

Ripples

from the Community Circle Players at Riverwalk Theatre

Season 29 • Number 7
February, 2018

228 Museum Dr. • PO Box 12249 • Lansing, MI 48901 • 517-482-5700 • Office Hours: Tues.-Fri. 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. • e-mail: RWT@riverwalktheatre.com • web site: RiverwalkTheatre.com

Cross the BRIDGE TO TERABITHIA with us!



Jesse Owens is played by Gabriel D'Valentine and Leslie Burke is being played by Penelope Joy • PHOTO BY ALL-OF-US EXPRESS

Jesse, alienated from the pragmatism of his family and rural Virginian culture, draws and dreams of becoming something special.

Leslie, the new girl from the city and the ultimate outsider, opens a world of imagination, art, and literature for him. Together they create Terabithia, a fantasy kingdom where they are safe from those who don't understand them.

Their friendship grows as Jesse's world expands. When tragedy strikes, the strength gained in Terabithia takes Jesse forward on his own and lets him share the magic of his dreams.

Director Shannon Bowen reflects on the story:

"*Bridge to Terabithia* first came into my life when I was in the fifth grade, through a reading curriculum at school. Like Jesse and Leslie, the two fifth-graders at the center of the story, I was a child who was inspired by the books and stories of my youth to create imaginary worlds for myself and my friends to play in. I loved the story of two friends who are brought together by play and who were bonded together through recognizing the challenges they each faced in their lives, finding comfort in the escape that only an imaginary world can provide.

"Just like the novel by Katherine Paterson that the play is based on, the story of *Bridge to Terabithia* is still relevant today, 40 years after its initial publication. During the rehearsal process, I would be asked what show I was working on, and as I divulged the name, I was always met with a nostalgic sigh— 'I loved that story growing up!'

"What drew me to this project was two-fold. First, I was immediately reminded of the impact the book

had on my life, at a particularly pivotal moment as I was not quite a kid but still not a teenager; where you struggled to know whether you were too old to still carry a Care Bears lunch box but didn't quite want to retire it for a brown bag to bring to school; where toys were still littered throughout your room but you felt like you were supposed to put them in the closet and hide them when friends came to hang out. Parents, teachers, siblings didn't always get you, but boy, there was always at least one friend who made you feel really okay in your own skin.









"The second draw to this project was the chance to work with the young artists of All-of-us Express Children's Theatre. This organization has done nothing but astonish and humble me as I've navigated my way through this production, thanks to the creative efforts of participants and adult leaders in the organization who have made paying tribute to a particularly defining moment in my youth a joy to experience.

"I hope that Jesse and Leslie's story helps you to recall a special friend who you shared wonderful memories with, and maybe, provokes you to conjure more magic in your day."


This experience links All-of-us Express to the Riverwalk stage, where Shannon has been recently acclaimed as director of *Wonder of the World* and playing "Erin" in *The Home Team*.


Have a school or other group that might be interested in seeing the show? Contact All-of-us Express for more information at (517) 319-6957 or ecooke@cityofeastlansing.com. NOTE: tickets for the group show canNOT be purchased through Riverwalk Theatre.

WHAT'S ON AT RIVERWALK

-  February 9-11 & 16-18 - **BRIDGE TO TERABITHIA** - produced by All-of-us Express Children's Theatre
-  February 22-25 & March 1-4 - **WHITE BUFFALO** - intriguing drama - Director: Michael Hays
-  March 1 - 6 pm - **PSST** Pre-show Senior Second Thursday gathering for age 55+ followed by *White Buffalo* at 7.
-  March 15-18 & 22-25 - **LILY, THE FELON'S DAUGHTER** - melodrama - Director: Sue Chmurny
-  **A** March 18 & 19, Sun. & Mon., 7 pm, musical **Spamalot AUDITIONS**, director: Jane Falion; music director: John Dale Smith (shows June 7-17, 2018)
-  March 22 - 6 pm - **PSST** Pre-show Senior Second Thursday gathering for age 55+ followed by *Lily the Felon's Daughter* at 7.
-  April 19-22 & 26-29 - **BUD, NOT BUDDY** - family show - Director: Tom Ferris
-  April 26 - 6 pm - **PSST** Pre-show Senior Second Thursday gathering for age 55+ followed by *Bud, Not Buddy* at 7.

 **PLAYS:** 7 pm Thurs.; 8 pm Fri. & Sat.; 2 pm Sun. Fri./Sat./Sun. \$15 (\$12 student/sr./military) **Bargain Thursdays: \$10 (\$8)**

 **MUSICALS:** 7 pm Thursdays; 8 pm Fri./Sat.; 2 pm Sundays \$22 (\$20 student/sr./military)

 **CHILDREN'S SHOW:** 7pm Fri.; 2&4:30pm Sat.; 2pm Sundays - \$8 children; \$10 adults age 13+ (general seating)

 **BLACK BOX SHOWS:** 7 pm Thurs.; 8 pm Fri. & Sat.; 2 pm Sun. • \$12 (\$10 student/sr./military) **Bargain Thursdays: \$10 (\$8)**

 **A AUDITIONS** - More info at RiverwalkTheatre.com

 **SPECIAL EVENT:** see website

Buried Child

Sam Shepard's *Buried Child* by is a dramatic trip to the country circa the late 70s. It's a play where wondering, "What's going to happen next?" is futile. Accept what you're given and become overwhelmed with excellent acting.

Michael Hays as Dodge is the epitome of a damaged man run down by time and circumstance. His wife Halie (Amy Rickett) reminded me of a bulldozer, set on a course, not caring what gets in her way as long as she gets what she wants.

Their son, Tilden, (Jeff Magnuson) has recently returned home, probably not in the same shape as he was when he left. Another son, Bradley, (Ben Holzhausen) finally gets to be the epitome of the angry bully — after years, it seems, as the crippled joke he believes he was — stepping up to behavior that acts like it's searching for the next jump in adrenaline.

We see the return after maybe six years of Tilden's son Vince (Connor Kelly) and traveling companion Shelly (Iris Raine Paul) thrown into this frying pan of the unknown from Vince's vague recollections of childhood. Father Dewis (Scott Pohl) rounds out the cast as Halie's friend who, I believe, wishes that he hadn't come over.

The twists and turns in this plot almost take a back seat to the exquisite acting that brings these characters to us, the audience. I hope you got a chance to see such an incredible show.

Director Janet Colson was assisted by Gloria Vivalda (and also Janet's husband, Mark) with set design by Tom Ferris with Leroy Cupp as master builder and Kelley McNabb on scenography. Sound design was by Matt Greenbaum with some original music by Lee Cleaveland. Lighting design was by Ted Daniel, costumes by Amanda Macomber, props and set dressing by Jackie Payne and Erica Beck. Backstage crew included Todd Heywood, Sandy Reed, Margaret Bice, Sharon Straubel, Adele Colson and Marina and Morgan Villaneueva. *Tim Donal*



Amy Rickett as Halie and Ben Holzhausen as Bradley



Michael Hays as Dodge (L) and Connor Kelly



Iris Raine Paul as Shelly and Jeff Magnuson as Tilden

New Costume Shop Manager Kate Hudson Koskinen



"Kate Koskinen is a Designer with a great creative flair. She has a wonderful eye for period style, as well as top-notch organizational skills in helping us keep stock up-to-date. Kate uses her talents in thinking outside

of the box when costume pieces need special attention to bring them new life. We love working with Kate in the Shop!"

This is strong praise from retiring Costume Shop Head Katie Doyle. (Thanks for your service, Katie!) as we welcome Kate to take over. The new Kate has lots of experience volunteering with us at the Costume Shop and also working at LCC, Turkeyville Dinner Theatre, Kalamazoo Civic Theatre, BoarsHead Theatre and more.

WANTED: Costume Shop Associate to help Manager Kate

Are you an enthusiastic friendly person that wants to have fun being creative to fill our part-time Costume Assistant position? Must have some experience assisting persons to choose appropriate attire for a specific role or costume effect.

10 hours/week - \$9:50/hr (17 hours/week during October)

Business Hours are 3-6 on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and 10-2 on Saturdays. (Additional days and hours are may be required during the Halloween Season.) Mending ability a plus.

If you have questions contact Kate at 517-484-9199

Complete job application at our website (www.rwtcostumeshop.com/employment.html) and send to:

Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Drive
PO Box 12249, Lansing, MI 48901
E-mail: RWT@riverwalktheatre.com



Rebekah Cleans Up!

Our new Riverwalk custodian Rebekah Lawler has extensive cleaning experience, having worked part time for Impression-5 and a private cleaning service.

Thanks to former custodian Clark Crow for coming back to help her get familiarized with the routine, and the whereabouts of our cleaning supplies and tools.

Musical Comedy
Book and Lyrics by Eric Idle
Music by John Du Prez
and Eric Idle



MONTY PYTHON'S
SPAMALOT

Directed by Jane Falion
with Music Direction by
John Dale Smith

**AUDITIONS: Sunday & Monday,
 March 18 & 19, 2018, at 7 pm.**

Shows: June 7-17, 2018

This Tony Award winning musical celebration of inanity was adapted from the 1975 film *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*. Like the film, it is a highly irreverent parody of the Arthurian Legend. Though it differs from the film in many ways, it upholds the artful idiocy of the Python tradition.

The cast requirements contain suggestions of additional doubling roles for each of the main characters. These doubling suggestions are not written in stone and may change based on the talent at auditions.

Specific role descriptions can be found at www.riverwalktheatre.com/auditions.html

PERUSAL SCRIPTS for all shows are available at the Riverwalk office, Tuesday - Friday, 10 am - 5:30 pm. Call 517-482-5700 to check availability: rwt@RiverwalkTheatre.com

Lobby Artists - Charlene Kull and Saralee Howard

on display in December and January



Since childhood, Michigan artist and author, **Charlene “Charly” Kull**, has pursued many forms of artistic expression. Her love for her home state and her many travels throughout the Upper and Lower Peninsulas are reflected in her body of work and in her novels. As an outdoor enthusiast and avid gardener, she loves to chronicle her experiences with photography, later translating them onto canvas in her studio.

Without turning her back on her first love, photo-realistic oil paintings, she has recently enjoyed the freedom and expressive colors of such mediums as encaustic wax, alcohol inks, acrylics, paper collages and acrylic pours.

Many of her Mackinac photos are at mackinacpostings.com.

A licensed professional counselor by day and an artist by night, **Saralee Howard** paints and counsels with joy and with an abiding interest in both external and internal landscapes.

She has exhibited at ArtPrize in Grand Rapids, Michigan for the past seven years and at juried exhibitions around the country. Saralee won Grand Prize at the 2016 Mackinac Art Museum Exhibit on Mackinac Island for her mixed media piece *Leaving Mackinac (Rain and Tears)*.

Her studio is based in her 1868 home in St. Johns connected to her ASK Counseling office. Her artist website is saralee.howard.com



RIVERWALK THEATRE

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Ripples is published by Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Dr., P.O. Box 12249, Lansing, MI 48901. Submit info to Editor Jane Zussman (jszussman@gmail.com) or Riverwalk Manager Mike Siracuse (rwt@riverwalktheatre.com) office hours: Tuesdays thru Fridays, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Reservations and info at: 517-482-5700 or RiverwalkTheatre.com



Riverwalk Theatre

P.O. Box 12249 • Lansing MI 48901

Next to Impression 5,
228 Museum Drive, south off
Michigan Avenue, across from
the Lansing Center



Are you 55 or older? Riverwalk has a new event for you!

P.S.S.T. stands for Preshow Senior Second Thursdays.

Meet new old friends at this fun reception/
party/backstage peek 6 pm before the second
Thursday performance of every Riverwalk
adult show.

Free reception at 6 pm (the show, optional,
starts at 7; buy your bargain show ticket for
only \$8 - \$20 for musicals.) Mix and mingle
(with refreshments) on the opposite stage
from where the night's show will perform
(Black Box/Main Stage.) We'll check out
the set-in-progress and get some news about
the following show as well as the one we're
about to see. Membership and volunteer sign
up will be available — **plus a members-
only drawing for a \$20 gift certificate to
Riverwalk!**

March 1 *White Buffalo*

March 22 *Lily the Felon's Daughter*

April 26 *Bud, Not Buddy*

May 17 *Scotland Road*

June 14 *Spamalot* (musical)



February 9- 18, 2018



CHILDREN'S THEATRE



Directed by
Shannon Bowen
Music Direction by
Sarah Hayner and Isaac Orr

Tickets: Adult \$7 Children \$5

February 9 & 16 7:00 pm
February 10 & 17 2:00 pm & 7:00 pm
February 11 & 18 2:00 pm

Bridge to Terabithia is presented by special
arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.



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