



Noises Off

Vol 2 - November-December, 2017

Welcome to “Noises Off,” Pit and Balcony’s newest newsletter. In the theatre “noises off” is a stage direction meaning sounds made offstage intended for the ears of the audience. You may also recognize it from our 2015-2016 season when we produced the Michael Frayn farce of the same name. This newsletter will serve as “noises off” for you to stay updated on all of the on and offstage happenings at Pit and Balcony as well as provide interesting tidbits, history, perspectives, sneak peeks of upcoming productions, volunteer opportunities, special events, and more! Take a look around and stay in the loop.

Notes:

As we near the end of the year, I sit back and take account of the past 11 months and I couldn't be more proud. We sold out a performance of our February production for the first time in at least 10 years, engaged new artists, produced a regional premier, enjoyed a successful run of our inaugural Pit & Balcony After Dark production, expanded our summer youth program, provided a space for other area cultural organizations to present their work, and continued to see new faces come through our doors. We look forward to continued success in 2018 and look to you for support. As you're making your end-of-year contributions, please consider Pit & Balcony. Your donation is tax-deductible and plays a huge part in allowing us to continue the work we do. Thank you.

Warmest wishes this holiday season,

A. Spadafore
Amy Spadafore
Operations Manager



If you missed opening weekend, don't worry; you still have three more chances to **NOW PLAYING** see “The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe” at Pit & Balcony! Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, December 8-10, Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 & Sundays at 3. Tickets are available but are selling fast!



Up Next: *The Diary of Anne Frank*

By Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett, newly adapted by Wendy Kesselman. This transcendently powerful new adaptation is an impassioned drama about the lives of eight people hiding from the Nazis in a concealed storage attic which captures the claustrophobic realities of their daily existence - their fear, their hope, their laughter, their grief.

Directed by Danielle Katsoulos

Jan. 26-28 & Feb. 2-4 | Fridays & Saturdays 7:30 pm | Sundays 3 pm

Tickets: \$18 | Youth: \$12 | Groups of 10 or more: \$15 ea.

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

Audition Notice:



January 29 & 30 @ 7:00pm | Call Backs - January 31 @ 7:00pm

Directed by Todd Thomas

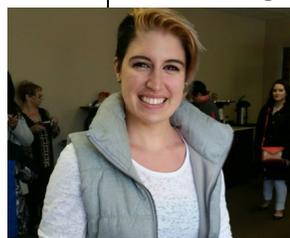
Audition requirements, online audition form, and more information will be available on our Facebook page 1 month prior to auditions. www.facebook.com/pitandbalcony

Lobby Talk

With Claire Hadley, dramaturge for "The Diary of Anne Frank."

Tell us about yourself. I am 24 years old, born in Midland, although I spent several years living overseas. I have been a professional Dramaturge for 6 years. From a young age I have been practicing dramaturgy, even though I didn't know it yet!

What does a dramaturge do? The hardest thing to do is to define what a dramaturge does. A dramaturge provides historical and contextual details for a show, watches for continuity, aids the production team with making choices, builds



lobby displays, creates casebooks for casts and the community, and so much more! Really, it is my job to be the most knowledgeable person in the room, about a particular topic.

What is the most interesting thing you've learned while dramaturging for any show? This is a fun one! While conducting research for Sherlock Holmes, for the Interim Theatre at the Midland Center for the Arts, I had to learn about, and then teach students how to chloroform someone. Fun fact: it takes much longer to knock someone out using chloroform, and it lasts much less time than we see in the movies!

Why is Anne Frank's story important today? The biggest reason is that our society has a tendency to forget the past. There are so many stories from the past, but we rarely consider the weight of those circumstances. This story is different. The fact that it was written by a child, her honesty, her pain, and the fact that it isn't a survival story, all play into the fact that this is one of the few stories with the capacity for a lasting impact.

How do you take your hot cocoa? I prefer my cocoa extra hot, with a peppermint stick (or even better-peppermint schnapps)!

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!

History

The beloved holiday classic, "A Christmas Carol" is the most produced show at Pit and Balcony, having been seen on our stage 4 times between 1988 & 2016.



The most recent production of "A Christmas Carol." Scenic Design by Isaac Wood, Lighting Design by Lucy Kalinowski.

Corner

Saturday, January 27th - 4th Annual Director's Luncheon



Join Us!

~Pit & Balcony is serving lunch to potential 87th Season directors. The luncheon will include a presentation on next season's shows and is by invitation only. If you're interested in directing or assistant directing next season, [email amy@pitandbalcony.com](mailto:amy@pitandbalcony.com) to get your name on the invite list!



Thursday, February 15th - Cocktails and Curtain Calls

~Our annual VIP season announcement party is free to Pit & Balcony members! There will be hors d'oeuvres, open bar, & entertainment - plus you'll be among the first in the know about Season 87! Exact time and location, TBD, so stay tuned!

Don't have your membership yet? Call the theatre to purchase yours today and get on the list for this exclusive event! 989-754-6587

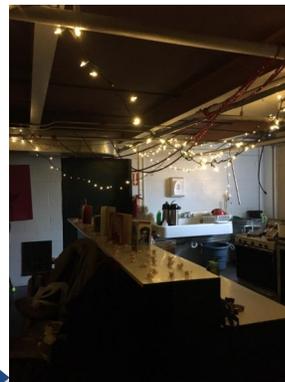
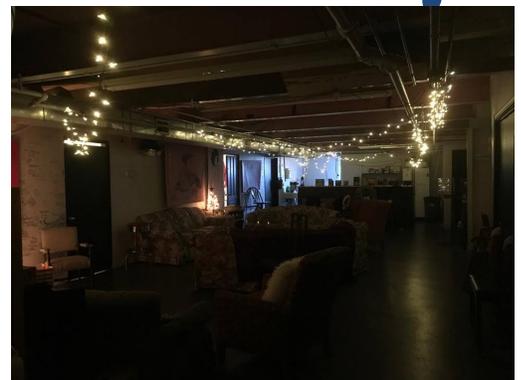
Photo Gallery

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Nathan's is a familiar face around P&B. For the past 3 years he has volunteered onstage, back stage, and front of house. He is always warm and enthusiastic and eager to help with any project. We are lucky to have him as a valued member of our theatre community. Thanks for all you do, Nathan!



NATHAN HANLEY



Members of the cast of "The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe" arrived early to Sunday's matinee in order to surprise the rest of the cast with a beautifully decorated greenroom, perfect for the Christmas cast party they held after the performance.

Notable Quotable

"We are here to sustain live theatre in the age of technology."

- Matt Hutchinson of Second Shift Theatre at the first annual Great Lakes Bay Theatre Network Summit

