

SPRING 2012

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prairie arts

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The newsletter of the Prairie Arts Council

Emerging Artists — The Future of Art

This special art show highlights the amazing artistic talents of Princeton High School graduates and features works in: oils, printmaking, textiles, photography, communication design, pen and ink drawings, sustainable product design, acrylics, pastels and mixed-media. These artworks represent the future of art and new concepts of art products and techniques. These one-of-a-kind, cutting-edge creations shed light on the latest developments in art production and thinking.

Among the artists in this show is **Benjamin Marti**, PHS Class of 2003 who graduated from Missouri Science and Technology with a degree in Aerospace Engineering. Benjamin is currently working for the Department of Defense - China Lake as a rocket scientist. He works in the medium of photography. **Salena Nelson** is a 2006 PHS graduate and is a graduate of Berea College in Berea, Kentucky with a major in Fiber Arts and Textiles. Salena is currently working in management and plans to attend graduate school. She works in the media of textiles and photography. **Bill Foehring** is also a 2006 PHS graduate who graduated from Southern Illinois University in Carbondale with a degree in Communication Design. Bill is currently a user interface designer at Gorilla Chicago. He works in the media of posters. **Aly Marti** is a PHS 2007 graduate and is currently attending Truman State with a major in English and an Art minor in Printmaking. Aly plans to continue her education to earn a Masters degree in Library Science. She works in the media of oils and printmaking. **Tara Jagers** is also a PHS Class of 2007 graduate. Tara graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign with a major in New Media.

She works in the media of pen and ink.

Sean Castner is a PHS Class of 2008 graduate. He will be graduating June 2nd from the Savannah College of Art and Design with a major in Industrial Design and a minor in Design for Sustainability. Sean plans to attend graduate school and work in the field of sustainability. He works in the medium of sustainable product design. **Abby Beneke** is a PHS Class of 2009 graduate and is currently a junior at Lawrence University in Appleton, Wisconsin majoring in Anthropology. She works in the media of watercolors. **Sallee Noble Zearing** is also a PHS Class of 2009 graduate. She is a junior at the University of Illinois at Chicago with a major in Studio Arts, and she is also working part-time. After she graduates in 2013, she plans to work on her art and partner with her mother, Terri, to open a bakery/coffee shop in Princeton. She works in the media of oil painting and pen and ink drawing. **Jamie Olson** is a PHS Class of 2011 graduate. She has just finished her freshman year at Eastern Illinois University with a major in Graphic Design. She works in the media of pen and ink, acrylic, pastels and mixed media.

The exhibit is being held at the Prairie Arts Center at 24 Park Avenue East in Princeton from May 4th through Sunday, June 3rd. The gallery hours include Saturdays and Sundays from 1-4 PM as well as on Wednesdays from 6-8 PM.

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



On April 28-29, the PAC stage was alive with memories of musicals past. A group of singers from past PAC productions performed selections from some of the musicals that have been produced on the PAC stage over the years. Accompanied by Jennifer Allen and Kevin Alleman, performers included Alleman, Abigail and Kenzie Bickett, David, Rachel, and Shelley Gorenz, Pete Hamilton, Dave and Emma Roden, and James Younger. A huge thank you to former PAC board member and performer Mick Johnson for his help with resetting the theater lights and for his generous willingness to continue to assist with our theater lighting needs.

Photos by Daniel Acker

Celebrating 10 Years of Summer Youth Theater

To commemorate the 10th anniversary of summer youth theater, the Prairie Arts Council will produce *Godspell*, directed by Pete Hamilton, who has performed in many youth and adult PAC productions over the years.

Godspell is a musical based on the Gospel according to St. Matthew with music and book by Stephen Schwartz and John-Michael Tebelak. This musical is structured by the parables and sermons of Jesus Christ interspersed with contemporary music set to the lyrics of traditional hymns.

The cast honors the call of the Lord and is baptized at the beginning, proceeding then to act out the aforementioned parables and sermons of Jesus while Jesus provides the lessons of each. The camaraderie and joy of following Jesus provides a jubilant portrayal of Jesus's travels...all of it accented by the passion scene at the play's closing.

The only purely defined characters in this script are

See 'Godspell' Page 3

PAC Theater Updates

Theater Painting Project Update

The theater painting project that began over a year ago continues to progress. PAC thanks the following volunteers who have been working in the past few months to move our project to completion: Lisa Carlson, Rory Fundell, Paul Kautz, Rich Milliron, and Jeremy Allison, and Dylan Carlson. We still need volunteers to help with the final detail work; please contact Theater Director David Gorenz if you are able to assist (875-1267).

Theater Requests

Our PAC theater could use the donation of some power tools (preferably battery operated) such as drills and

bits/drivers, a jig saw, a circular saw, a sander, wrenches, a good quality vacuum cleaner, and a hand held vacuum. We could also use worn sheets that you no longer have use for.

Come and "Break a Leg" on stage at PAC.

As we look ahead, we hope to enlist more volunteers to assist with all aspects of our theater. Directors, producers, set artists and builders, publicity personnel, musical directors, and accompanists are all necessary to make a theater program thrive, not to mention people to audition and perform. If you have any skills in these areas or would like to develop skills in these areas, please contact us at theater@theprairieartscouncil.org.

Tenth Annual Children's Summer Drama Camp

The Prairie Arts Council is pleased to announce registration for the Tenth Annual Children's Summer Drama Camp for children entering 2nd - 9th grades. Camp runs for three hours, Monday - Friday, for two weeks. Two camp sessions will run June 11-22, one in the morning from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM, and one in the afternoon from 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM. There will also be a morning camp running July 9-20 if there is sufficient interest. The camp cost is \$85 with special rates for siblings. Need based scholarships are also available upon request for those who meet the criteria.

Each camp session culminates in the performance (12 PM and 5 PM on June 22 and 12 PM on July 20) of an original play written specifically for the campers and, to

a large extent, tailored to the needs and abilities of the campers. Campers in each session of camp name their own production. Children get the hands on experience of creating a show, from set and light work to costuming to performing.

To register, please contact camp director Rachel Gorenz at 815-875-1267 or hildigard@hotmail.com. Payment is expected by June 1. Please make checks payable to The Prairie Arts Council. Checks and registration forms can be returned to:

Rachel Gorenz
1009 S. Main St.
Princeton, IL 61356

2 Week Summer Art Camp at PAC

The Prairie Arts Council will be presenting a special two-week summer art camp for children ages 5-14. The dates for the camp are June 25-29 and July 2-6. There will be two sessions of the camp. Session One for ages 5-9 will be held from 9:00 AM – 10:15 AM, and Session Two for ages 10-14 will be held from 10:30 AM – 11:45 AM. The director of the camp is Kathy Ballard, art teacher at DePue Schools. Kathy has an extensive background in art instruction and is planning a wide variety of art experiences for the children, including drawing, painting, paper arts, working with clay and just having fun creating artistic projects. At the end of the camp, there will be a show of the children's artwork in the Prairie Arts Center gallery.

The two week camp is funded in part by the Sun foundation, the Illinois Arts Council and the Prairie Arts

Council. There will be a \$10 fee per camper to cover the cost of snacks and materials.

Registration for the two-week camp will be held on June 3rd from 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM at the Prairie Arts Center which is located at 24 Park Avenue in Princeton. There will be a maximum of twelve campers per session so that individualized instruction and projects can be maximized. If you have any questions about the summer art camp at the Prairie Arts Center, please contact Kathy Ballard at 815 879-5531.



**Kathy Ballard - PAC
Art Camp Director**

Godspell *continued* *from Page 2*

Jesus, John the Baptist, and Judas Iscariot. Everyone else's character is referred to by the actors' first names. This makes the casting flexible. It also means that casting will be done by song rather than by spoken word. A chorus CAN exist in this show, for those who are uncomfortable with solos.

Auditions are scheduled for May 15 at 7:30 PM and May

20 at 3:00 PM in the PAC theater and are open to young people from ages 13-college age. For the audition, either prepare a song that shows your range, or you may sing "America the Beautiful." Check out the PAC website for details (www.theprairieartscouncil.org). High school and college aged actors who cannot attend the scheduled audition times are requested to email Hamilton at theater@theprairieartscouncil.org to make other audition arrangements. Performances will be August 2-5.

PAC'S Continuing Support of Emerging Performers

PAC was pleased to host Jared Bartman and Gabe Liebowitz, frontman of Chicago-based alt-country band, Dastardly, along with string quartet "20,000 Leagues Under The String Quartet", on April 23rd, as the first stop on their tour through Illinois, Ohio, Indiana, Iowa, and Wisconsin.

PAC is proud to help launch and encourage these young artists and performers.

Follow Jared and company on his website www.jaredbartman.com

The 2012 Board of Directors:

Interim President - Deb Young
Vice President - Jamie Bickett
Secretary - Daniel Acker
Treasurer - Robert Davidson

Hope Browning, Goldie Currie, David Gorenz, Pam Hanson, Julie McCutchan, and Tammy Tieman

PAC Membership Update

Membership renewal letters and forms have been sent out. We hope you will take this opportunity to renew and support Prairie Arts Council. Your time, talent and financial support for the arts make a difference in our community.

(See the membership form on the next page.)

Thank You to Our Loyal Volunteers!

Danny Conner, Mike Vaughn, Guy Marella, Esther Tracy, John and Mary Damon, Judy Carlson, Kathy Clark, Jeff Schlesinger, Larry Smith, Barb Schwind, Sharon Peterson, Lou Brown, Gayle Grace, Joanne Swan, Jill Marti, Carol Dremann, Mary Michael, Ramona Wedding, Barb Schiff, Barbara LaVelle, Barry Mayworm, Lisa Stefani, Lynne Weber, Stephanie Cartwright, Betty Losey, Marcie Jagers, Vern Shaffer, Beth Anson, Diane VanDenBorre, Susan

Berry, Stephanie VanOrdstrand, Jon McCutchan, Susan Barlow, Linda McCabe, Audrey Monier, Karen May, Joan Marella, Hope and Gary Browning, Mary Ellen Dugosh, June Harmon, Kathy Ballard, Sue Cox, Bea Coates, Ramona Wedding, Joan Cichy, Kathy O'Malley, Ami Chamberlain, Linda Gustafson, and Chad Brokaw have all helped host and/or provide treats for our Gallery and opening receptions.

"Be what you would seem to be - or, if you'd like it put more simply - never imagine yourself not to be otherwise than what it might appear to others that what you were or might have been was not otherwise than what you had been would have appeared to them to be otherwise."

-Lewis Carroll, *Alice in Wonderland*



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

theprairieartscouncil.org



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 funded by the Illinois
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 Valley Fine Arts Trust
 and Sun Foundation

Upcoming Events

- Now - June 3 "Emerging Artists - The Future of Art" continues in the PAC Gallery
- June 3 1-4 p.m. - Registration for Children's Summer Art Camp
- June 11-22 Children's Summer Drama Camp
- June 25-29 Children's Summer Art Camp
- July 2-6 Children's Art Camp Continues
- July 9-20 Children's Summer Drama Camp
- Aug. 2-5 2012 Summer Youth Production: *Godspell*
- Aug. 10 - Denny Elliott at the Prairie Arts Center Gallery
 Sept. 2
- Aug. 10 5-7 p.m. - Opening reception for Denny Elliot Show
- Aug. 15 7 p.m. - Evening with Denny Elliot

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