



# prairie arts

The Newsletter of the Prairie Arts Council



## ‘Wonderland’ to warm holiday hearts

Need a reminder of what the holidays are all about? Prepare to “get schooled” by a multitude of fantasy creatures, elves, fairies, and a nasty queen and her dim-witted minions. The Theater Department of *the Prairie Arts Council* is reviving local playwright Rachel Gorenz’s original story “Wonderland” this November 15-17. The show will be performed at 7 p.m. Nov. 15-16, and at 3 p.m. Nov. 17.

The musical adventure takes the Baker family away from their woes about a dad who’s deployed in the military, and into a world of snow and fantasy to reclaim the joy of the season. Loaded with Christmas carol favorites including “Holly Jolly Christmas” and “Sleigh Ride,” “Wonderland” is sure to warm the heart of even the gruffest humbug.

Playwright Rachel Gorenz has again used her talents to tailor this tune-filled fantasy for a new group of child actors. Taking on the roles of the disheartened Baker family are Margarita Gomez (Mrs. Baker), Makayla Heller (Lizzie), Sabrina Bickett (Jacklyn) and Emma Roden (Emma). Breaking out of their favorite holiday book and transporting the kids to Wonderland are Cameron Tieman (Jolly), Henry Bengston (Zazzles), Margaret Moore (Violet), Brennan Roden (Cuddles), Cearra LaPlante (Sparkles), Vicki Tieman (Jingles) and Asia LaPlante (Rosalie). But things aren’t so easy when the group’s exploits are thwarted by the evil Nastina (Courtney Pointer) and her minions Niklas Schneider (Push) and Maggie Daluga (Shove).

**Tickets \$10/\$7  
Available by calling  
(815) 875-2787**

## Mini-Christmas Tree Fest expanded in fourth year

Come and enjoy the sights and sounds of Christmas as the Prairie Arts Council presents its fourth annual mini-Christmas tree festival! This year’s festival will feature a two-week-long event, including a day of children’s Christmas crafts, a Christmas concert presented by the Illinois Valley Flute Ensemble, and PAC’s first annual collectible hand-painted Christmas ornament.

### Opening Day

To kick off the event, please join us for an opening reception on at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Nov. 22. You will be among the first to

preview the wonderful display of mini-Christmas trees and Christmas wreaths in the gallery of the PAC. Each design is uniquely themed and decorated by local artisans and generously donated to help raise funds in support of community arts programming offered by the Prairie Arts Council. Raffle tickets for the trees and wreaths will be sold for \$2 each or three for \$5. Wine, punch and appetizers will be served throughout the evening.



Gallery open hours for the mini-Christmas tree festival are 10 a.m. to noon Wednesdays and 1 to 4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays, with extended hours from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 23, to coincide with the City of Princeton’s Christmas Open House.

■ See **MINI-TREES** Page 2

# Collectible ornaments to feature local landmarks

The Prairie Arts Council is pleased to announce its first collectible Christmas ornament sale to take place in conjunction with the mini-Christmas tree festival. Melody Best, artist and organizer of what is planned to be an annual sale, has made arrangements with local artisans to donate their time and talents in creating PAC's hand-painted collectible ornament. Based on the concept that each year a new ornament will be produced in a limited quantity and hand-painted to make a one-of-a-kind item, this will be an ornament that you will want to collect year after year. Each year a committee will select a different historic building or monument in Bureau County to commemorate for the ornament.



This year, however, two different historical sites in Bureau County have been selected because of their special circumstances. The first is the Red Covered Bridge, which commemorates its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. The second is the Soldiers and Sailors Monument, which commemorates its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year.

These limited-edition Christmas ornaments will be offered for sale during the mini-Christmas tree festival and throughout the year while supplies last. It's one more reason to visit the PAC this holiday season!

## ■ MINI-TREES From Page 1

The gallery will also be open Thanksgiving weekend, so be sure to bring your out-of-town guests to visit and view the mini-tree exhibit!

### **Flutopia! concert**

Join us at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6, as the Illinois Valley Flute Ensemble and *Flutopia!* Present "Christmas Around the World," a concert featuring international Christmas music as well as some familiar tunes from "The Nutcracker Suite." After the concert, join us in the gallery and indulge in some eggnog, flavored coffee, and other treats as you peruse the exhibit of decorated Christmas trees and wreaths and for another chance to purchase that winning ticket for your favorite Christmas decoration. No admission for the concert will be charged, but a \$5 donation is suggested.

### **Children's crafts**

Saturday, Dec. 7, Santa's helpers will be available to help children preschool age and older in making Christmas crafts to take home. This is a free event, and children are invited to attend from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The gallery will remain open until 4 p.m.

The mini-tree festival will continue through 3 p.m. Dec 8, when the drawing will take place for the winners of each raffle item. You do not need to be present to win.

## Flood recovery help needed

The Prairie Arts Council would like to gratefully acknowledge the following contributors for their generous donations to help recover costs incurred by replacing two furnaces at the Prairie Arts Center after flooding this past spring: Dave and Jone Booth, Mary Ella Rumley, Rex and Ami Chamberlain, and Patricia Rudzinski.

While these donations are greatly appreciated, we still need help recovering costs of over \$5,000 from the loss of our heating and air conditioning system. Remember, your donation is tax deductible.

-----  
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

*This money is to be designated as funds to recover costs incurred by replacing two furnaces at the Prairie Arts Center in Princeton.*

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_  
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## Our Mission

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



**Flutopia!**, a 25-member flute ensemble, will present "Christmas Around the World" on Dec 6 as part of the PAC's Mini-Christmas Tree Festival.



# Classes and Workshops

## Holiday Wreath Making Workshop

Can't find a Christmas wreath that suits your décor? Or the ones you like are just too expensive? Join us and learn the art of making your own Christmas wreath from scratch using an old wreath from Christmases past.

You, too, can create something beautiful for your home at half the cost of a store-bought one. Learn tips on how to use color schemes, floral picks, placement of ornaments, and bow making.

**Please bring your old wreath and any decorations you would like to include. Other supplies and decorations will be provided. There is a \$10 material fee payable to the instructor the night of the class. We are offering two alternative dates for the same class.**

*This class is taught by Jane Ousec of LaSalle, who is currently employed as a visual merchandiser and floral designer at Cattails in Utica.*

**One Session Tuesday, Nov. 5 6:30-8:30 p.m.**  
**Registration deadline: Nov. 1**

**One Session Tuesday, Nov. 12 6:30-8:30 p.m.**  
**Registration deadline: Nov. 8**

**Members: \$18 Nonmembers: \$22**



## Wine and Paint class

What could be better than an evening of wine, music and art, with YOU as the artist?

Enjoy one of our relaxed, entertaining painting sessions with family and friends, or come alone and meet new people. Consider attending as a way to celebrate a Ladies Night Out, an anniversary, a birthday, or entertaining an out-of-town guest.

Our instructor, Melody Best, will guide you through the featured painting of the evening and demonstrate some painting tricks and techniques. Each session will be different. **No experience**

**necessary!** A guaranteed fun evening with wine, snack and music, all of the painting materials will be provided. Everyone will finish a ready-to-frame painting to take home.



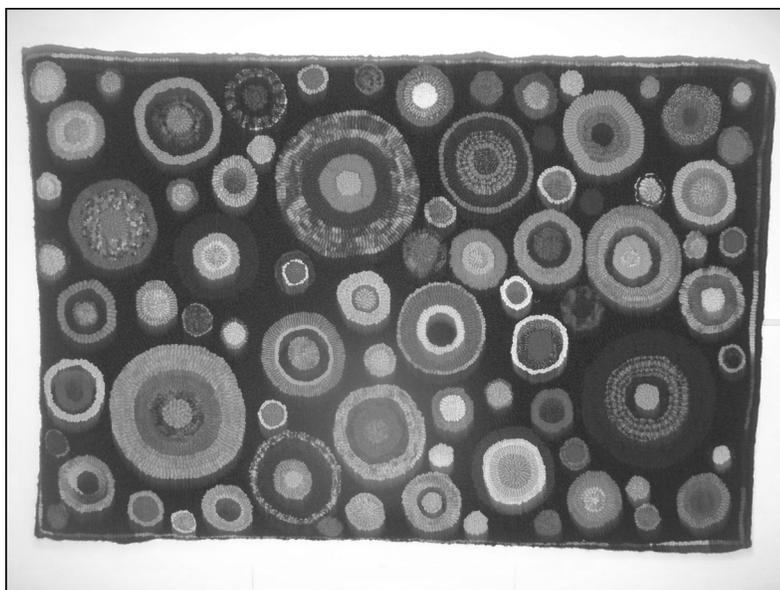
**One Session Wednesday, Nov. 6 6:30-9 p.m.**  
**Registration deadline: Nov. 2**  
**Members/Nonmembers: \$35**

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 Please check our website for periodic updates  
 on classes and activities at the PAC.  
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## 'Circles' to benefit PAC

A one-of-a-kind, hand-hooked wool rug, designed and created by Sandy Reiker, has been donated by the artist to be used as a raffle fundraiser for the Prairie Arts Council. Raffle tickets are \$2 each or three for \$5 and can be purchased at the Prairie Arts Center. Drawing for the winner will be held at the annual gala in February 2014.

This beautiful piece of art, titled "Circles," measures 22 x 32 inches and can be used as a wall hanging or as a floor mat. (Yes, don't be afraid to walk on it.) It will be a wonderful addition to any home, traditional or contemporary.



## Teachers show their 'Transitions'

Below, area art teachers exhibiting in *Transitions*, currently on display in the PAC gallery, include (in no particular order): Suzanne Shafer-Wilson, Sheila Heth, Mary Michael, Julie Jenkins, Carol Johnston, Judy Anderson, Karen Zeilman, Susan Berry, Wendy Frick, Cindy Smucker, Karen Kloplic, Dana Collins. Absent for photo are Linda Ribar and Joanne Bowman. At right, Linda Ribar's pottery is shown on display.



# Our Current Membership

### Single

Judy Anderson  
Delores Angel  
Lois Beaber  
Stephen Beatty  
Carol Bird  
Lou Brown  
Leigh Ann Bulthuis  
Lorrayne Cabral  
Harry Clucas  
N. Dana Collins  
Marie Etter  
Vicki Giehl  
Maria Gold  
Janet Grossman  
Barbara Hansen  
June Harmon  
Jan Heaton  
Hannah June Hultine  
Susan Jacobson  
Marjorie Johnson  
Helen Kenney  
Jordon LaFaucia  
Fran Lewis  
Jan Lohaus  
Paula Morrow  
Dr. Jon McCutchan  
Mary Michael  
Patricia Polson  
Betty Pretzsch  
Peggy Robinson  
Patricia Rudzinski  
Mary Ella Rumley  
Ethel Scruggs  
Cindy Smith  
Joy E. Schertz  
Roger Swanson  
Esther Tracy  
Diane VandenBorre  
Betty J. Wagner  
Angela Weddell  
Jeanette Wedding

Ramona Wedding  
Marilyn Weeks

### Family

Daniel and Gina Acker  
Judy Anderson  
Steven Barlow  
Fred and Melody Best  
Jim and Nancy Carlson  
Sandy and Joe Carpenter  
Rex and Ami Chamberlain  
Joan Cichy and Steve Lewkowycz  
Gary and Bea Coates  
John and Theresa Cotter  
Jacqui and Jack Coulter  
Doug and Sarah Criner  
Tom and Patty Daluga  
John and Mary Damon  
Bob and Cindy Davidson  
Gordon and Carol Dremann  
Dr. Gary and Marilyn Eckberg  
Denny and Cathy Elliott  
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Steve and Jan Esme  
Linda Fine  
John and Susan Garvin  
Charles and Linda Gebhardt  
Harry and Elaine Gerber  
Bertha Gorenz  
Stephen Gunning and Sarah Cooper  
Scott and Christina Heller  
Rick and Jane Holmbeck  
Harold and Jeanne Hutchinson  
Noah and Nina Irizarry  
Karl and Connie Johnson  
Doug and Muzzy Kann  
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Tim and Cheryl Kunkel  
Mike and Pam Lange  
Lloyd and Colleen LaPlank  
Judson and Ann Lusher  
Guy and Joan Marella

Andrew and Jill Marti  
Roger and Linda McCabe  
Jay and Mary Mickow  
Stephanie and Tony Morrow  
Terry and Sally Munson  
Jyl and Winnie Murphey  
Phillip and Elizabeth Nafziger  
Bruce and Anita Obenhaus  
Todd and Marcia Obenhaus  
Bill and Barb Ollila  
Dr. Ketan and Aparna Patel  
Kent and Barb Pellegrini  
Robert and Deb Russell  
Sam and Vikki Schiera  
Don and Barb Schiff  
Jack and Barb Schmitz  
Carolyn Preston and Marylou Shaffer  
John and Lynda Smith  
Larry and Christine Smith  
Wanda Stenzel  
Earl and Betty Sutliff  
Roger and Joanne Swan  
Ray and Cheri Swanson  
Dave and Sharry Taylor  
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Lou and Terri Zearing

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Terry and Deborah Madsen  
David and Judith Peterson  
Edward Burke and Fredericka Veikley  
Carolyn Workman

### Lifetime

Frank J. Rathje  
Hope and Gary Browning  
Bob and Marilyn Haslam

# Save the date!!

Put on your dancing shoes for when the Prairie Arts Center holds its annual gala on Saturday, February 15, 2014, at Harkrader Hall in Princeton.

The night will be filled with the music stylings of the dance band "Ivory Plus." There will be music, dancing, a silent auction by local artists, and a 50/50 raffle. Hors d'oeuvres and complimentary wine will be served. Save the date for a fun-filled evening for a good cause.

**Watch for details on how to attend in the January newsletter.** Grab your favorite Valentine for a special evening.



## WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS

The Prairie Arts Council is pleased to announce the addition of two new members to its board of directors. **Melody Best and Steve Esme**, both of Princeton, were recently welcomed onto the board by the existing directors. We look forward to working with Melody and Steve and seeing what interesting and exciting things they bring to the table.

Melody and Steve join the board comprising president Deb Young, vice president Jamie Bickett, secretary Dan Acker, treasurer Bob Davidson, and directors Hope Browning, Sue Garvin, David Gorenz, Pam Hansen, and Tammy Tieman.

## Thank you to our volunteers

The following people have donated their time, talents, or treasures for activities at the PAC in recent months: Jack Olson, Lou Brown, Beth Anson, Gayle Grace, Diane Vandenborre, Barb LaVelle, Ramona Wedding, Kami Hieronymus, Kay Telfer, Esther Tracy, Jill Marti, John and Mary Damon, June Harmon, Marjorie Johnson, Anna Roadhouse, Barb Schiff, Mary Ellen Dugosh, Lynne Weber, Stephanie Van Ordstrand, Jan Lohaus, Jan Esme, Theresa Cotter, Joanne Swan, Joanne Hutchinson, Cathy Elliott, Linda Ribar, Susan Berry, Cynthia Smucker, Karen Klopccic, Mary Michael, Kathy Ballard, Dana Collins, Karen Zeilman, Carol Johnston, Julie Jenkins, Sheila Heth, Judy Anderson. And a special thank you to Taylor's Trees and Turf.

### Thank you for supporting the PAC with your membership!

Your financial and volunteer support is vital to our arts programming.

Please return this form and remittance to:

Deb Young, Membership Chairman

24 Park Avenue East, Princeton, IL 61365

Make checks payable to Prairie Arts Council

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Business Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_  
 State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 \*E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

\*In an effort to "Go Green", the PAC would like to notify members of events using e-mail. If you would like to receive our newsletter and other event notifications through your e-mail, please fill out, or simply leave it blank.

\_\_\_ I still prefer to receive my newsletter by US postal service.

**I am willing to volunteer my time and talents. Please check all that apply:**

- |                                     |                                       |  |                                       |                                     |                                       |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Appetizers | <input type="checkbox"/> Mailing      | <input type="checkbox"/> Maintenance       | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership   | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> Publicity    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Baking     | <input type="checkbox"/> Programming  | <input type="checkbox"/> Photography       | <input type="checkbox"/> Painting     | <input type="checkbox"/> Sewing     | <input type="checkbox"/> Ticket Sales |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carpentry  | <input type="checkbox"/> Typing       | <input type="checkbox"/> Usher             | <input type="checkbox"/> Cleaning     | <input type="checkbox"/> Host       | <input type="checkbox"/> Graphic Arts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gardening  | <input type="checkbox"/> Fund-raising | <input type="checkbox"/> Web design/upkeep | <input type="checkbox"/> Rummage Sale | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater    |                                       |

\_\_\_ Artist/Fine Art Exhibitor. Please specify: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_ Performing Artist/Musician. Please specify: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_ Teaching. Please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

### Categories of Membership

<input type="checkbox"/> Student..... \$10	<input type="checkbox"/> Monetary Donation _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Single..... \$15	<input type="checkbox"/> Memorial Gift _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Family..... \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> in Memory of _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor..... \$50	
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron..... \$150	
<input type="checkbox"/> Corporate ..... \$300	



# Prairie Arts Council

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

[theprairieartscouncil.org](http://theprairieartscouncil.org)



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

## Upcoming Events

- Nov. 5, 12** Holiday wreath workshop, 6:30-8:30 p.m. in gallery
- Nov. 6** Wine and painting class, 6:30-9 p.m. in gallery
- Nov. 15-17** “Wonderland” Children’s Christmas Musical in theater, 7 p.m. Nov. 15-16; 3 p.m. Nov. 17.
- Nov. 22** 6:30 p.m. Gallery opening reception for Christmas Mini-Tree Festival
- Nov. 22-Dec. 8** Christmas Mini-Tree Festival in gallery, 10 a.m.-noon Wednesdays, 1-4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays; extended hours 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Nov. 23; open Thanksgiving weekend
- Dec. 6** *Flutopia!* Concert, 7 p.m. in theater
- Dec. 7** Children’s Christmas crafts, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. in gallery
- Feb. 15, 2014** Annual Gala — more information to come

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