

BACKSTAGE PASS

UPCOMING PW VIDEOS

Following the success of “Countdown to Christmas,” a series of more than 31 online videos directed by Kara Ewinger and produced for PW’s Facebook and YouTube pages, the CPR committee is taking a different tack for January.

Every Wednesday in Jan., at 5:00 p.m., PW will present an online “old folks” skit, (from *The Carol Burnett Show*), featuring the antics of a couple of senior citizens. Jan. 6 saw Gene Anderson/Libba Flores in “Stutz Flames Out;” on Jan. 13 Jayne & Kevin Gobble will appear in “Lover’s Lane; Gene and Libba return on Jan. 20 in “Mission Impossible;” Chris & Carol Hinkle will round out the series on Jan. 27 with “Staying Young.” Mary Fox directed the series.

February’s videos, presented under the title “Love at Center Stage” will deal with themes of love, in a salute to Valentine’s day. Directed by Libba Flores and Kent Lewis, these pieces will drop “every few days” and feature songs, poems, and “heartfelt love stories.”

The committee is seeking ideas for March and April videos; anyone with suggestions should contact Carol Hinkle at 319-850-1394.

Don’t miss any of these offerings; go to PW’s Facebook page, which also provides a link to PW’s YouTube channel.

PANDEMIC RESPONSE FUND

As the pandemic still rages and the workshop remains close, PW extends gratitude for those donations received since the last issue of *The Backstage Pass*. A big thanks to Kay Hanna & Tim Hutchins, Betty Harter, Judy Johnson, Mike & Karen Johnstone, Cheryl Newman Liles, Donna & Jan Logan, Dean & Pam Marshall, David McCoid, Helen Moeller, Kevin & Diane Mueller, Connie Nealey, Milton & Laurine Paule, Bettie Raines, Chip & Dana Readinger, Tessa & Mark Shaffer, Summit Services of Bettendorf, Scott Teater, Christine M. Waller, and Rosemary Witte.

In addition, thanks to the following who donated via Mary Fox’s birthday fundraiser on Facebook: Cathy Fountain, John Holtkamp, Rose Holtkamp, and Wade O’Neal. Also, to the 8 anonymous Facebook donations that came in during November via Network for Good, a big thanks.

A big thank you to Kyle Ahrold, Judy Gollhofer, and Kerry Noethe who donated via PayPal.

Welcome to the newest member of Players Workshop Supporting Cast at the following level: Usher--Amy Cox of Burlington (in memory of Hilman Cox).

All of these financial gifts serve as a reminder of the importance of local, live theater to this community, and **PW SINCERELY THANKS YOU!**

PW IS AWARDED LARGE GRANT!

PW has been awarded a \$9200 grant from the Iowa Arts & Culture Recovery Program, a subaward under the CARES Act issued by the US Congress to the State of Iowa. The award is administered by the Iowa Arts Council, a division of the Iowa Dept. of Cultural Affairs, with the support of Gov. Kim Reynolds. The amount equals about 15% of PW’s annual expenses and was the maximum amount that could be awarded.

This welcome news came as a result of what Pres. Mary Fox called “a team effort,” headed by Kent Lewis, who did the paperwork & worked with officers, board, and general members to determine the number of volunteer hours that go into running PW in an average year. According to Lewis, after all responses had been tabulated, “we used **17,666** on the grant application.” This proves again the importance of PW volunteerism.

The money will be used to help with practicalities such as utilities and snow removal, until PW reopen. Thanks to all who gave their time to provide the information that led to this award.

If you do not wish to receive this newsletter, contact Gretchen Lewis (753-0470 or kwlawyer@msn.com) to have your name removed from the mailing list. (Prefer an email version? Contact pw6623@gmail.com, to have the newsletter converted to electronic format.)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR . . .

Another PW Garage Sale is being planned for early spring, so please start searching out those hidden treasures you might be willing to contribute! Contact Libba Flores for more information.

Players Workshop
P. O. Box 793
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MEET YOUR BOARD MEMBERS

Meet PW's Scott Teater, gifted musician and truly one of the friendliest, kindest people you will ever meet. Born in Aurangabad, India, he was adopted and grew up in West Burlington, where he has lived all of his life. On the Board of Directors since July of 2018, he serves on the Y.A.P committee, where one goal is "to promote the art and gift of live theater by making it accessible to all youth and to be totally inclusive."

Scott believes that "Players Workshop Theater has a place for everyone, but sometimes you have to look for it. I would like to challenge all of our patrons, audience, actors, and actresses to expand their views of different genres that are presented here at the theater. You can be entertained and learn something from everything you see and experience. Always be ready to step out of your comfort zone in the theater and learn something; it may surprise and grow you at the same time!"

PW COMMITTEES AT WORK

The function of the House and Grounds Committee, chaired by Gene Anderson, is to maintain the building and grounds, or to supervise and procure outside help/contractors to accomplish these tasks. Committee members are Kent Lewis, Steve Poling, Al Fabel, Dwayne Hartman, Kevin Gobble, and Randy Wismeier, and they do everything from changing light bulbs and furnace filters to arranging for cleaning, snow plowing, and grass cutting.

Part of the committee's job is long range planning of new improvements. Dreams include squaring out the work room to make more space and for better gutter drainage, expanding the lobby, and increasing the size of the storage shed; although most of these things have been put on hold right now, due to finances, when the weather improves, they have plans to replace the overhead door on

the storage building, with one donated by the Gobbles.

Two major accomplishments of the last few years include improving the parking lot lights and fixtures outside the building (earning kudos from the neighbors), and recoating the main auditorium roof, replacing the gutters, and repairing a shingled area over the work room.

Says Anderson, "We have a wonderful and unique facility that requires constant upkeep and maintenance. With the support of our patrons and community, we hope that live theater will continue in Burlington for many years to come."

DONATION FORM

Name _____

Address _____

Phone: _____

Email _____

You may also contribute by clicking on the DONATE button at the top of the PW website (playersworkshoptheater.com) or using the link on the PW Facebook page.

**Send completed form to
Players Workshop, POB 793, Burlington, IA 52601**
Players Workshop is a 501(c)3 organization.

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