.starvedrockhotglass.com>

700 West Main Street, Ottawa, Illinois 61350  
815-313-5445

[laura@starvedrockhotglass.com](mailto:laura@starvedrockhotglass.com)

## SEPTEMBER EXHIBIT

# Matt Redbeard



Matt spent his childhood years alternating time between his artist's table, the river bottoms of the Trinity River, and his granddad's wood shop. A self-taught artist, Mr. Adams has perused thousands of books, visited dozens of galleries in the US and the United Kingdom, and has made it his full-time career to pursue practical experiments which hone his craft.

Mr. Adams has an abiding appreciation for simple lines and the intersection of white space and color. He works in ink, acrylic, watercolor, gouache, wood, resin, plaster, and from time to time, computer-aided graphic design. When possible, he repurposes materials to reduce his ecological footprint. Adams has volunteered his time teaching art to local students, has enjoyed participating in art shows in Bureau and LaSalle Counties, and is honored to be featured at the Prairie Arts Center Gallery.

When he's not painting, you can find him restoring his family's Folk Victorian home, tending the garden, or online at [www.mattredbeard.com](http://www.mattredbeard.com)

### EARLY OPENING!

**We will be hosting an opening reception for this exhibit on Friday, August 30th from 6:00-8:00 so as not to conflict with the Homestead Festival. Please join us!**



## OCTOBER EXHIBIT

# Matt Denault



Matt says, "I began this journey at the end of 2014 - a selfless adventure, seeking nothing but peace of mind, patience, and to release my worries in hopes of creating something beautiful. A design forcing one to think, imagine, or even second guess. A breath of fresh air, to test the stillness of my hands.

The soundtrack of nature in my ear; the wind and rain to bring me back to reality. A form of meditation or therapy. I've learned vast amounts about myself in a short period of time - all while sitting on a rock, on the bottom of a creek, constructing impossible stacks, using the bricks of stones that pave the floor. A picture in my mind, attempting to flee from my bag of rocks. A new obstacle every time, always presenting a new challenge. Much like life, it's never easy, and when it seems improbable;

Take a deep breath. Find patience.

Balance out the negative, and tune into your soul. Something beautiful can emerge from a pile of rocks, but only you can make that possible.

From the bottom of my heart,  
if you are reading this,  
THANK YOU!

And remember to smile at one another, you never know when someone else could use one!

Peace & Love, Matt

Literature is one of the four pillars of the Prairie Arts Center's focus, along with Art, Drama and Music.

This selection was written by our Prairie Arts Council President, Kevin Shyne and was published in the 2019 edition of Poetry Porch, an online literary magazine

### Second Father

by Kevin Shyne

Why did I wait so long to write to you,  
more than a friend, a second father,  
until your Christmas letters stopped?  
In free and easy cursive, you'd tell  
the news of Hannah, adopted daughter,  
of Pat, the wife you married late in life,  
of children by an ex with children of their own.  
If only I'd written sooner instead of writing a poem.

Why did I wait so long to call  
until your story-telling voice and poetry  
you knew by heart no longer could  
uplift me through the phone?  
No church confessor listened half as well  
or knew the words to say  
to guide a young man home.  
If only I'd called you sooner instead of writing a poem.

Why did I wait so long to catch a flight  
until no wings could take me where  
you hugged me at your open door?  
As close as strings of a mandolin,  
as rows of wheat, as drops of rain,  
we could have mused for hours about  
how beautiful and foolish this old world had grown.  
If only I'd caught a flight instead of writing a poem.

How could I let it come to this: the father  
whom I idolized left before our work was done.  
Then came an unexpected gift,  
the second father you'd become.  
I'll gladly be the man forever in your debt  
leaning on your strength, blessing you, and yet,  
so much we left unfinished. Shouldn't I have known?  
If only I'd spoken sooner instead of writing a poem.

### NOVEMBER EVENT

## Paper Cutting Workshop

Tentatively scheduled for Saturday,  
November 16th, we are inviting  
Keith Bonstetter back to host  
another paper-cutting workshop!  
Check the website for more details:  
<http://PrairieArts.org>

Roden, Barb Schiff, Stephanie Van Ordstrand, True Wahlgren, Lynne Weber and Ramona Wedding

**to the hosts of our gallery exhibits:**

Mary Damon, Gayle Grace, John Iocca, Matt Kauffman, Karen May, Barry Mayworm, Mary Michael, Jon McCutchan, Joan Parker, Anna Roadhouse, Roger Swanson, Barb Schiff, Kay Telfer, Dianne Van Drew, Stephanie Van Ordstrand, Ramona Wedding

**to everyone who brought treats for our bake sale:**

Kathy Ballard, Hope Browning, DeAnna Foran, Cheryl Ground, Laura Kann, Muzzie Kann, Linda McCabe, Julia McCutchan and Tracy Boylan Roden

**for photography and videos:**

Jim Gassen

**to our printer**

Scott Heller at SheetWise

**!!! THANK YOU !!!**

**CONTINUING NEEDS:**

If you would like to become more involved, a small time commitment to host an exhibit or usher a theater event would really help (3hrs each) We also continually need wine and appetizers for our receptions, and of course, donations for building improvements (like our exterior lighting project) are quite welcome!



**Thanks  
for the  
SUPPORT!**



## ANNUAL MEETING

Our annual meeting was held Friday, May 3rd in the PAC Gallery. Kevin Shyne, president of the Prairie Arts Council Board of Directors, summarized the many events that were made possible by our members, contributors and volunteers.

Since the beginning of 2018 we have hosted nine theater programs, ranging from a Neil Simon comedy to the Barbershop Chorus concert to our annual children's Christmas musical, for a total attendance of 1325. We also implemented a new online ticketing system, and this season we will be staging a production for the Homestead Festival called "Deathtrap".

We have also hosted twelve exhibitions in our Gallery space featuring a wide variety of expression; everything from Coca-Cola memorabilia to quilting and textile art, from photography to folk art, painting and woodworking. We also enjoyed hosting a holiday tradition — the Christmas Mini-Tree Festival. We had over a thousand visitors to these wonderful exhibits!

Thanks to your generosity (and with the help of a Bake Sale and organizations like Church Women United, OmniArts, the Illinois Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts), we have a solid financial foundation and are starting to investigate a capital campaign to expand the building for a backstage area, dressing areas and storage area for costumes and props.

We were also able to host three workshops for young people including a summer art camp, summer drama camp and a creative writing festival for high school students, and we are committed to continue bringing arts programming to young people in our community.

**This has been memorable year!**

## Looking for a Creative Outlet? Look No Further!

Our Theater Department is here to help you express your creativity.

**We are looking for volunteers to help with ALL aspects of a production, both on and off the stage.**

Check out the options below and email Tammy Tieman, PAC Theater Director, at [prairieartsprinceton@gmail.com](mailto:prairieartsprinceton@gmail.com) or leave a message at 815-875-2787

**Actors/Singers/Dancers:** If you enjoy acting, singing, or dancing, share your talent with us and audition for a show.  
**Want to up your game?** How about serving as a Director, Musical Director or Choreographer?

**Would you prefer to express your creativity behind the scenes?**

**Costumes/Seamstress/etc.:** Every show has its own varied style in costume design. While we do have a nice supply of costumes, often they need alterations, mending, etc., and there are times that we need to have an entire costume made.

**Musicians:** We want to produce more musicals, but we need accompanists and other pit/band members. If you're a musician who wants to share your talents, we would love to get you involved!

**Set Construction:** Our sets don't build themselves! Each show requires a new set, and we are always looking for volunteers to come in and help us build.

**Set Design/Props:** If your talent is more on the artistic side, the PAC is always looking for set designers/painters, scenic designers/painters, and prop coordinators and creators to join the team.

**Technical Assistance:** We're always looking for help! Some of these positions don't require much experience, but it's wonderful when we're able to get volunteers with practical experience to take on the following technical aspects of our productions: Stage Managers, Electricians, Lighting Design, Sound Design, Lighting Operator, Sound Operator and Run Crew



## STUDENT

Bianca Nickelsen

## INDIVIDUAL

Carol Bird

Pam Byrne

Bea Coates

N. Dana Collins

Carlotta Dodels

Marie Etter

Jean Gewin

Vicki Giehl

Janet Grossman

June Harmon

Jacqueline Hughes

John Iocca

Susan Jacobsen

Lucille Kann

Jan Lohaus

Jill Marti

Jon McCutchan

Mary Michael

Patti Moynihan

Judy O'Brien

Joan Parker

Reanna Pelszynski

Patricia Polson

Ardis Scala

Ethel Scruggs

Esther Tracy

Diane Van Drew

Ramona Wedding

## FAMILY

Fred & Melody Best

Rich & Sarah Brooks

Keith & Julia Cain

Dr. & Mrs. Paul Castelein

John & Theresa Cotter

Bill & Susan Cox

Doug & Sarah Criner

Bob & Cindy Davidson

Gordon & Carol Dremann

Dr. & Mrs. Gary Eckberg

Mike & Jan English

Deanna Heuer Foran

John & Sue Garvin

# CURRENT MEMBERSHIP

Sara Cooper & Steve Gunning

Tom & Paula Guttilla

Rick & Jane Holmbeck

Harold & Jeanne Hutchinson

Phil & Pam Kaufmann

Douglas Kirkpatrick

Tim & Cheryl Kunkel

Judson & Ann Lusher

Barry & Sylvia Mayworm

Roger & Linda McCabe

Anthony Morrow &

Stephanie VanOrdstrand

Richard & Phyllis Natanek

Bruce & Anita Obenhaus

Todd & Marcia Obenhaus

Bill & Barb Ollila

Dr. & Mrs. Ketan Patel

Bob & Deb Russell

Candice Schertz & Kari

Richardson Family)

Sam & Vikki Schiera

Don & Barbara Schiff

Dr. Bruce & Suzanne Shriver

Dave & Sharry Taylor

Lindsay Vaughn &

James Van Fleet

Gene & Lisa Vincent

Alan & Lynne Weber

## ASSOCIATE

Don & Gloria Ecklund

Gayle Grace

Linda Gustafson

Barbara LaVelle

Anna M. Roadhouse

Kay Telfer

True Wahlgren

## SPONSOR

Kathy Ballard

Susan Barlow

Bill & Sallee Beneke

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Linda Bortak

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Pete & Karen May

Carol McGee

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Dr. Timothy Puhr

Pat Rudzinski

Joy E. Schertz

Kevin & Debi Shyne

Carolyn Workman

Deb Young

## PATRON

Greg & Marilyn Anthony

Cliff & Cathy Cartwright

Charlie Gebeck

David & Shelly Gorenz

Lorita Hellman

Betty Ann Losey

Julie McCutchan

Fredericka Veikley &

Edward Burke

## AMBASSADOR

Marjorie Albrecht

Rex & Ami Chamberlain

Chuck & Pam Hanson

## CORPORATE

Gary & Hope Browning

## LIFE MEMBERS

Gary & Hope Browning

Father Ed Harkrader

Bob & Marilyn Haslam

Deb Young

**YOUR  
MEMBERSHIP  
MATTERS**



PRAIRIE  
ARTS  
CENTER

815.875.2787  
PrairieArts.org  
24 Park Ave. East

## P A C E V E N T C A L E N D A R

August 2	6:00-8:00pm	Gallery Opening Reception
August 3—25	1:00-4:00pm (weekends)	Gallery Exhibit: Laura Johnson
August 30	6:00-8:00pm	Gallery Opening Reception
Aug 30-Sept 29	1:00-4:00pm (weekends)	Gallery Exhibit: Matt Adams
September 6 and 7	7:30pm	Theater: “Death Trap”
September 8	2:00pm	Theater: “Death Trap”
October 4	6:00-8:00pm	Gallery Opening Reception
October 5-27	1:00-4:00pm (weekends)	Gallery Exhibit : Matt Denault
November 16	1:00pm	Paper-Cutting for Children
November 16	3:00pm	Paper-Cutting for Adults

PRAIRIE ARTS CENTER  
24 PARK AVE. EAST  
PRINCETON, IL 61356