

SPRING 2010

WHAT'S INSIDE:

Get a sneak peak at the next show in the PAC Gallery.

PAGE 2

Can data have culture? Find out about this important project.

PAGE 3

Giving the PAC Theater some TLC.

PAGE 4



prairie arts

theater • music • literature • art

The newsletter of the Prairie Arts Council

“Please sir...” The PAC Theater presents *Oliver!*

The Prairie Arts Council presents a Community Theater production of *Oliver!* on Thursday, April 29, Friday, April 30, and Saturday, May 1 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, May 2 at 3:00 p.m.

Oliver! is the musical adaptation of Charles Dickens' *Oliver Twist*, the tale of a young boy's search for love which takes him from a poorhouse to the streets of London.



Fagin (played by Dave Roden, center) sings "You've Got to Pick a Pocket or Two."

The cast of *Oliver!* includes: Doran Cotter, Dave Roden, Ron McCutchan, Anson Murray, Rachel Gorenz, Pete Hamilton, Chad Brokaw, Kelly Autrey-Webber, Brock Cheshier, Shelley Gorenz, Terri Schlindwein, Bob Davidson, Abby Bickett, Kavita

Patel, Matthew VanDenBussche, Al Baldonado, Jennifer Rexius, Karen Newby, Fox Webber, Fern Webber, Emma Roden, Taylor Tieman, Cameron Tieman, Vicki Tieman, Preston Milliron, Emma Mosier, Kyle Kinnamon, Sabrina Bickett, Eliza Young, Dylann Hall, Alex Castaneda, and Shannon Cotter, Alison Puetz, Taylor Jensen, Dylan Carlson, Paul Schlindwein, and Allison Jensen (who also serves as Stage Manager).

Sets have been built by Roger Perkins, and lights are being handled by Mick Johnson and Ryan Jensen.

Director/Musical Director is David Gorenz, Children's Director is Rachel Gorenz, Accompanist is Pam Gonigam, and the producer is Shelley Gorenz.

About the selection of *Oliver!* David Gorenz said, "We selected *Oliver!* to support Princeton KidLit." KidLit will be a family event encompassing all aspects of children's literature and will emphasize the importance and fun of reading. It will take place on South Main Street in Princeton on Saturday, Sept. 25 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Tickets for *Oliver!* are \$8.00 and are available at the Prairie Arts Center Box Office on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Sundays from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. For ticket information, please contact Kelly Autrey-Webber at 815-876-1106.

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

The Prairie Arts Council Presents "The Art of the Quilt"

As a part of its ongoing schedule of art shows, the Prairie Arts Council featured the artwork of the Covered Bridge Quilters Guild in their show "The Art of the Quilt." The show featured everything from antique to modern quilts, wall hangings, bowls, handbags and clothing. A wide range of quilting styles were included in the show. The Prairie Arts Council hosted an opening reception for "The Art of the Quilt" on Friday, March 26th from 5-7 P.M. The show was open to the public on Saturdays and Sundays from 1-4 PM and on Wednesday evenings from 6-8 PM until Sunday, April 18th. The Prairie Arts Center is located at 24 Park Avenue East in Princeton.

The Covered Bridge Quilters Guild was established in 1992. The guild promotes the education, history and caring of quilts through lectures, demonstrations, workshops and field trips. There are 81 guild members with interests ranging from traditional quilting to modern art quilts. Members have had quilts displayed at national shows as well as the

Hoffman Challenge Quilts Show. One of the guild members is certified to appraise quilts through the American Quilters Society, and several guild members hand and machine quilt for others.



These are just a few of the pieces that were created by the Covered Bridge Quilters Guild.

Photography Unlimited Gallery Show during the Month of May

The Prairie Arts Council will be featuring the photography of the Photographers Unlimited in the Prairie Arts Center gallery from Friday, May 7 – Sunday, May 30.



Just a sampling of what to expect at the Photographer's Unlimited show during the month of May.

A First Friday Opening Reception will be held and open to the public on Friday, May 7 from 5-7 p.m. with wine and appetizers and a chance to view the Photographers Unlimited art show. The show will be open on Saturdays and Sundays from 1-4 p.m. and on Wednesday evenings from 6-8 p.m. In addition, a special photography program will also be presented on Wed. May 12 at 7:00 p.m.

Photographers Unlimited was founded in 1978 with nine original members and today there are thirty members from Princeton and the surrounding area. The club's purpose is to provide diversified photographic interests, to provide the opportunity to meet in good fellowship with other people with similar photographic interests, to give the novice and expert photographers alike a forum from which to share and learn, and to promote the many exciting facets that photography has to offer. The club is a member of the Central Illinois Camera Club which unites local area camera clubs and promotes the photographic interests of their members. Photographers Unlimited meet on the 4th Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. at the Bureau County Republican community room, and the club sponsors photographic field trips, contests, educational opportunities and many other activities. This special photography show at the Prairie Arts Center will highlight the diversity and excellence of their photographic achievements.

Cultural Data **PROJECT**

The Cultural Data Project is a national model for data collection for arts and cultural organizations. It allows users to track financial and programming performance over time and to compare themselves to other similar organizations in other regions and disciplines. It tells the story of an organization's assets, contributions and needs to advocates, policymakers and researchers.

For example, would you believe that 2323 individuals attended 9 different productions and 7 gallery exhibitions involving 173 artists and performers at the PAC? Would you believe that 360 individuals donated a total of 8937 hours to the PAC? And did you know that our revenues in 2009 totaled nearly \$30,000?

Illinois has joined six other states in implementing this project, and allows us to run dozens of reports that help track and evaluate our organization's activities, finances, attendance, and influence in the community. Julie McCutchan and Liz Draper attended the training seminar in January and have completed the Data Profile for the Prairie Arts Council.

En Plein Air at the Hegeler Carus Mansion

Hegeler Carus Foundation will have a juried art show and sale on the grounds of the Hegeler Carus Mansion on Saturday, June 26, 2010. The show is open to both professional and amateur artists who may submit original works in painting, graphics, sculpture, photography, wood, glass, metals, printmaking, ceramics, jewelry and mixed media.

Artists must submit three slides, photos, or a CD that accurately represents their current work. If artists would like to exhibit in more than one category they must submit three images in each medium. Please do not send actual work. Photos and slides should be labeled clearly with the artists name and medium. Please enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope with proper postage for return of application materials.

Entry deadline is June 12, 2010. Pre-registration fee is \$25. Registration fee May 15 – June 12 is \$30.

See application information on the PAC bulletin board or call Sharon Wagenknecht at 815-224-5891 or go to hegelercarus.org to download an application.

Save the Date! First Friday Receptions at the PAC Gallery in 2010

The Prairie Arts Council will be hosting a series of First Friday Opening Receptions to celebrate the new art shows being presented at the Prairie Arts Center Gallery throughout this year. These special, free receptions will be held from 5-7 p.m. with wine and appetizers and a chance to preview the art that is on display in the PAC Gallery.

The first of the First Friday Opening Receptions will be held on Friday, May 7 from 5-7 p.m. and will feature the photographic work of the Photography Unlimited members. The artwork of Denny Elliott will be highlighted on the second First Friday Opening Reception on Friday August 6 from 5-7 p.m. The

third First Friday Opening Reception will be held on Friday, September 3 from 5-7 p.m. and will feature the artwork of Mary Win Walter. Our local art teachers' artistic creations will be highlighted at the fourth First Friday opening reception on Friday, October 1 from 5-7 p.m. The final First Friday for this year will feature the photography of Ryan Cox and Ben Martinkus and will be held on Friday, December 10 from 5-7 p.m.

Following the opening receptions for the art shows, the Prairie Arts Center Gallery will be open to the public to visit the individual shows Saturdays and Sundays 1-4 p.m. and Wednesday evenings 6-8 p.m.

Theater Upgrades to Start After Curtain Closes on *Oliver!*

Brett Hall from Commercial Sound has been logging in many hours as he installs the new theater sound system donated by the Brown family and the Optimist's Club. We look forward to many years of use from this much needed improvement. Of particular interest will be the headsets that will allow the stage manager to communicate with the light technician without running around the building!



Our next step toward improving the physical plant will be to renovate and paint the inside of the theater.

Under the artistic direction of Princeton High School junior Dylan Carlson, plans are underway to scrub and repair cracks in the walls, provide removable insulated inserts in four of the windows to replace the current coverings on the inside, and to paint the interior of the theater to create a warm, cozy environment.

The painting plan will also minimize the distraction from the ornate pillars on the stage while maintaining their architectural integrity; and plywood facing on the back walls of the stage will eliminate the need for the unsightly two by fours that are currently required for fastening set pieces. "Gold" leaf highlights on some of the ornate features near the ceiling and recessed lighting will provide a touch of class to top off, quite literally, this project.

Many volunteers will be needed to assist with this project, which we hope will be begin in early May, right after *Oliver!*

Our World Was Brightened at the 2010 Gala

The Prairie Arts Council was proud to present the first "Lifetime Achievement in the Arts" award to Mary Win Walter Norris at the 2010 Gala in February.

This year's gala was the most successful ever and your support of our efforts in making the arts accessible for all members of our community are greatly appreciated. Ami Chamberlain and Linda Gustafson were the co-chairs for this special event.

A special thanks to all who attended and to the generous donors of the many auction items.



Theater Notes:

Registration will be accepted for the June 14-25 drama camps starting May 1. Please see the PAC website for more information and for the registration form or contact Camp Director Rachel Gorenz at theater@theprairieartscouncil.org or 815-875-1267.

The dates for the Summer Youth Musical are July 22-25. The play selection has yet to be finalized, but it will be in keeping with the KidLit theme. Watch the PAC website and local papers for auditions, or contact David Gorenz at theater@theprairieartscouncil.org.

On Facebook? Visit [facebook.com/prairiearts](https://www.facebook.com/prairiearts) and become a fan of the Prairie Arts Council!

Special Thanks

Thank you to members and friends who have volunteered in the gallery in February, March and April:

Paul Kautz, Barry Mayworm, Virginia Schoeb, Barbara Ollila, Linda Gustafson, Sandra Gladhill, Mary Ellen Dugosh, Annette Byrne, Mary Wallace, Cindy Smith, and Yvonne Morman.

It was great to see so many of you come out for our membership reception last month. We appreciate your generous support! If you were not able to make it, you can mail your renewal form, with a check made out of the Prairie Arts Council.

You can check your newsletter mailing label to find out your renewal date.

Please note the "preferred method to contact" section on the revised membership form. The "going green" option will help the PAC minimize printing and postage costs, while still keeping members informed of events. If you have an e-mail address, please consider this option.

Sincerely,
Tammy Tieman
Membership Chairman

There is nothing in a caterpillar that tells you it's going to be a butterfly.

-Buckminster Fuller

Anyone who has never made a mistake has never tried anything new.

-Albert Einstein

If stupidity got us into this mess, then why can't it get us out?

-Will Rogers

PAC Membership Renewals for Jan-March 2010

Single

Judy Anderson	Carol McGee
Chad Brokaw	Mary Michael
Donna Chelin	Dr. Jon McCutchan
Harry Clucas	Audrey Monier
N. Dana Collins	Jeanne O'Melia
Harriet Coulter	Harold Pierson
Gayle Grace	Cynthia Smucker
June Harmon	Hazel Mae Townsend
Frances Hassler	Diane Van Den Borre
Helen J. Kenney	Jeanette Wedding
Jan Lohaus	

Family

William & Sallee Beneke	Marjorie McIntosh & Brad Boes
Dave & Jone Booth	Phil & Elizabeth Naffziger
Paul & Lou Brown	Bill & Barbara Olilla
John & Theresa Cotter	Ketan & Aparna Patel
Michael & Jan English	Don & Barb Schiff
Thomas & Patricia Daluga	Ken & Dixie Schroeder
Dr. Gary & Marilyn Eckberg	Gene & Ethel Scruggs
Dennis & Cathy Elliott	Dr. Bruce & Sue Shriver
Michael & Joanne Friel	John & Lynda Smith
Charles & Linda Gebhardt	Tony & Donna Sorcic
Harry & Elaine Gerber	Roger & Joann Swan
David & Shelley Gorenz	Tony Morrow & Stephanie VanOrdstrand
Justin & Elizabeth Heath	Dean & Tammy Tieman
Dr. M. R. & Jane Holmbeck	Alan & Lynne Weber
Rod & Marcie Jagers	Bill & Deb Young
Phil & Pam Kaufman	
Paul & Nancy Kautz	
John Lundahl	

Sponsor

Steve & Susan Barlow	Marian Middleton
Joan Chinal	Julia McCutchan
Dennis & Donna Dickison	Merle & Patricia Polson
Roger & Linda Gustafson	Don & Nedda Simon
Beverly Hall	Bob & Kay Telfer
Mike & Linda Judge	Lou & Terri Zearing

Patron

Kathy Ballard	O. V. Shaffer
Cliff & Kathy Cartwright	Edward Burke & Fredericka Veikley
Barbara LaVelle	Eleanor Walker
Lloyd & Karen May	

Corporate

Kent & Jamie Bickett

If you would like to renew your membership with the Prairie Arts Council or would like to join, please go to our website and download a membership form:

www.theprairieartscouncil.org/membership

**PRAIRIE ARTS
COUNCIL**

24 Park Avenue East
Princeton IL 61356
815-875-2787

theprairieartscouncil.org



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funded by the Illinois
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April 29, 30 and May 1, 2	<i>Oliver!</i> at the Prairie Arts Center Theater. 7:30 p.m. on Th, Fri., Sat. and 3:00 on Sun.
May 7	5 - 7:00 p.m. - First Friday Gallery Opening, Photography Unlimited
May 18	6:00 p.m. - PAC Board Meeting
June 14 - 25	Drama Camps. Registration begins May 1
June 15	6:00 p.m. - PAC Board Meeting
June 26	10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. - En Plein Air, Hegeler Carus Mansion, 1307 7th St, La Salle
July 22-25	Summer Youth Musical (high school and college age actors)
Aug. 6	5 - 7:00 p.m. - First Friday Gallery Opening, Artwork of Denny Elliott
Sept. 25	Princeton KidLit

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Prairie Arts Council
24 Park Avenue East
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