

SUMMER 2010

WHAT'S INSIDE:

Exhibits coming to the PAC Gallery in the next few months.

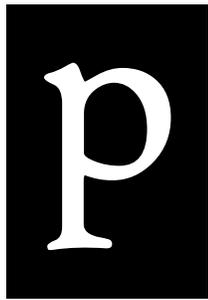
Improv Event sponsored by PAC coming to PHS in Sept.

Drama Camp has three sessions full of young performers.

PAGE 2

PAGE 3

PAGE 4



# prairie arts

*theater • music • literature • art*

The newsletter of the Prairie Arts Council

## “The Thinks You Can Think” When *Seussical* is at the PAC Theater July 22-25, 2010

The Prairie Arts Council presents a Community Theater production of *Seussical* on Thursday, July 22, Friday, July 23, and Saturday, July 24 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, July 25 at 3:00 p.m.

*Seussical* is a musical adaptation of several Dr. Seuss (Theodor Seuss Geisel) books including: *The Cat in the Hat*, *Horton Hears a Who*, *Horton Hatches the Egg*, and several others.



*The Thinks You Can Think with the Seussical Cast*

The cast of *Seussical* includes: Rachel Gorenz as Cat in the Hat, Jeff Kalina as Horton, Ryan Friel as JoJo, Maryssa Switzer as Gertrude, Adriana Ladage as Mayzie, Zach Nissen as Mr. Mayor, Kenzie Bickett as Mrs. Mayor, Allison Puetz as Sour Kangaroo, Sabrina Bickett as Young Kangaroo, Pete Hamilton as Gen. Ghengis Khon Schmitz/ Yertle the Turtle, and Elizabeth Lundeen as The Grinch/ Vlad Vladikoff.

The Bird Girls Singers are played by Cheriz Kunkel, Taylor Jensen, and Amanda Morrow. The Wickersham Brothers are played by Aaron Kaufmann, Brendan Coughlin, Abigail Bickett, and Nicolas Warren.

The Whos/Cadets/Fish will be played by Amelia Bystry, Justus Bystry, Jacob Leach, Ariel Rose, Stefanie Obenhaus, and Kazia Holmstrom.

Director is Chad Brokaw, Musical Director is Dane Suarez, and the producer is Cheriz Kunkel.

Much like the choice to produce *Oliver!* earlier this year, *Seussical* was chosen to help promote Princeton KidLit. KidLit will be a family event encompassing all aspects of children's literature and will emphasize the importance and fun of reading. It will take place on South Main Street in Princeton on Saturday, Sept. 25 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Tickets for *Seussical* are \$8.00 and are available at the Prairie Arts Center Box Office on Sun., Mon., and Fri. from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. For ticket information, please contact Cheriz Kunkel at 815-876-6442.



July 22-25, 2010  
Prairie Arts Center Theater

## Denny Elliott Retrospective featured in the PAC Gallery during August

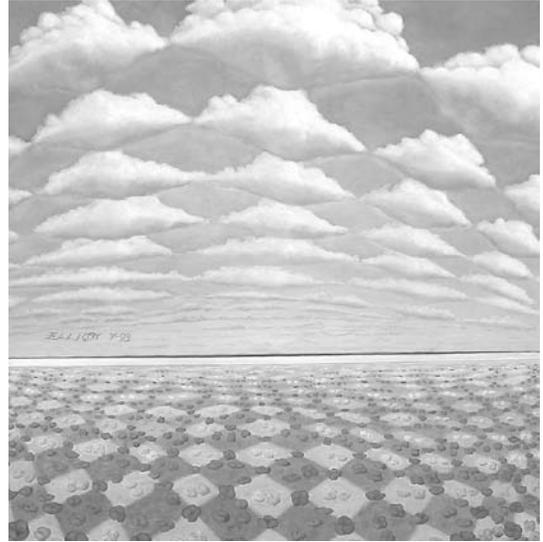
The Prairie Arts Council is proud to present the Art Retrospective 2010 show of local artist Denny Elliott in the Prairie Arts Center Gallery from Friday, Aug. 6 – Sunday, Aug. 28.

A First Friday Opening Reception will be held and open to the public on Friday, Aug. 6 from 5-7 p.m. with wine and appetizers and a chance to view the exhibit. The show will be open on Saturdays and Sundays from 1-4 p.m. and on Wednesday evenings from 6-8 p.m. On Wed. Aug. 11 at 7 p.m., Elliott will be hosting an “Evening with the Artist,” a chance to discuss the works with the artist himself.

Elliott is a Princeton native who, as a child, became fascinated with drawing on a chalk board, penciling on scrap paper and doodling anything that he saw or things that he imagined. With encouragement from his parents, friends and teachers, his fascination with visual art became his vocation and motivation throughout his life.

Elliott has worked at MTM/Josten’s for the past 42 years. In this career, he mastered many artistic aspects of hand engraving, stone setting, lost wax casting, manufacturing art and product illustration as a field artist, art trainer, and

senior and lead designer. He has been involved in the production of a variety of special products such as Super Bowl rings.



*One of the many works from Denny Elliott that will be on display in the PAC Gallery Aug. 6-28.*

In addition to his professional art work, Elliott excels at drawing, oil painting, bronze casting, logo design, etching/engraving, wood and bronze sculpture and murals.

PAC Gallery Hours: Sat. and Sun. 1-4 pm, Wed. 6-8 pm, or by appointment.

### **PAC Gallery Needs Your Help for September’s Exhibit!**

The Prairie Arts Council is requesting your help in providing the artwork for the September 3rd - September 19th gallery show featuring the artwork of Mary Win Norris. We are asking to borrow some of Mary Win’s paintings to display for this show.



Mary Win’s family will also be providing several paintings as well. We hope to be able to fill the gallery with a variety of the paintings that Mary Win has created over the years

and need the help of the community to be able to make this special show possible.

We have specifically scheduled this show so that it will be open during the annual Homestead Festival, and we would also like to be able to honor Mary Win and her artistic achievements over

the years. If you would be willing to temporarily lend one of Mary Win’s paintings that you own for this show, please contact Linda Gustafson (815 872-9181 or [rlgus@comcast.net](mailto:rlgus@comcast.net)). Thank you!



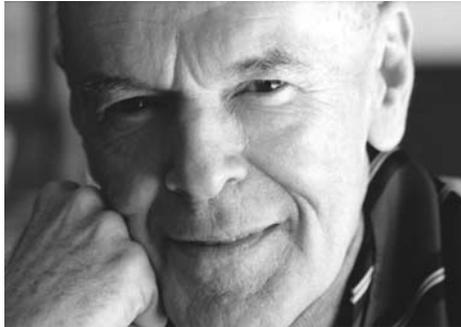
Don’t forget to mark your calendars for the First Friday night in October. A month-long exhibit that highlights the area’s talented art teachers will kick off on Oct. 1. Look for announcements in the paper, in your mail, and on the PAC website.

## Special Guests at Princeton KidLit and a Chance to Beat Team McCutchan

Princeton KidLit is less than two months away and there have been several great developments since the last newsletter. Here is the latest:

The National Author Guest of Honor is Richard Peck. Peck has been entertaining and inspiring young people with his writing since the publication of *Don't Look and It Won't Hurt* in 1972. Since then, he has published one book per year, winning the coveted Newbery Medal in 2001 for *A Year Down Yonder*, and he is the first children's author to receive a National Humanities Medal.

The Local Author Guest of Honor is Father Dominic Garramone. Fr. Dom is an instructor



*National Author Guest of Honor:  
Richard Peck*



*Local Author Guest of Honor:  
Father Dominic Garramone*

at St. Bede Academy and is most known for his Baking Bread cookbooks and television show.

Garramone will be using KidLit to unveil his series of children's books based upon the character of Brother Jerome, starting with the first book *Brother Jerome and Angels in the Bakery*.

In other KidLit news, The KidLit Foundation was recently granted status as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

For all of the Trivia Buffs: there will be a 3rd Trivia Night for Princeton KidLit on Sat. Aug. 7 at the Bureau County Metro Center.

Teams of up to 8 people will try their knowledge of 10 rounds with 10 questions during each round. Categories range from Geography, Movies/TV, History, Science, and the ever-popular "Potpourri" category.

You can get registration forms and more information about Trivia Night 3 and more at [www.princetonkidlit.org](http://www.princetonkidlit.org).

Note: Team McCutchan has won the previous two Trivia Nights. Will they three-peat? Can they be stopped? Who will stop them? Get a team together and unseat Team McCutchan as the KidLit Trivia Night Champions!

## Learning to Think on Your Feet: HS Improv Workshop This September

The Prairie Arts Council has been awarded a grant from the Sun Foundation and the Illinois Arts Council to provide a free Improv workshop for all interested Bureau County high school-aged students and teachers. The Chicago Improv Festival will be presenting this special program on Saturday, September 18th beginning at 1 PM at Princeton High School. The mission of the Chicago Improv Festival is to celebrate the present, honor the past and showcase the future of improvisational theater in all of its multi-disciplinary expressions.

The workshop will begin at 1 PM and feature an hour long Improv performance by the Chicago Improv Festival professionals. This will be followed by 90 minute workshops for students and teachers in small groups under the direction of the trained professionals from the Chicago Improv Festival. The afternoon will close with all of the participating students having the opportunity to present a short Improv performance piece demonstrating the improvisational techniques that they have learned.

This special program will provide a unique educational experience for our Bureau County high school-aged students and teachers in the multi-dimensional aspects of Improv theater and a cooperative event with The Prairie Arts Council and Princeton High School working together to make this project possible.

For additional information, please contact Linda Gustafson ([rlgus@comcast.net](mailto:rlgus@comcast.net)) or Dixie Schroeder ([chynna061688@verizon.net](mailto:chynna061688@verizon.net)).

## YOUNG PERFORMERS GET THEIR START AT PAC DRAMA CAMP

The first two sessions of Children's Summer Drama Camp at the PAC culminated in shows at noon and 5:00 on June 25. The morning session's campers called their show "Farouk's Not-So-Brilliant Plan," and the afternoon campers named the same show "The Bizarre Bazaar." Each session of camp produced the same show, but chose its own name. This year's theme was based on the "Tales of the Arabian Nights," and the show was about two hapless villains who use a magic necklace to have one villain trade places with the sultan's daughter. The real princess learns valuable lessons from a ragtag crew consisting of a talking snake, a talking tiger, and a talking "Magic" Carpet. The princess' new friends help her unlock the magic of the necklace and regain her rightful place in the palace.

The cast for the Noon show was: Katy Anderson, Justus Bystry, Amelia Bystry, Courtney Pointer, Hayden Welte, Preston Milliron, Jacob Leach, Maggie Daluga, Myah Headly, Kyle Kinnamon, Ryan Friel, and Christian Kinnamon.

The cast for the 5:00 show was: Shannon Cotter, Emily Jo Hartman, Jenna Grimmer, Anjali Patel, Alex



*Doran Cotter as Farouk, Abigail Bickett as Princess Yasmine, and Jenna Grimmer as Zafirah in the June Afternoon Drama Camp play "The Bizarre Bazaar"*

Castaneda, Kenley Grimmer, Doran Cotter, Abigail Bickett, Maddie Hannon, Sabrina Bickett, Lanie Hannon, and Emily Boes.

Campers for the July 5-16 camp session included: Emma Roden, Katrina Rudolph, Elijah Crouch, Courtney Cook, Ryan Gee, Madalyn Robbins, Taylor, Cameron, and Vicki Tieman, Madison Cimaroli, Grace May, and Kira Harp.

All three sessions of camp were filled

and there was a significant waiting list this year. We were also fortunate to welcome a large number of first time campers to PAC. We hope they all stay involved in PAC theater!

This year, we also say goodbye to Abigail Bickett, who has participated in every drama camp since it began in 2003 when she was just 6 and 3/4 years old. Thank you, Abby! You've grown into a beautiful and incredibly talented young woman. We'll miss you very much! Go make us proud!

### Theater Notes:

Special request: anyone with old flat sheets (ripped is fine) is asked to donate them for PAC set construction. They can be used to cover the space between flats when painting backgrounds.

Also, if anyone could donate an electric drill (cord or battery), drill bits, a hand held jig saw and circular saw, tape measure, vice grips, and a socket set, we would be greatly appreciative (David's tools think they belong at PAC because they spend more time there than at home!). Thanks for all your support for PAC Theater programming.

### PAC Theater Renovation Update

The PAC Theater renovations are moving ahead. Dylan Carlson is putting together his Eagle Scout proposal as the newsletter goes to press. We need to complete some electrical work prior to moving on to preparing the walls and the process of painting.

We will be looking for volunteers to help with all aspects of this project, so if you can help with electrical work, plaster repair, setting up scaffolding, washing walls, painting, or making refreshments for the workers, please send an email to [info@theprairieartscouncil.org](mailto:info@theprairieartscouncil.org) or call PAC at 875-2787 and leave a message with your name, what you can help with, and phone number and email address where you can be reached.

## Prairie Arts Council Membership for 2010

### Single

Judy Anderson	Evelyn Farley	Helen J. Kenney	Peggy Robinson
Jeanne Austin	Vicki Giehl	Jan Lohaus	Rosemary Schallhorn
Lois Beaber	Gayle Grace	Dr. Jon McCutchan	Cynthia Smucker
Carol Bird	Janet Grossman	Carol McGee	Hazel Mae Townsend
Chad Brokaw	June Harmon	Mary Michael	Diane Van Den Borre
Donna Chelin	Frances Hassler	Audrey Monier	Jeanette Wedding
Harry Clucas	Carolyn Hertz	Judy O'Brien	Ramona Wedding
Dana Collins	Hannah June Hultine	Jeanne O'Melia	Carolyn Workman
Harriet Coulter	Marjorie Johnson	Harold Pierson	

### Family

Amber Backus and Al Baldonado	Charles & Linda Gebhart	John Lundahl	Gene & Ethel Scruggs
Ron & Eileen Behrends	Harry & Elaine Gerber	Barry & Sylvia Mayworm	Dr. Bruce & Sue Shriver
William & Sallee Beneke	Brett & Laurie Geuther	Robert & Paula Morrow	John & Lynda Smith
Susan Berry	David & Shelley Gorenz	Terry & Sally Munson	Tony & Donna Sorcic
Marjorie McIntosh & Brad Boes	Sarah Copper and Stephen Gunning	Phil & Elizabeth Naffziger	Brian & Debra Strom
Dave & Jone Booth	Justin & Elizabeth Heath	Richard & Pamela Nickelsen	Roger & Joann Swan
Vincent & Leigh Ann Bulthuis	Dr. Rick & Jane Holmbeck	Bill & Barbara Olilla	Dave & Sharry Taylor
John & Theresa Cotter	Rod & Marcie Jagers	Ketan & Aparna Patel	Tammy Tieman
Thomas & Patricia Daluga	Doug & Lucille Kann	Jeff & Kay Peacock	Robert & Catherine Trowbridge
John & Mary Damon	Phil & Pam Kaufmann	Rachel Robinson	Tony Morrow and Stephanie VanOrdstrand
Carol & Gordon Dremann	Paul & Nancy Kautz	Bob & Deb Russell	Gene & Lisa Vincent
Dr. Gary & Marilyn Eckberg	Lloyd & Colleen LaPlante	Don & Barb Schiff	Alan & Lynne Weber
Dennis & Cathy Elliott	Susan Legner	John & Barb Schmitz	Joe & Jean Welte
Michael & Jan English	Steve & Joan Lewkowycz	Ken & Dixie Schroeder	Bob & Deb Young
Michael & Joanne Friel		Rodger & Barbara Schwind	

### Sponsor

Keith & Kathy Ballard	Roger & Linda Gustafson	Anna Roadhouse
Steve & Susan Barlow	Beverly Hall	O.V. Shaffer
Paul & Lou Brown	Charles & Pam Hanson	Don & Nedda Simon
Joan Chinal	Mike & Linda Judge	Bob & Kay Telfer
Dennis & Donna Dickison	Julie McCutchan	True E. Wahlgren
Barry & Mary Ellen Dugosh	Marian Middleton	Lou & Terri Zearing
Alan & Mary Forristall	Merle & Patricia Polson	

### Patron

Cliff & Kathy Cartwright	Pete & Karen May
Dr. & Mrs. Richard Dorsch	Edward Burke & Fredericka Veikley
Barbara LaVelle	Eleanor Walker
Betty Ann Losey	

### Corporate

Kent & Jamie Bickett

### Lifetime Members

Gary & Hope Browning      Bob & Marilyn Haslam  
Fr. Edward Harkrader

*If you don't see your name listed and feel that you did renew your membership to the Prairie Arts Council, please contact Tammy Tieman, Membership Director. She will be more than happy to clarify any membership issues.*

If you would like to renew your membership with the Prairie Arts Council, would like to join, or know someone that would like to join, please go to our website and download a membership form:

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

Are you interested in being a part of Prairie Arts program planning? Would you like to get acquainted with some interesting people? There are openings on the Board of Directors. The board meets monthly and works actively to support the arts, develop programming, encourage artists, actors, and musicians of all ages. Call Board President, Liz Draper at 815-875-3059 for more information.

## 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 and Illinois  
Valley Fine Arts Trust  
and Sun Foundation

- July 16 Noon - Drama Camp Show "The Princess, the Thieves, and the Necklace"
- July 20 6:00 p.m. - PAC Board Meeting at Princeton Public Library
- July 22-25 Summer Musical: *Seussical* - Th., Fri. and Sat. 7:30 pm Sun 3 pm
- Aug. 6 5-7:00 pm - First Friday Gallery Opening, Art of Denny Elliott
- Aug. 7-28 Denny Elliott Art Retrospective in the Prairie Art Center Gallery
- Aug. 7 Princeton KidLit Trivia Night at the Bureau County Metro Center
- Aug. 11 Evening with the Artist featuring Denny Elliott
- Aug. 17 6:00 p.m. - PAC Board Meeting
- Sept. 3 5 - 7:00 p.m. - First Friday Gallery Opening, Mary Win Norris
- Sept. 3-19 Mary Win Norris Gallery Display
- Sept. 10-12 Homestead Festival
- Sept. 18 Youth Improv Workshop at Princeton High School
- Sept. 21 6:00 p.m. - PAC Board Meeting
- Sept. 25 Princeton KidLit 2010
- Oct. 1 5 - 7:00 p.m. - First Friday Gallery Opening, Area Art Teachers
- Oct. 2-31 Area Art Teachers in the Prairie Art Center Gallery
- Oct. 19 6:00 p.m. - PAC Board Meeting

(ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED)

Prairie Arts Council  
24 Park Avenue East  
Princeton IL 61356

NONPROFIT ORG.  
U. S. POSTAGE PAID  
PRINCETON IL  
61356  
PERMIT NO. 24