

It's season two of "Noises Off," Pit and Balcony's newsletter! In the theatre "noises off" is a stage direction meaning sounds made offstage intended for the ears of the audience. In its second year, our goal with this newsletter remains the same, to provide our supporters with information about all the great things happening around the theatre both on stage and off. We've added a new letters to the editor section called "Audience Participation," which will include notes and thoughts from the most important people in our organization—you! We'd love to hear from you. E-mail amy@pitandbalcony.com and you may see yourself quoted in an upcoming addition!

Notes:

The building which we call home today was built in 1948 and has only ever been Pit & Balcony Community Theatre. This is something we are very proud of but, as often happens with 70 year old structures, we find that our beloved home is falling apart! We are eternally grateful to the Dow Chemical Company for their emergency grant last winter which allowed us to replace our furnace after it broke down. Spring, 2019 will bring a large building project in the reconstruction of our back entrance. This is no small task but you can help! When making your year-end contributions, won't you consider Pit & Balcony's upcoming capital improvement project? Your donation is tax deductible and will ensure the safety and security of the building for years to come. As always, thank you for your support!

Warmest holiday wishes,

Amy Spadafore

Amy Spadafore
Operations Manager



Reminiscent of "Whose Line is it Anyway?", "Saturday Night Live!", and "Shakespeare Abridged," this hilarious holiday show will

ON SALE NOW!

have you rolling in the aisles! Get your tickets for

this fun-for-all production by visiting www.pitandbalconytheatre.com or calling 989.754.6587



Up Next:



By John K. Alvarez, Michael Carleton, and James Fitzgerald

Directed by Jeff List

Instead of performing Charles Dickens' beloved holiday classic for the umpteenth time, three actors decide to perform every Christmas story ever told — plus Christmas traditions from around the world, seasonal icons from ancient times to topical pop-culture, and every carol ever sung. A madcap romp through the holiday season!

November 30 -December 2 & December 7-9 |

Fridays & Saturdays @7:30pm | Sundays @3:00pm | Tickets: \$20

www.pitandbalconytheatre.com | 989.754.6587 | 805 N. Hamilton

Between the months of August and November this year we were lucky to partner with the Public Theater Mobile Unit National out of NYC, as well as many arts and culture organizations around Saginaw to present a series of cultural projects centered around the theme of Work. We were so inspired by the artistic endeavors of the Public Theater we'd like to share with you what "theatre of, by, and for all people" means to them, straight from the Project Leader of the Mobile Unit National, Chiara Klein.

PUBLIC
MOBILE UNIT NATIONAL

Audition Notice: JAMES and the GIANT PEACH

December 3 & 4 @ 6pm
Directed by Hope Nagy

Audition requirements, online audition form, and more information will be available on our Facebook page 1 month prior to auditions. www.facebook.com/pitandbalcony

Volunteer Opportunities

Backstage Crew - Ever wanted to be the one behind the scenes making the sets move or the lights change? Then this is the job for you!

Front of House - We always need folks to usher, work the box office, sell concessions, and tend bar for each performance. Volunteer here and see the show for free!

Costume Crew - Know your way around a sewing machine? We can always use help building and altering costumes for our shows!

Special Events & Projects - Whether it's gardening or culling and organizing props and costumes or setting up for special events there's always a project to be done around the theatre. Let us know what you're interested in and we'll contact you with project dates!

...And more!

Click on the "Get Involved" tab on our website to have your name added to our volunteer list!

2

Lobby Talk

With Chiara Klein

Public Theater Mobile Unit National

Tell us about yourself. I am an artistic producer, director, performer, and all-around theatrical enthusiast from just outside of New York City. **What is the Public Theater's mission, in your own words?** Behind everything that The Public Theater does is the idea that "culture belongs to everyone" and that theater and the arts are an essential part of a healthy civic life.

What steps can a small theatre take to become "radically inclusive?" To me, "radical inclusivity" is about starting with the audience. It is about going outside of your bubble and asking people in your community what they want and why they don't come to you and then doing everything that

you can to break down any and all of those barriers. We as an industry tend to have a practice of looking inward rather than outward. Once you look outward and lead with curiosity, you tend to get answers. And then, once you get answers, you need to actually respond. That is where I think that small theater companies actually have a lot more latitude than larger ones. Small companies have the freedom to be nimble and to try new ways of doing things in a way that larger companies don't. So, I guess — step one: listen, step two: react, step three: evaluate, step four: listen, step five: repeat. **Why did the Mobile Unit National get started?**

Mobile Unit National is an expansion of the Mobile Unit, which is how The Public Theater began — with our founder Joseph Papp hauling productions of Shakespeare plays to parks around New York City with sanitation trucks. Today, the Mobile Unit meets audiences where they are {in NYC} staging free performances in community centers, homeless shelters, libraries, prisons, and other community spaces. The idea for the national expansion of the Mobile Unit was in response to a one-night-only performance of SWEAT that the off-Broadway cast did in Reading, PA, the day after the show closed at The Public. After the performance, the conversation was so engaging that it moved our artistic director, Oskar Eustis, to announce (before it was a reality!) that we would be performing this play in more communities in the Rust Belt and the Midwest. This project is The Public Theater's way of stepping outside of our own bubble to be in dialogue with communities outside of New York. And, of course, figuring out how to do that authentically has been the challenge and privilege of my past year and a half! **What is your favorite song from Hamilton?** Depends on my mood, but if I have to pick, I'll say "Satisfied."



Join Us!

Friday, November 16th – Holidays in the Heart of the City

Little Gazebo, Borchard Park, 7:30pm

Pit & Balcony family and friends will gather in Borchard Park for our annual holiday outing to sing carols for event attendees. Drop by to say “hi” or sing with us! No experience necessary and carol books will be provided.

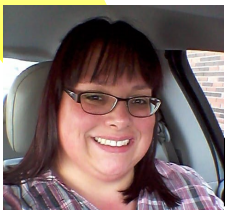


Photo Gallery

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

DeLynn has lent her skills to Pit & Balcony for the past seven years back stage, at the light board, helping out in Front of House and, for the past 3 seasons, as a member of the Play Selection Committee. We are so grateful for your enthusiasm and energy, DeLynn! We couldn't do what we do without you!

**DELYNN
SCHMOAK**



We were honored to host the premiere of *Theatre in the Great Lakes Bay Region*, Nathan Hanley and Matthew Ticar's documentary film about the vibrant performing arts scene in our community.



Audience Participation

Praise for Into the Woods

“Great show!!!” ~ Cindy Lynn Schreder

“The whole production was beautiful!”
~Jim Gaertner, Anne Marks-Gaertner

It was WONDERFUL!!! Loved every single minute!!! ~Lisa Gabriel

“Superb!! The acting/singing was excellent, the set was exquisite and the costumes, particularly the witch, were outstanding. It was satisfying to see so many new faces on stage. Pit & Balcony has really made significant strides since I started buying season tickets several years ago. Looking forward to the rest of the season!!” ~ Mary Madigan Spadafore

E-mail amy@pitandbalcony.com to share your thoughts on this or anything else!



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