

Fall 2015

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prairie arts

The Newsletter of the Prairie Arts Council

Gala 2015 "Our Founding Members"

It all started with a dream. A group of area residents wanted to promote arts in the community.

In 1995, John Henning, Ron McCutchan, Deb Puetz and the late Mary Win Walter Norris created an executive committee in the name of the Princeton Fine Arts Council. Their goal was modest: they wanted to help promote fine arts in any way, shape or form. From the first fundraiser, to present day, the group made their home in the Christian Science Church, 24 Park Avenue East in Princeton.

The "PAC" has evolved with a complete theater, gallery and facilities to host classes yearround. This year's Prairie Arts Council Gala will be dedicated to these four individuals with Special

Acknowledgment to Robert Russell for his help in forming the Corporation By-Laws and applying for the Not for Profit Status of the Corporation. Denise Gordon-Hoagland and Charles Gebhardt were enlisted as the first Secretary and Treasurer of the Corporation, each serving a three year term with outstanding dedication and commitment towards the success of the Corporation.

The Gala will be held Oct. 3 starting at 6 p.m. at 100 Acre Orchard. Tickets will cost \$30 at the door.

The evening will include a 6 p.m. registration with piano music by Charles Begeck. A buffet dinner along with complimentary wine will be served at 7 p.m.

After dinner a short program will be held to



honor the PAC's founding members. This program will include a showcase of singers that include Ron McCutchan, Rachel Gorenz-Johnson and Bill and Dorothy Nelson.

Highlights of the evening will include a raffle drawing for donated artwork and a separate 50/50 raffle. The 2015 Gala committee includes chairperson Sue Garvin, Steve Esme, MarySue Goldsmith, David Gorenz and Pam Hanson.

In our gallery....

Event Dates:

Friday, Oct. 2, 6:00 to 10:00pm

Saturday, Oct. 3, 1:00 to 4:00pm

Sunday, Oct. 4, 1:00 to 4:00pm

Wednesday, Oct. 7, 10:00am to 12:00pm

Saturday, Oct. 10, 1:00 to 4:00pm

Sunday, Oct. 11, 1:00 to 4:00pm

Wednesday, Oct. 14, 10:00am to 12:00pm

Saturday, Oct. 17, 1:00 to 4:00pm

Sunday, Oct. 18, 1:00 to 4:00pm

Wednesday, Oct. 21, 10:00am to 12:00pm

Saturday, Oct. 24, 1:00 to 4:00pm

Sunday, Oct. 25, 1:00 to 4:00pm



NEW WORK

The Prairie Arts Council will present a show of area art teachers' work in its gallery from October 2 through October 25. This is the fourth time the teachers have exhibited together. Thirteen artists will be exhibiting using a variety of mediums and materials to express ideas about their work. There will be photography, ceramics, mixed media works, paintings, pastels, assemblages, pen and ink, low-relief wall hangings and jewelry on display. Most of the work will be offered for sale during the show.

Show organizer Kathy Ballard states that "this time many artists in the show tried new mediums or completely different subject matter for their work. It was exciting to see them push their work forward to a higher level of expression, and to challenge themselves by creating art outside their comfort zones. This show should appeal to the public because of the variety of art work on display; and it will be nice to see what area art teachers are doing on their own when they are not in their classrooms with their students."

The opening reception will be October 2, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Prairie Arts Center Gallery. Visitors may talk with artists and enjoy wine, punch, and appetizers as they view the exhibit. Gallery hours for the show will be 1:00- 4:00 p.m. on Saturdays and 10:00-Noon on Wednesdays. The Prairie Arts Center is located at 24 Park Avenue East in Princeton.

In our theater...

Lecture series

“The Stolen Artwork of World War II” with Melonie Lewis. This first lecture, of a series of four, at the Prairie Arts Center will take place in the theatre on Wednesday, October 14 at 7:00 p.m.

Annual Children’s Production

CHRISTMAS BANISHED

PAC’s 2015 Community Theater Children’s Christmas Musical is titled *Christmas Banished*. Continuing an 11 year tradition, the show was written by PAC resident playwright Rachel Gorenz-Johnson, director of PAC’s Children’s Summer Drama Camp and Children’s Christmas shows. *Christmas Banished* was originally produced on the PAC stage in 2008; the script was adapted after auditions this year to accentuate the talents, skills, and abilities of this cast. As with previous years, the script was not completed until after auditions, so that many of the roles could be written to of the individual actors.

The show follows the travails of the Coalition of Holiday Cheer, a committee made up of the major holiday figures: Tom Turkey, Uncle Sam, Cupid, and others. Through the conniving of the malcontent Elf, Frost, the Coalition members come to believe that Santa Claus does not think that they deserve their own holidays. The Coalition votes to banish Santa and Christmas from the Coalition, setting in motion a fun filled chain of events including a makeover of Christmas (a desperate attempt by some loyal elves to save Christmas from extinction), the manipulation of Rudolph to become a singing partner with Suzie Snowflake, and Cupid letting loose his arrows during a climactic battle scene.

The cast of Christmas Banished includes:

Council of the Coalition of Holiday Cheer: Elves:

Father Time – Luke Bowen
Skippy – Cearra LaPlante
Hoppy – Niklas Schneider
Dentina – Bianca Lanham
Cupid – Ashten Wilson
Tom Turkey – Miles Bengtson
Uncle Sam – Keegan Fogarty
Jackie O’Lantern: Grace Busard

Frost – Libby Boyles
Bow – Chloe Sampson
Red – Henry Bengtson
Garnet – Alexis Jacobs
Evy – Abby Davis
Joy – Maggie Davis
Little Elf – Nora Schneider
Cute Elf – Josie Edelfson

Penguins:

Little Penguin – Camryn York
Cute Penguin – Krysten Walowski
Penny – Mia Bowen
Gwen – Makayla Heller
Winnie – Graycee Funderberg

Reindeer:
Rudolph – Christian Smith

Make over stylist and niece:

Madame Natale – Alexis Alt
Susy Snowflake – Brennan Roden

Chorus:

Joelle LaPlante
Maddison Oertel
Jordan VandeVenter
Kai Walowski
Payton Walowski

Christmas Banished will be performed in the PAC theater the weekend of December 4-5 at 7:00 p.m. and December 6 at 3:00 p.m.. Tickets will be \$10 for adults and \$7 for children 12 and under and seniors 60 and older. Watch the PAC website for further details.

In our gallery...



The sixth annual Christmas Mini-Tree Festival at the Prairie Arts Center will be held on Saturdays and Sundays from 1 to 4 pm. starting Nov. 21 – Dec. 5. An Opening Reception will be Nov. 20 from 6 to 8 pm.

The trees ranging from 18” to 36” tall are individually designed and uniquely decorated by local creative artists. A silent auction for these beautiful trees will be a fundraiser for the Prairie Arts Center. You do not have to be present to win. The lucky winners will have a lovely addition to their Christmas holiday. A new addition will be Centerpieces. Our newest ornament will be the Princeton Train Station.

Come, enjoy, and delight in the wonder and beauty of this Christmas Mini-Tree Festival. The application to participate is on page 4.

Event Dates:

Friday, Nov. 20, 6:00 to 8:00pm
Saturday, Nov. 21, 1:00 to 4:00pm
Sunday, Nov. 22, 1:00 to 4:00pm
Saturday, Nov. 28, 1:00 to 4:00pm
Sunday, Nov. 29, 1:00 to 4:00pm
Saturday, Dec. 5, 1:00 to 4:00pm

Collectible holiday ornament

The Prairie Arts Council Fourth collectible holiday ornament will be the historic Princeton Train Station. The ornament will be available for purchase at the Mini Tree Festival reception on Friday, Nov. 21.

Local artists have donated their time and talents to create the 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 it a one of a kind item.



In our theater...

Summer Camps

Drama Camp

This year marked the 13th Annual Children's Summer Drama Camp at the Prairie Arts Center. For two weeks in June, a morning and afternoon session, each containing 11 budding thespians in 3rd through 9th grade, learned about various aspects of theater, from stage makeup to set design and construction to performance techniques, all while preparing for their own productions, entitled *A Different Normal* and *After Happily Ever After*. The cast included Rachel Kirkpatrick and Maddie Hannon as Queen Claudia, Niklas Schneider and Jacob Hammell as Prince Cordial and Mr. Hornswaggle, Maggie Davis and Andrea Imsland as Tilly the Sprite, Mia Bowen and Sabrina Bickett as Princess Lily, Makayla Heller and Graycee Funderberg as Lady Kitty, Grace May and Audrey Nelson as Kate, Christian Smith and Lanie Hannon as Spot the Dog, Luke Bowen and Miles Bengston as Ferdinand Q. Flea, Henry Bengston and Ashleigh Huston as Flip, Kennedy Kloepping and Jordan Vandeventer as Cinderella, and Abby Davis and Isabella Ibarra as



Read through for *Christmas Banished* included (from left) Libby Boyles, Bianca Ianham, Chloe Sampson, Cearra LaPlante and Luke Bown.

Snow White. This year marked the final drama camp performances for Sabrina Bickett and Lanie Hannon, both longtime campers, who have now entered high school. Their growth as actors and as young women has been a delight to watch from year to year, and their talents will be greatly missed!

Art Camp



The annual PAC Summer Children's Art Camp was held in July this year. The camp was two weeks long and included a gallery showing of student's work on the last day. The camp was led by Kathy Ballard and Jill Marti.

In our gallery....

Mini tree application

PAC Christmas Mini-Tree Festival 2015

November 21 – December 5

Our Christmas Mini-Tree Festival would not be possible without talented people like you! If you (or one of your employees) are interested in entering a tree, wreath, or tabletop design in our festival of mini-trees, complete this form and return it by mail to the Prairie Arts Council, 24 Park Avenue East, Princeton, IL 61356 before November 7 to ensure inclusion into the Festival. Any questions may be directed to Pam Hanson at 815-915-3368 or by calling the Prairie Arts Council at 815-875-2787.

A designer is a creative individual or team who donates a tree, wreath or table top design to the Prairie Arts Council to be used as a silent auction item to help PAC raise funds in support of community arts programming. Judging will take place prior to the opening reception. All winners will be publicly announced. This is a good opportunity to get your business and design talents noticed.

As a designer, your tree is viewed by hundreds of attendees. Every design stays up the entire two weeks. If you incorporate lights into your design, be sure to use a new string of lights. We are not responsible if the lights burn out during the exhibit. We will take every step to make sure your design is properly presented. All designs must be submitted with a title and your name. All trees and wreaths will be presented with an identical name card for consistency in the display. ALL TREES SHOULD BE NO LARGER THAN 30 INCHES TALL! A limited supply of trees and wreaths to start your design are available from Prairie Arts Council at no charge and will be given on a first come, first serve basis.

When considering what to do for your tree, wreath, or tabletop design, please keep in mind that it should have a somewhat broad appeal while maintaining a themed uniqueness to attract as many buyers as possible.

The Prairie Arts Center will be open November 14 and 15 from 1-3 pm to receive all Designs. We cannot guarantee a proper space for your design after November 15.

All entries are welcome! There is no fee to enter.

Designer Entry Form

If you are interested in making a tree please complete this form and return it by mail to the Prairie Arts Council, 24 Park Avenue East, Princeton, IL 61356.

Prairie Arts Center will be open November 17 from 5-6:30 pm to receive all trees. Any questions please call the Prairie Arts Council at 815-875-2787 and leave a message. Thank you for your tree.

Contact Name _____

Name of Company/Organization (if designing for a company that would like the name to be listed) _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____ **e-mail** _____

I understand this design is a tax deductible donation and will be used to help PAC raise funds in support of community arts programming at the Prairie Arts Center.

Signature _____ **Date** _____

Our support system...

Thank-You Members!

Student

*Maye Martin
Single
 *Delores Angel
 *Susan Barlow
 *Rebecca Best
 *Carol Bird
 *Leigh Ann Bulthuis
 *Lorrayne Cabral
 *Harry Clucas
 *N. Dana Collins
 *David Cudlip
 *Marie Etter
 *Janet Grossman
 *June Harmon
 *Jan Heaton
 *Marty Hines
 *Susan Jacobsen
 *Marjorie Johnson
 *Lucille Kann
 *Pam Lange
 *Dr. Jon McCutchan
 *Mary Michael
 *Kathy Missel
 *Audrey Monier
 *Paula Morrow
 *Judy O'Brien
 *Donna Pfeiffer
 *Peggy Robinson
 *Joy E. Schertz
 *Ethel Scruggs

*Jack Schmitz/Sundance Gallery

*O.V. Shaffer
 *Roger Swanson
 *Esther Tracy
 *Diane Van Drew
 *Letizia Vangelisti
 *Jeanette Wedding
 *Ramona Wedding

Family

*Daniel and Gina Acker
 *Paul and Lou Brown
 *Tania and Aric Bowen
 *Belinda Brown
 *Jim and Nancy Carlson
 *Sandy and Joe Carpenter
 *Sarah Cooper and Steve Gunning
 *John and Theresa Cotter
 *Bill and Sue Cox
 *Dennis and Donna Dickson
 *Gordon and Carol Dremann
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 *Sara Edlefson
 *Dennis and Cathy Elliott
 *Mike and Jan English
 *Steve and Jan Esme
 *Charles and Linda Gebhardt
 *Vicki Giehl
 *John and Jeany Gewin

*Roger and Linda Gustafson
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 *Phil and Pam Kaufmann
 *Tim and Cheryl Kunkel
 *Mike and Pam Lange
 *Paul and Jan Lohaus
 *Guy and Joan Marella
 *Roger and Linda McCabe
 *Mert McIntosh
 *Jill and Andrew Marti
 *Patti Ann Moynihan
 *Terry and Sally Munson
 *Phillip and Elizabeth Naffziger
 *Todd and Marcia Obenhaus
 *Anita and Bruce Obenhaus
 *Bill and Barb Ollila
 *Dr. Ketan and Aparna Patel
 *Robert and Deb Russell
 *Sam and Vikki Schiera
 *Don and Barb Schiff
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 *John and Lynda Smith
 *Larry and Christine Smith
 *Tony and Donna Sorcic
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 *Dave and Sharry Taylor
 *Marcel and Diane VanDenBorre
 *Gene and Lisa Vincent

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 *Julia McCutchan
 *Jeanne Coulter O'Melia
 *Edward Burke and Fredericka Veikley
 *True Wahlgren
Ambassador
 *Greg and Marilyn Anthony
 *Chuck and Pam Hanson

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:

Appetizers Mailing Maintenance Membership Newsletter Publicity
 Baking Programming Photography Painting Sewing Ticket Sales
 Carpentry Typing Usher Cleaning Host Graphic Arts
 Gardening Fund-raising Web design/upkeep Rummage Sale Theater

____ Artist/Fine Art Exhibitor. Please specify: _____
 ____ Performing Artist/Musician. Please specify: _____
 ____ Teaching. Please specify: _____

Categories of Membership

Student..... \$10	Monetary Donation _____
Single..... \$15	Memorial Gift _____
Family..... \$25	in Memory of _____
Sponsor..... \$50	
Patron..... \$150	
Corporate \$300	



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

theprairieartscouncil.org



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the Illinois Arts Council,
Illinois Valley Fine Arts Trust,
and the Sun Foundation.

Calendar

Oct. 3 - "Founding Members" 2015 Gala

Oct. 2 - Opening night, 6 p.m. "Teachers Gallery"

Oct. 14 - "The Stolen Artwork of World War II", 7 p.m.

Oct. 2-25 "Teachers Gallery"

Nov. 7 - Mini Tree Festival deadline application

Nov. 21 - PAC Collectible Ornament sale

Nov. 21 - Dec. 5 Mini Tree Festival annual auction

Dec. 4-5, 7 p.m. / Dec. 6, 3 p.m. Children's Holiday show

Our Volunteers are the best!

Thank you to the following: Kathy Ballard, Vicky Giehl, Jean Gewin, Delores Angel, Marty Hines, Donna Pfeiffer, Kristina Giehl, Jan Heaton, Steve Esme, Pam Hanson, Kay Telfer, Mary Michael, Diane VanDenBorre, Ramona Wedding, Susan Barlow, Jeanne Hutchinson, Karen May, Jan Lohaus, Tracy Boylan, Joan Cichy, Jack Olson, Gayle Grace, Linda McCabe, Ami Chamberlain, Marilyn Anthony, Julie McCutchan, Kathy O'Malley, Sue Garvin, Mary Sue Goldsmith, Lisa Vincent, Anna Roadhouse, Stephanie Van Ordstrand, Diane Van Drew, Lynne Weber, Sharon Peterson, Joanne Swan, Melody Best