



# ***Prairie Arts***

**The Newsletter of the Prairie Arts Center**

**Fall 2009**

The guiding purpose of the Prairie Arts Council is to strengthen and support the participation in cultural arts in Princeton and the surrounding areas.

The cultural arts include drama, music, art and literature and we have made it our mission to support and develop these arts for everyone.

Programming partially funded by the Illinois Arts Council and Illinois Valley Fine Arts Trust and Sun Foundation

## ***A Winterhaven Christmas***

PAC's Annual Children's Christmas Production 2009, "A Winterhaven Christmas" will be presented November 19th – 22nd.

Stranded at their grandmother's house in the country over the holidays, five young cousins venture into the attic to explore and find a book hidden in a locked trunk. As one of the children reads the book out loud, they suddenly find themselves face to face with the daughter of an Archduke, a wicked sorceress, and one of her minions, who step right out of the book into the dusty attic. But when the sorceress disappears, the princess remains in the attic and one of the children is gone, taken captive by the sorceress. With the help of their grandmother and more colorful storybook characters, the children set about on an adventure to return the Archduke's daughter to her home and free their lost cousin.

This year's auditions attracted so many young actors that, for the third time, PAC is creating two different casts to produce a total of five productions of the play. Each cast is composed of 20-21 actors, and are designated Red Cast and Green Cast.

The Red cast, consisting of: Emelie Geuther, Brianna Legner, Mike Gusman, Lexi Mink, Al Baldonado, Sabrina Bickett, Austin Lucas, Payton Erricson, Emily Boes, Katrina Rudolph, Maggie Daluga, Bradley Davis, Courtney Cook, Hayden Welte, Preston Milliron, Vianey Castro, Courtney Poiinter, Keeley Robinson, Myah Headley, will perform on Nov. 19-20, Thursday, Friday 7:00 p.m. and Nov. 21, Saturday 3:00 p.m.

The Green cast, Taylor Tieman Erin Makransky, Caleb Strom, Anjali Patel, Drew Pranka, Emma Roden, Fox Webber, Tara Kunkel, Laura Behrends, Fern Webber, Desiree Vertheen, Cameron Tieman, Megan Hendrickson, Kyra Strom, Steven Behrends, Luke Peacock, Joseph Peacock, Taylor Koch, Vicki Tieman, and Asia LaPlante will perform Nov. 21, Saturday 7:00 p.m. , Nov. 22, Sunday 3:00 p.m.

For tickets, please call Kelly Autrey-Webber at 815 876-1106.

Box office hours (PAC Gallery entrance): Nov. 12, 6:30-7:30,  
Nov. 13, 3:30-4:30, Nov. 14, 9:30-10:30



## Scenes from *California Suite*



*Millie Michaels (Rachel Gorenz) and Marvin Michaels (Cliff Peddicord) talk about second honeymoons in the Neil Simon comedy California Suite.*



*Mort Hollender (Dick Dorsch) helps his injured wife Beth (Jill Marti) in from playing tennis in California Suite.*

*California Suite*, Neil Simon's smash comedy from the 1970's was performed in the Prairie Arts Center theatre October 9-11. A cast and crew of locals from Princeton, LaSalle, DePue, Malden, and Tiskilwa performed to 130 attendees over the three day run. Director Dixie Schroeder was pleased with the results. "I am very proud of our local community theatre scene. It has been a while since local actors and actresses were seen on stage in a show in the area. Our cast of 3 women, and 4 men playing multiple parts did wonderfully." Acting in the show were Rachel Gorenz, Jill Marti, and Tiffany Smith along with Dick Dorsch, Pete Hamilton, Cliff Peddicord, and Ken Schroeder.

Technical crew included Dylan Carlson, Taylor Carlson and Jim Hays. "It doesn't have to be huge to be a success," continued Schroeder. Updating the play to the 1990's, Simon's script highlighted scenarios from his married life that brought great comic moments.



Watch for news of our upcoming PAC spring adult musical production in the works for April 2010.

Our December Gallery Artist is **Penny Bodigheimer**. She will be showing paintings, constructions, and metalworks. The exhibition will run from December 4 - 20. The opening is scheduled for Friday, Dec.4, from 6 - 8 pm.

Ms. Bodigheimer is a graduate of the art program at Northern Illinois University. In the years after her art study, she became an Illinois State Police officer. (She worked for a time in Peru.) She continued to make art, and gradually came to use images of peace with physical materials - bullet casings, etc., - associated with conflict and violence. Her work is being widely shown in the Chicago area, and we are very fortunate to have her as an exhibiting artist here in Princeton.



December Artist  
Penny Bodigheimer

## “The Arts Brighten Our World”

Mark your calendar and save the date for PAC’s annual gala, “The Arts Brighten Our World” to be held on Friday, Feb. 5, 2010, at the Wine Cellar in Princeton. This is the main fundraising event for the Prairie Arts Council, and it will be a gala evening including a live auction. Members and friends are invited to donate an art item or other item of interest for the auction. Contact Linda Gustafson or any PAC board member.

### THE GIVING TREE BAND also featuring JARED BARTMAN

[www.thegivingtreeband.com](http://www.thegivingtreeband.com)

[www.jaredbartman.com](http://www.jaredbartman.com)

*“Folk music with a rock and roll twist.”* -Hosea Sanders, ABC News Chicago

Saturday December 5th, 2009 Doors Open At 6:00 PM, Showtime At 7:00 PM

Tickets are \$10 please call 541-556-1771 for more info or to purchase tickets.

*\*100% of the proceeds will go to Maya Nepal, an orphanage in Nepal supported by The Giving Tree Band\**



A free family Marimba Band Outdoor Concert performed by the Holy Cross Marimba Ensemble of Chicago was held on Labor Day Sunday, September 6th from 3 PM – 4:30 PM at the Soldiers and Sailors Park in Princeton. Approximately 200 people attended this special event which was sponsored by the Prairie Arts Council.

## Some worthwhile thoughts

“Take a music bath once or twice a week for a few seasons, and you will find that it is to the soul what the water-bath is to the body.” -- **Oliver Wendell Holmes**

“Where words fail, music speaks.” --**Hans Christian Andersen**: (1805-1875) Danish short-story writer, poet

“When I hear music, I fear no danger.  
I am invulnerable. I see no foe.  
I am related to the earliest times, and to the latest.” **Henry David Thoreau**

*Foundation For Universal Music Literacy Research Materials*

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### --Making a Difference at PAC---

*Thanks to Volunteers for September and October:*

Marimba band / bake sale: David Gorenz, Rex and Ami Chamberlain, Julie McCutchan, Gene and Lisa Vincent, DePue High School National Honor Society

Sept. gallery: Kathy Ballard, Anita Obenhaus, Dana Collins, Anna Roadhouse, Barb LaVelle , Barb Ollila, Ramona Wedding, Mary Ella Rumley, Kami Hieronymus, Cheryl Kunkel, Lisa Putness

California Suite: Marie Etter, Marcel/Diane VandenBorre, Ramona Wedding, Ami Chamberlain, Lisa Putness, Joanne Swan, Mary Ella Rumley, Lynne Weber, Becky Hall, Sharon Peterson, Paul Kautz, Sandra Steele, Marcia Peddicord.

**Help Wanted:** Volunteer to help conduct meetings and lead arts and crafts activities for the PAC Junior Art League. Established in 2007, the Junior Art League continues to meet on a bi-monthly basis throughout the year. Currently membership consists of nine students ranging in age from ten through thirteen.

**A volunteer** is needed to help plan and organize events and activities and to sub as needed. For more info, call Deb Young at 815-875-9124.

PAC theater is in need of volunteers to assist with production tasks on an ongoing basis. If you are interested in helping, please contact David Gorenz at 815-875-1267 or at <gorenz@verizon.net>.

**Wanted:** a good, newer refrigerator to replace the one which is becoming undependable. Call 815-875-2787 and leave a message.

Special thanks to Gary and Hope Browning for donations toward a sound system for the PAC theater.

Thank you, Carol Dremann for art supplies given to the Art League from Adabelle Dremann and to Tammy Tieman for donating craft supplies.

Carol Dremann, Deb Young, and Laurie Bonucci have added some shrubs and a dogwood tree to the PAC garden. The tree is in memory of Allen Murphey given by his family.

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## Eagle Scout Accessibility Project

Patrick Reeves and Boy Scout Troop 1068 have begun work on the wheelchair ramp which will provide access into the Southeast door of the PAC Gallery. Patrick is shown on the left selling candy to earn \$250 to fund part of the cost of the supplies for the project, which is also funded by a Princeton Chamber of Commerce Building Improvement Grant. Patrick has planned and is supervising the construction as a part of Eagle Scout requirements. The deck in the photo at the right leads out of the gallery, and a ramp will lead to a walkway from the southeast end of the building to Park Lane.

Thanks, Patrick, Boy Scout Troop 1068, and Princeton Chamber of Commerce!



### **A Note from the President:**

*At the close of another year, we thank the board for a busy and creative year. We look forward to our Annual Meeting planned for Tuesday, December 15th. PAC members are invited to join us at 6:30 p.m. for Holiday Cheer and an informal recap of our 2009 Prairie Arts year and a look ahead toward 2010.*

Liz Draper, President



Congratulations to Ellen Hultine (granddaughter of our neighbors, Hannah June and Glenn Hultine and daughter of Lynn and Kathy Hultine) and Jeff Day from Morton, IL who were married at PAC on Oct. 17.

**PRAIRIE ARTS  
CENTER**

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Visit us online at  
[www.prairieartscenter.org](http://www.prairieartscenter.org)



- November 19-22 A Winterhaven Christmas, PAC Annual Children's Christmas Musical, Nov. 19 – 21 at 7:00 p.m., and Nov. 20 – 21 at 3:00 p.m.
- December 4 Gallery Opening Reception for Penny Boedigheimer, 6:00-8:00 p.m.
- December 5-20 Works of Penny Boedigheimer in the gallery 1-4 p.m., Saturdays and Sundays, or by appointment.
- December 5 The Giving Tree Band, with Jared Bartman at 7:00 p.m.
- December 15 5:30 p.m. - PAC Board Meeting  
6:30 p.m. - Members' Annual Meeting
- February 5, 2010 Annual PAC Gala, "The Arts Brighten Our World" at The Wine Cellar, Princeton

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