

NewsCAST

COMMUNITY ACTORS STUDIO THEATRE

Volume 12, Number 1
August 2011
Hervey Folsom, Editor
www.castalabama.com

CAST, Inc.
P.O. Box 185
Anniston, AL 36202
(256) 820-CAST

The curtain rises on our 2011-2012 season

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change will be presented September 15 - 25. For this, the longest-running Off-Broadway musical, CAST claims the expertise of Kim Dobbs and Eric Traynor as Co-Directors, Eric Traynor as Music Director, and Kim as Choreographer. Two singers make their debut with CAST and two veterans on the CAST stage round out the cast. See Kim's letter in this edition of NewsCAST for details.

It's A Wonderful Life, a family favorite and beloved classic, will be November 17-27. The movie, which starred Jimmy Stewart, Donna Reed, and Lionel Barrymore is often brought out and enjoyed during Christmas. This comedy/drama is complete with deep human problems and an intervening guardian angel.

The dates for *The Nerd* a farce by Larry Shue will be February 2-12. Shue's other well known farce is *The Foreigner*. *The Nerd*, with its variety of comic characters and a twist ending is about a highly unintelligent house guest who overstays his welcome.

Then, our final play is Tennessee Williams' *Cat on a Hot Tin*

Roof slated for April 26 through May 6. This Southern drama is one of Williams' best known works, and his personal favorite. Focusing on a prominent family's dire predicament, it features the memorable Maggie (the Cat) and her alcoholic husband, Brick.

Remember, "Pay What you Want" evenings are on Thursday nights. For any production, group rates are available with 12 or more people making a group.

Season tickets for adults are \$60 for adults and \$25 for students. For individual tickets, the adult fee is \$20 per show and students four years old and up will pay \$10.

If you would like to place an ad in our program which will be seen during all four shows, call Howard Johnson, CAST Treasurer, at 256 282-5304.

Thanks to each and every one of you for supporting CAST through the years. Each season brings new and exciting challenges for our theater, and 2011-2012 promises to be another great year for us.

'Boomers' bounces back - For one night only!

CAST and the Knox Concert Series are working together to present an encore performance of last year's hit musical revue *Boomers* as a special fund-raising event.

The one-night-only show will be called *Back to School with Boomers*, and all the money raised will be given to relief efforts on behalf of the victims of the April 27th tornadoes that ravaged many parts of Alabama.

Tickets for this special performance are \$20 per person and must be pre-purchased through either CAST or Knox. You may call 256 820-CAST or 256 235-2553.

The show will feature many of the performers and songs from our spring production. The performance will be held at Knox's usual venue, The Anniston Performing Arts Center, on Aug. 27 at 7 p.m.



Notes from Kim...

This is the beginning of my eighth season with CAST. It has been a challenge and a privilege to serve our community as Artistic Director of our local theatre. We are venturing into new material this season as we bring you *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*, the longest running Off Broadway musical, which is a frank and satirical revue about people trying to connect (a bit of adult content and language). It is a modern look at heterosexual love and relationships, done with humor and heart.

This production teams me up with Eric Traynor, who will co-direct and musical direct; I will co-direct and choreograph. We worked together on *Grease*, and I look forward to collaborating with him again. The cast includes newcomers to CAST, mezzo soprano Angie Robinson and tenor Steve Simmons who will join veterans

soprano Heather Garlick (last seen in *Boomers*), and baritone Cody Harrell, whom we haven't seen since *Sanders Family Christmas*. Eric and I feel this is a perfect combination of voices to share the compilation of stories written by Joe DiPietro and composed by Jimmy Roberts. (By the way, I need to borrow three black rolling desk chairs for this show. If you can help, call me.)

The production runs Sept 15–25 (only one Saturday matinee -- Sept 24). We are excited to bring you this show, called "Seinfeld set to music", which tickles the fancy with a truthful glance at romance. It is funny and human, cleverly constructed and beautifully molded into an entertaining evening of theatre. Please join us, and thank you for supporting live theatre in our community.

Kimberley Dobbs, Artistic Director

CAST Backstage Buzz and Other Business

AUDITIONS SCHEDULED FOR CHRISTMAS SHOW

If you have ever wanted to tread the boards with our local acting troupe, this is your opportunity. Open auditions will be held on Monday, Sept. 19, for our Christmas production, *It's A Wonderful Life*.

This audition will be held in the Fellowship Hall of the First Presbyterian Church starting at 7 p.m.

All sorts of roles will be available for this production, from the lead parts all the way down to extras milling in the crowd.

When you come to one of our auditions, you will be asked to fill out an information form so we'll know how to contact you. You will be offered a chance to read from the script of the play, so you don't need to prepare a monologue.

Rehearsals for the show will begin in early October, following the close of our season-opening musical.

It's A Wonderful Life will be presented Nov. 17 - 27 at the McClellan Theatre.

CAST WELCOMES NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Following our annual meeting in June, the CAST Board of Directors added Jim Athon and Tim Barton. Those elected to serve again for another term are Tim Doyle, Mike Parsons, and Student

Representative Dylan Hurst.

By the way, Tim Doyle has been nominated for the award of Best Actor in *The Wind in the Willows* for the upcoming Theatre of Gadsden Awards Night August 27. He played the lead, Mr. Toad, an experience which will surely be a highlighted page in his theater album.

CAST KIDZ PLAN FOR A BUSY FALL SEASON

Our youth ensemble, CAST Kidz, will get together again on August 19 for a regular practice and to polish skills. This will be the first session back, and there's lots to do to prepare for the kids' opening act in *Boomers* on August 27. There are at least 15 kids on roll in this group, and they stay busy! The fall project will be presenting the play "The Trial of Mother Goose".

According to Sherry French, Kim Dobbs' administrative assistant, CAST Kidz is open to all who are interested in learning skills in acting, singing and dancing. The welcome mat is out for kids -- ages 4 through 19 -- who are interested in having lots of fun performing for various groups around the area. It's great experience, too.

The fee is \$15 per week. Scholarships are available. Call Sherry at 256 820-1529.

From the Editor

Dear Patrons.

Welcome to CAST's new season! We've been working hard to plan new entertainment for your pleasure, starting with a musical in September, a holiday show in November, a great comedy in February, and a Southern drama that you're familiar with to close out the season. Our productions are at McClellan Theatre. Our artistic director is Kim Dobbs. I hope you have had an opportunity to meet her.

It's been a theatrical summer, too. Rehearsals have been under way since August 1 for *I Love you, You're Perfect, Now Change*, our season opener. About 115 of you attended Randy Awards in June. We enjoyed a delicious meal and an enticing menu of entertainment as well.

On August 27, the Knox Concert Series will present CAST Theatre's *Back to School With Boomers* at the Anniston Performing Arts Center (Anniston High School) at 7 p.m.

This *Boomers* production, a musical revue of the 1950s and 1960s, is being staged for the purpose of helping tornado victims in Calhoun County.

August 27 marks the four-month anniversary of the tornado touchdown in our county. Please come to this lively musical and support a still urgent cause for many in our community.

And, I'll look for you at our coming season.

See you at the theater,
Hervey Folsom