

# Summer 2016

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## prairie arts

The Newsletter of the Prairie Arts Council

# PAC to host Block Party



The Prairie Arts Council is pleased to announce its first annual BLOCK PARTY which will take place on August 19th from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Prairie Arts Center, 24 Park Avenue East in Princeton.

Vince Gelsomino and his band, LEGENZ, will be the featured entertainment. Gelsomino has been a professional trumpet player and performer for 40 years and is well-known throughout the area. Band

members include Gelsomino, trumpet; Jimmy Blucker, keyboard; Dewaine Ellis, tenor saxophone; Brian Weber, percussionist and Tommy Rose, vocals and bass guitar. Dancers will have the

opportunity to dance to the music of classic Rock and Roll icons from the 50's, music legends from the swing era and music from the 60's and 70's. The Prairie Arts Center Art Exhibit will also be open for

viewing. Attendance is free and soft drinks and snacks will be available. All donations from that evening will support the Prairie Arts Council Scholarship Fund.

# *In our theater...*

## The Eulenspiegel Puppet Theatre Company to present Workshops and Performances

The Eulenspiegel Puppet Theatre Company of West Liberty Iowa will perform at the Prairie Arts Center, Oct. 15. The Eulenspiegel Puppet Theatre is a company organized to promote the art of puppetry by producing and presenting high-quality performances and workshops. The group will present "Freedom Star, Gertie's Journey on the Underground Railroad." Using nearly life-size hand-held puppets, rod puppets, shadow puppets and hand-dyed scenery, the Company will tell a dramatic and moving story based on local history of a

young girl who escapes from a farm in Missouri and makes her way through Iowa on her way to freedom. A beautiful and exciting play, the story educates while entertaining by using specific local and regional historical references, including information about John Brown during the years he spent in Iowa and traveled back and forth to Kansas. The production includes live music with topical songs written and played by Ron Hillis, an Iowa musician. To see a clip of their performance, visit <http://www.puppetspuppets.com/shows/>

[freedom-star-gertie-s-journey-on-the-underground-railroad/](#).

There will be two perfor-

mances on October 15 in the Prairie Arts Council Theater at 2:00 and 5:00 p.m. The Eulenspiegel Puppet

Theatre Company has also agreed to run two workshops demonstrating the art of puppetry that morning at 10:30 and 11:30 a.m. The ticket price for both the performances and workshops will be \$10.00. Performance tickets will be sold at the the Prairie Arts Center and at the door prior to each performance; however, because the workshops are restricted in size, reservations must be made prior to October 15th by calling the Prairie Arts Center-(815) 875-2787. The Prairie Arts Center is located at 24 Park Avenue East in Princeton.

### **John Brown's Journey History Through Puppetry**



John Brown's journey is a dramatic retelling of actual events that happened in the southern half of Iowa and in Kansas in 1858 and 1859.

Hannah Miller is the fictional owner of the local cafe, the Traveler's Rest, a cafe that actually existed in Springdale and was frequented by John Brown.

The show starts as she receives news of Brown's death.

She shares the news with his donkey, Jack, who stayed behind in Springdale when Brown left to perpetrate the raid on the U.S. armory in Harper's Ferry. The show consists of flashbacks played out with shadow puppets and rod puppets, showing the winter journey with the escaped slaves and the training of John Brown's militia in Springdale, Iowa. Some of the scenes take place in the cafe as customers read from actual newspaper accounts of the era.

# *In our gallery....*

## PAC awards Annual Art Scholarships



*(The 2016 PAC Scholarship winners included from left) : Sheila Heth, Art Teacher, Bureau Valley High School; Savanna Bell; Steve Esme, President, Prairie Arts Council; Hannah Erickson; Linda Ribar, Art Teacher, Princeton High School (Photo Contributed)*

The Prairie Arts Council has awarded prizes in its 2016 Art Scholarship Competition. The winner of the \$1,000.00 Scholarship is Savanna Bell, a graduate of Bureau Valley High School. Her high school art teacher was Mrs. Sheila Heth. Bell will attend Illinois Valley Community College this fall, working toward

her Bachelor's degree in Art. The jurors were impressed by her proficiency in a variety of media, and the sense of animation she achieved in many different artistic approaches. The First-Place Runner-Up is Hannah Erickson, a graduate of Princeton High School and student of Mrs. Linda Ribar. She will attend Lewis

and Clark College in Portland, Oregon, working toward a major in Rhetoric and Media Studies with a minor in Art. Hannah will receive a \$200 award. The jurors noted her consistent achievement of excellence in many media, and particularly her creativity and technical excellence in pottery and drawing.

Competitors were judged by the submission of original works. These were evaluated by a panel of jurors on the basis of overall quality, involving artistic content, originality, and excellence of execution. Steve Esme, President of the Prairie Arts Council, presented the awards. He said, "The Prairie Arts

Council is committed to promoting all the arts in the area, and these two young artists are a fine example of what we are all about." He added, "The art teachers have brought out the best in these students and they all deserve this recognition." Competition director N. Dana Collins stated, "The jurors were very impressed by the high level of artistic quality represented in the scholarship applicants. We hope to show their work along with future art scholarship recipients in coming years at the Prairie Art Center. We look forward to showing our community the wonderful efforts of our many outstanding art students."

# *In our gallery....*

## First Fall Gallery of 2016 “Illinois Scenes and Other Inspirations” by Rachel Brisbois now through September 4

The PAC will kick off the fall season with a gallery show by Racheal Brisbois, now through September 4. Brisbois is a self-taught artist born in Chicago. She inherited much of her creativity from her family's diverse and extensive artistic history. Rachel's aim is to paint thought-



provoking subjects that beautify an otherwise transparent world. Although she dabbles

in various mediums, her paintbrush finds comfort in acrylic paints and ink. The artist prefers the fast-drying nature of acrylic but enjoys the diluted blending that power ink renders. She usually finds her inspiration in the works of classical artists such as Claude Monet, Pablo Picasso

and Leonardo Da Vinci. Brisbpos has shown her work at the Ottawa Art League, August Hill Winery, The Paint Box Gallery and many other locations. For further information, please call (815) 875-ARTS (2787) or visit [www.http://prairiearts.org](http://prairiearts.org).

## “Art in Agriculture” premieres September 9

In cooperation with the Bureau County Historical Society, the PAC presents “Art in Agriculture” September 9 to October 2. The exhibit will feature

art and artifacts from the Historical Society Collection, inspired by the farming tradition in Bureau County. This exhibition of rarely seen farming

implements and folk art explores the relationship to living and working on the agricultural landscapes that surround us. Visitors will see antique farm

equipment, historical photos, paintings and drawings created by local residents in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

## “Liquid Conversion” is featured October 7 to 30

The Prairie Arts Council announces its October exhibit “Liquid Conversion” featuring Linda Von Holten. An Illinois native, Von Holten has drawn from her rich and varied life experiences to work

full time as a creative artist. This has led to the formation of her business, Artwork by LVH, which was established in 2013. Her current work is primarily in acrylics, traversing a range of surfaces, subjects and

styles. These include paintings generated as solo pieces or as parts of a visual series. Through “Liquid Conversion” Von Holten puts forth the idea that “As the paint flows, blends, and dries to create change on the surface, it

gathers the power to ultimately create change within the viewer.”

### **Thank You**

Thanks go out from the PAC to the families of Paul Brown, Gail Bonucci and Gary Coates for their donation to the Scholarship Fund.



# Thank you for supporting the Prairie Arts Council 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 61356

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 by e-mail, please include your e-mail address or simply leave it blank.

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

## Categories of Membership

____ Student.....\$15	____ Ambassador.....\$300
____ Individual.....\$25	____ Corporate.....\$500
____ Family.....\$35	____ Benefactor.....\$1000
____ Associate.....\$60	____ Donation _____
____ Sponsor.....\$100	____ Memorial Gift _____
____ Patron.....\$150	in Memory of _____

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

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

\_\_\_\_ Artist/Fine Art Exhibitor. Please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Performing Artist/Musician. Please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Teaching. Please specify: \_\_\_\_\_

As a member of the Prairie Arts Council, we value your ideas and suggestions. What programs would you like to see offered at the Prairie Arts Center?  more art classes for adults/children     more musical concerts     more theater     other suggestions (please use the space below)



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.

## Calendar

Aug. 12 to Sept. 4 -- Rachel Brisbois Exhibit Gallery  
Aug. 19 --Block Party with Vince Gelsomino & Lendgenz  
Aug. 20 --Homestead event at PAC - (See page 7 for details)  
Sept. 9 -- Oct. 2 Art in Agriculture Exhibit Gallery  
Sept. -- Children's Holiday Show tryouts  
Oct. 7 to 30 -- "Liquid Conversion Exhibit Gallery  
Oct. 15 -- Eulenspiegel Puppet Theatre  
Nov. & Dec. -- Christmas Tree Mini Festival  
Dec. 2, 3 & 4 -- Children's Holiday Show

## PAC Board

Steve Esme - President    Mary Sue Goldsmith - Vice  
President    Sue Garvin - Secretary    Bob Davidson  
- Treasurer    Pam Hanson - volunteers Coordinator  
Tammy Tieman - Board Member    Melody Best - Art  
Gallery Director    David Gorenz - Theater Director  
Fred Best - Publicity    True Wahlgren - Board  
Member

# *In our theater...*

## **Fractured Fairy Tales the Theme of Children's Summer Camp**

This year, 30 children participated in the PAC annual drama camp. Each camp selected the name for their show. June a.m. was "Revenge of the Rhymes." The afternoon campers chose

"Rage of the Rhymes." July's title was "Pop goes the Weasel." In the show, unhappy nursery rhyme characters capture Mother Goose to get revenge for wrongs that they perceived she

had done them (for example creating blind mice whose tails were cut off and the Fork who could not marry the Spoon because the dish ran away with her). Through a series of misadventures

culminating in a Masked Ball, the characters learn about each other and, of course, eventually live happily ever after (or at least, the good ones do). The campers experienced many theater

activities including theater games, improvisation, costumes, and make-up. One of the highlights of this year's camp was each camper made a mask to attend the Mother Goose Ball, a scene in the play.

# *In our gallery...*

## **Summer Fun for Kids at PAC Art Camp**

Twenty-seven students attended PAC summer art camp. The younger classes, ages 6 through 9, focused on the theme "Hit the Beach." Clay fish were created, coffee filters became jellyfish, rain-bow fish were woven and landscapes were painted. The older class

created bowls at Annie's Little Pots as well as mystical clay creatures. Beer bottle caps were the media for one creation, and photos, magazine pictures and letters formed the basis of a collage. Kathy Ballard and Jill Marti led the group for two weeks. Camp culminated in a gal-



lery showcase on July 3 for families and friends. Many thanks to parents who sup-

plied snacks, to Morganne Johnson for her work as assistant in the younger class-

es, and to the Princeton Optimist Club for sponsoring the trip to Annie's.

# *Our Support System ...*

## **INDIVIDUAL**

Delores Angel  
George Benedett  
Carol Bird  
Lou Brown  
Leigh Ann Bulthuis  
Lorrayne J. Cabral  
Bea Coates  
N. Dana Collins  
Jacqui Coulter  
Marie Etter  
Janet Grossman  
June Harmon  
Jan Heaton  
Marty Hines  
Susan Jacobson  
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Fran Lewis  
Jan Lohaus  
Jill Marti  
Jon McCutchan  
Mary Michael  
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Marcia Roberts  
O.V. Shaffer  
Tony Sorcic  
Roger H. Swanson  
Esther Tracy  
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Marilyn Weeks  
Jeanette Wedding  
Ramona Wedding  
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## **FAMILY**

Daniel and Gina Acker  
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Jim and Nancy Carlson  
Joe and Sandy Carpenter  
Sarah Cooper and  
Steve Gunning  
John and Theresa Cotter  
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Dennis and Donna Dickinson

Carol and Gordon Dremann  
Sara Edlefson  
Dennis Elliott  
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Vicki Giehl  
Dr. Gary and Marilyn Eckberg  
Roger and Linda Gustafson  
Scott and Christina Heller  
Jim and Sue Howard  
Harold and Jeanne Hutchinson  
Tim and Cheryl Kunkel  
Mike and Pam Lange  
Judson and Ann Lusher  
Roger and Linda McCabe  
Jay Mickow  
Tony and Sephanie Morrow  
Terry and Sally Munson  
Phillip and Elizabeth Naffziger  
Bruce and Anita Obenhaus  
Bill and Barbara Ollila  
Dr. Timothy J. Puhr  
Bob and Deb Russell  
Sam and Vikki Schiera  
Barbara Schiff  
Jack and Barb Schmitz /  
Sundance Gallery  
John and Lynda Smith  
Roger and Joanne Swan  
Dave and Sharry Taylor  
Marcel and Diane Van Den Borre  
Gene and Lisa Vincent  
Alan and Lynne Weber

## **ASSOCIATE**

Susan Barlow  
Joann Bowman  
Ed Council and Bridget McManus  
John and Susan Garvin  
Gayle Grace  
Dr. Ketan and Aparna Patel  
Anna Roadhouse  
Patricia M. Rudzinski  
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## **PATRON**

Kathy Ballard  
Mary C. Dorsch (in memory of  
Dick Dorsch)  
Charlie Gebeck  
David and Shelly Gorenz  
Betty Ann Losey  
Julie McCutchan  
Jeanne C. O'Melia  
David and Judith Peterson  
Edward Burke and  
Fredericka Veikley  
True Walhlgren

## **AMBASSADOR**

Greg and Marilyn Anthony  
Chuck and Pam Hanson

*The Prairie Arts Council welcomes the Bureau County Homestead Festival annual fundraiser on Saturday, August 20, 2016. A talent showcase, "Glory Days", will be performed at the Prairie Arts Center, 24 E. Park Ave. in Princeton. The entertainment kicks off with a lawn party at 6 pm, followed by a concert at 7:30 featuring local talent. Scheduled to perform are Phil Kaufmann, Tara Kunkel, Marlee Wilde, Charlie Gebeck, Sarah Nelson Brooks, Faustina and Justus Bystry, and Dorothy and Bill Nelson. Tickets are \$20 each. For reservations, call 815-875-2118, or email: bandnels@yahoo.com. Early reservations are suggested, as seating is limited.*

# *This & that...*

## Thank You to our Volunteers

March through August volunteers include:	Hanson, Mary Sue Goldsmith, Sue Garvin, Julie McCutchan, Diane Van Drew, Lynne Weber, Tracy Boylan, Jan Heaton, Jan & Steve Esme, Mary	Sue Goldsmith, David Gorenz, Melody Best, Julie McCutchan <b>Hosts:</b> Anna Roadhouse, Jack Olson, Karen May, Barry Mayworm, Matt Kaufman, Gayle	Grace, Roger Swanson, Diane VanDenBorre, Lisa Vincent, Kay Telfer, Mary Michael, Mary Damon <b>Gardening:</b> Steve & Jan Esme, Bob	Davidson, Sue Garvin, Mary Sue Goldsmith, Fred Best, Pam & Chuck Hanson <b>Theater:</b> Jill Marti, Kevin Glover, Kathy Ballard, Dixie Schroeder
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## Upcoming Events in the PAC Theater

- The annual Children's Theater Holiday Play tryouts will be in September. The play is Dec. 2-4. Watch our website for more details.
- Work is under way for the fall adult production "Kitchen Witches." Julie Grady and Jill Marti return as 2 middle aged women on cooking shows produced in a low budget public tv station. Mortal enemies since days long past, Izzy and Dolly share a kitchen, a lot of baggage, and a secret. Hilarity ensues as they have a fight on set and ratings go through the roof. Producer Stephen (Andy Strickler) must referee as the two combine talents and point talons to create a new show "Kitchen Witches." Please check the website as dates and times have not been set.