



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 150th anniversary this year. The second is the Soldiers and Sailors Monument, which commemorates its 100th 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!

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 _____

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.

■ 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.



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.



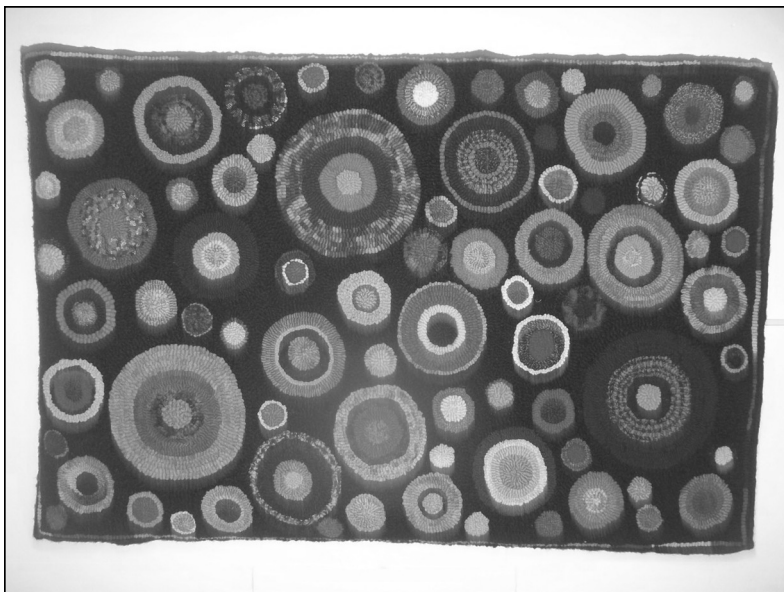
One Session Wednesday, Nov. 6 6:30-9 p.m.
Registration deadline: Nov. 2
Members/Nonmembers: \$35

Please check our website for periodic updates on classes and activities at the PAC.

'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 Klopchic, 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 Jacobsen
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
Mike and Jan English
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
Phil and Pam Kaufmann
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
Dean and Tammy Tieman
Tony Morrow
and Stephanie VanOrdstrand
Gene and Lisa Vincent
Alan and Lynne Weber
Bill and Deb Young
Lou and Terri Zearing

Sponsor

Kathy Ballard
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Aric and Tania Bowen
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Dennis and Donna Dickison
Don and Gloria Eklund
Alan and Mary Forristal

David and Shelly Gorenz
Gayle Grace
Norman and Beverly Hall
Charles and Pam Hanson
Barbara LaVelle
Barry and Sylvia Mayworm
Carol McGee
Ron McCutchan
Marian Middleton
Jack and Cindy Olson
Jeanne O'Melia
Gail and Betty Peterson, in Memory of
Sarah E. Richards
Marcia Roberts
Anna M. Roadhouse
Don and Nedda Simon
Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Swenson
Bob and Kay Telfer
True Ellen Wahlgren
Carolyn Workman
Marian Middleton
Conrad and Sheila Swenson

Patron

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Steve and Laurie Bonucci
Cliff and Kathy Cartwright
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Daniel and Margaret Martinkus
Pete and Karen May
Julie McCutchan
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



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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