



Press Release

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Community Theatre Announces Packed October Schedule Fall Break Drama Camp for 6 to 10 year olds

“October is a busy month for Silver City Community Theatre starting off with Fall Break Drama Camp,” says Silver City Community Theatre (SCCT) Artistic Director, Wendy Spurgeon. “Registration is now open for a small group of students ages 6-10 who will take imaginary trips to six different continents in an engaging week of drama skills and exploration. They will learn about different countries and how stories change from culture to culture.

“The Drama Camp will take place during local schools fall break: beginning Monday, October 10th through Friday the 14th, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Oasis Coffee and Tea House, 714 N. Bullard St, downtown Silver City, NM.”

According to Spurgeon, who was also the founding teacher of the Oregon Conservatory of Performing Arts, “Students will offer a showcase performance of what they've learned over camp week on Saturday, October 15th to an invited audience of family and friends.

“The last day to register is October 7th, 2022. For information about tuition and scholarships, a preview of the schedule and curriculum, or other questions contact Wendy Spurgeon at wendy@silvercitycommunitytheater.com.

Also in October: 12 Angry Jurors

“‘12 Angry Jurors’ is essentially Reginald Rose's 1957 play ‘Twelve Angry Men’ with a few cast adjustments to bring the jury into the 21st century,” according to Phyllis McQuaide, long-time SCCT actor and director, who is now rehearsing ‘12 Angry Jurors’ for performances in late October. “There are twelve unique jurors and one court guard played by the finest actors in Silver City! And I have the excellent assistance of our Stage Manager, Heather Silver.

When asked about her experience McQuaide shared, “I’ve been involved with Community Theatre as an actor, director and stage manager since the year 2000 both here in Silver City and in Mid-Coast Maine. I’ve performed in musicals (Oliver), dramas (Marjorie Prime) and comedies (Odd Couple, female version) to name a few. Although I truthfully enjoy performing in comedies the most... I am really looking forward to directing twelve excellent actors in ‘12 Angry Jurors’! I assume most of

people are familiar with our cast. My husband, Jim McQuaide, is playing the court guard. Gay Hedges plays the Foreperson. The other cast member jurors are Lisa Timmons, Chellee Chase, Mike Iacono, Terri Sankovitz, Michael Bragg, Sarah Thrasher, Emma Eileen McKinley, Aiken Maciain, Melvyn Gelb, Billy Dominguez, and last but not least, Ted Pressler.

“‘Twelve Angry Men’ is a 1960s drama adapted by Sherman L. Sergel, in three acts, and based on the Emmy award-winning television movie by Reginald Rose initially presented at Studio One, CBS-TV. In the words of Dramatic Publishing, “A 19 year-old man has just stood trial for the fatal stabbing of his father. ‘He doesn’t stand a chance,’ mutters the guard as the 12 jurors are taken into the bleak jury room. It looks like an open-and-shut case – until one of the jurors begins opening the others’ eyes to the facts. ‘This is a remarkable thing about democracy,’ says the foreign-born juror, “that we are notified by mail to come down to this place – and decide on the guilt or innocence of a person; of a man or woman we have not known before. We have nothing to gain or lose by our verdict. We should not make it a personal thing.’ But personal it is, with each juror revealing his or her own character as the various testimonies are re-examined, the murder is re-enacted and a new murder threat is born before their eyes!”.... is just the beginning of what unfolds.”

Showtimes are Thursday, October 20th – Sunday, Oct 23 and Thursday, October 27th - Sunday, October 30th at Oasis Coffee and Tea House, 714 N. Bullard St., Silver City.

Halloween Eve Listening Party: The War of the Worlds

“Lastly in October, and how fun, a Listening Party at Oasis Coffee and Tea House (714 N. Bullard St., Silver City) of SCCT’s recording of Orson Well’s ‘The War of the Worlds’,” said Wendy Spurgeon, Artistic Director of Silver City Community Theatre (SCCT). “We recorded this before a live audience at the SILCO Theatre in early September. Originally it was so realistic many people panicked and some even fled their homes when it aired. We’ve recreated the show for its 84th Anniversary ...hopefully with a lot of excitement, but less panic, to air on KURU/GMCR 98.1 FM on October 30th on our regularly scheduled 5 p.m. SCCT Radio Hour.

“‘The War of the Worlds’ was a Halloween episode of the radio series The Mercury Theatre on the Air, directed and narrated by Orson Welles as an adaptation of H.G. Well’s novel of the same name. It was broadcast live at 8 pm on October 30, 1938, over CBS radio network. It was so unusual and realistic; many listeners are said to have panicked and even fled, said Spurgeon.

“‘The War of the Worlds’ Listening Party is for both the cast and community, so come downtown and meet the voices at The OASIS Tea & Coffee House, 714 N. Bullard St. A \$5 donation is requested at the door and, of course, costumes are encouraged!” according to Spurgeon. “It was a big cast. There were actually 26 characters performed by 12 voice actors. Doug Abbott, who played Professor Pierson as well as Orson Welles, is well known to Silver City audiences as is Gregg Jarrette, who recently portrayed SCCT’s Sam Spade.”

If you can’t join us at the Oasis, please tune in to “KURU/GMCR 98.1 FM, your local voice and a choice.

November and December will be fun too!

In a parting comment Spurgeon noted, “Mark your calendars for the upcoming production of ‘The Giver’, a 2-act play adapted by Eric Coble, based upon Lois Lowry’s 1993 novel about a boy about to turn 12 who lives in a dystopian world, a society free of crime, sadness, and choices. ‘The Giver’ will be performed at the Oasis Coffee and Tea House the weekends of November 3rd and 10th. And to end the year join us for SCCT’s Holiday Fundraiser on December 16th at the Commons! Be on the lookout for more information.”

Find us at: silvercitycommunitytheater.com, facebook and instagram

Silver City Community Theatre, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, is committed to promoting community-based performing arts opportunities for residents of Southwest New Mexico in all aspects of theatre – behind the scenes, lighting and sound, publicity, acting, costuming and makeup – including voice acting for radio and recording. SCCT’s objective is to enrich, educate, and entertain with a vibrant range of training and live performing experiences year around.

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