



THE ACT SPOTLIGHT

Ankeny Community Theatre
A Community of Talent

Summer 2019

Ankeny Community Theatre's 38th Season

Mom's Gift

By Phillip Olson

Sept. 27 - Oct. 6, 2019

A Christmas Story

By Phillip Grecian

Dec. 6-15, 2019

Don't Dress for Dinner

By Marc Camolitti
Adapted by Robin Hawdon

Feb. 7-16, 2020

A Piece of My Heart

By Shirley Lauro

Mar. 27 - Apr. 5, 2020

The Wizard of Oz

By L. Frank Baum
With Music & Lyrics by Harold Arlen &
E.Y. Harburg
Background Music by Herbert Stolhard

June 5-14, 2020

Marjorie Prime

By Jordan Harrison

Aug. 7-16, 2020

Studio Series

'Night, Mother

By Marsha Norman

Oct. 31 - Nov. 3, 2019

Law & Order: Fairy Tale Unit

By Jonathan Rand

Jan. 18-20, 2020

Our Next Season Has Something For Everyone!

Whether you want to relive a beloved story or experience a new one, and whether you want to bring the whole family or have a grownups' night out, Ankeny Community Theatre's 38th season has you covered! Check out our exciting lineup. In addition to our regular six-show season, our Studio Series will continue, helping us bring you a diverse array of entertainment.

Mark your calendars now! Better yet, get yourself a season punch card, and you'll be set! See page 2 for more information.

Tickets for each production will go on sale a few months before that show starts. Buy tickets (or make reservations with your season punch card) online at www.ankenycommunitytheatre.com or call Midwestix at 515-244-2771 (open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.). If you have special seating needs, please order by phone.

Save the Date for Annual Member Meeting

ACT's annual member meeting will be on **Sunday, September 15 at 2:00 p.m.** at the theater. Mark your calendar and plan to join us for snacks, desserts, awards, and a celebration of YOU and another successful year! Current members will receive details and a ballot for board elections by mail in August.



1932 SW 3rd Street
Mailing Address: PO Box 122 Ankeny, Iowa 50023
Website: www.ankenycommunitytheatre.com
Email: information@ankenycommunitytheatre.com
Reservations: www.midwestix.com or (515) 244-2771



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Facebook!

www.facebook.com/AnkenyCommunityTheatre/

Support Your Theater: Make a Membership Donation

Like many performing arts organizations, ACT relies on donations. Ticket sales alone do not cover our costs, so support from donors allows us to keep offering quality, affordable theater for the community. We call our donors “members” because when you give a gift to ACT, you become part of our theater family!

The minimum donation for annual membership benefits is \$20 and the membership year runs from September 1 to August 31. Please renew your membership today or donate for the first time! We’re counting on you!

Benefits of membership:

Discounts on season punch cards

Invited to Annual Meeting and eligible to vote on ACT business, such as electing board members

Recognition in each ACT playbill (unless you want to remain anonymous)

Donations are fully tax-deductible

Membership Levels:

Patron: \$20 - \$99

Actor: \$100 - \$249

Stage Manager: \$250 - \$499

Director: \$500 - \$999

Producer: \$1,000 +

Visit www.ankenycommunitytheatre.com to donate online with a credit card. You can also mail a check along with the provided membership form to ACT. Members who make their 2019-2020 donation by **August 31** will be in a drawing to win gift certificates to local restaurants and stores!

Thank you so much for your support!

Season Punch Cards On Sale Now

At ACT, we do season tickets the flexible way – with punch cards you can use however you want! Choose from a 6-punch or 3-punch card. You’ll save money versus buying individual tickets. Punch cards are valid for the six shows in our main season (tickets for the two Studio Series shows will be sold separately).

Here’s how it works:

Buy your punch card online at www.ankenycommunitytheatre.com (a link will direct you to Midwestix), OR submit the season punch card form provided with this newsletter and mail with your check. (You’ll also find a copy of the form on our website.) You can pick up your punch card at the annual member meeting or when you attend the first show of the season, *Mom’s Gift*. (If you don’t pick up your punch card by then, we’ll mail it to you.)

Use your punch card to make advance reservations for specific performances. You can make reservations online at www.ankenycommunitytheatre.com (choose your performance date and choose the “season punch card” option) or call Midwestix at 515-244-2771 and tell them you have a season punch card.

When you come to a show, present your punch card at the box office.

Other things to know:

Each punch can be used for one seat at any performance of any show in the main season – so you can use your punches across the whole season, use several punches to bring friends to one performance, or any combination!

You can buy a 2019-20 punch card for the same price at any time during the season. It expires at the end of the last show in the main season, *Marjorie Prime*. So if you run out of punches before the season is over, you can buy more!

If you have questions, please contact us at information@ankenycommunitytheatre.com.

| | Members | | Non-members | |
|---------|---------|---------|-------------|---------|
| | Adult | Senior* | Adult | Senior* |
| 3-punch | \$50 | \$42 | \$53 | \$45 |
| 6-punch | \$98 | \$81 | \$104 | \$87 |

*Anyone 60 or over

| Single Show Prices For Main Season Shows | | | |
|--|-------|---------|---------|
| | Adult | Senior* | Student |
| Non-musical | \$18 | \$15 | \$12 |
| Musical | \$20 | \$18 | \$15 |

Studio Series Prices: *Night, Mother* - \$10 / *Law and Order: Fairy Tale Unit* - \$5

Auditions Set for Fall Shows

Auditions for *Mom's Gift*: Sunday, August 4 at 6:00 p.m. and Monday, August 5 at 7:00 p.m.

Cast: 5 women (ages 20-80) and 2 men (ages 20-60)

Show runs September 27 – October 6

Auditions for *'Night, Mother (Studio Series)*: Sunday, August 18 at 6:30 p.m. and Monday, August 19 at 6:30 p.m.

Play contains adult subject matter. Cast: 2 women (an adult daughter and her mother)

Show runs October 31 – November 3

See our website for show and character descriptions. All auditions take place at the theater.

Auditions at ACT are fun and easy! Everyone is welcome, whether you have no acting experience or you're a veteran of the stage. You don't need to prepare anything; you'll be asked to read scenes from the script. You can come to either of the two days for each show (or both, if you like). The scripts are available to read in advance at [Plot Twist Bookstore](#) in Ankeny (502 N Ankeny Blvd).

If you have ever wanted to be on stage, come give it a try! Contact information@ankenycommunitytheatre.com with questions.

ACT Joins Long Tradition of Interpreting Shakespeare

As one of Shakespeare's most popular and widely produced plays, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* has been a theater mainstay for as long as thespians can remember. As we get set to open the curtain with ACT's summer production, take a look back at some previous adaptations staged in unusual ways.

The Fairy-Queen is an opera by Henry Purcell in the late 1600s based on *Midsummer*. When it was produced again in the early 1800s, incidental music was commissioned for the show by King Frederick Wilhelm IV of Prussia that includes the common "Wedding March" that is most popular in today's weddings.

In 1964, the Beatles aired a British TV special of an extremely abridged version of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in honor of Shakespeare's 400th birthday. With Paul McCartney as Pyramus and John Lennon as his lover Thisbe, clips of this performance are not to be missed on YouTube.

An adaptation called *A Midsummer Night's Raid* was produced in 2002 with a modern flair. This trippy, edgy version featured Puck as a drug-dealer, the magic flower was replaced with ecstasy and the King and Queen of Fairies were the rave host and DJ.

Come see what creative interpretation ACT has devised for this timeless comedy! *A Midsummer Night's Dream* runs August 2-11. Get tickets at www.ankenycommunitytheatre.com or call Midwestix at (515) 244-2771.



Future Actors Explore the World of Theater

Thirteen drama camps were held for youth ranging from Kindergarten through 12th grade during June and July.

During Weeks 1 & 2, K-3rd graders participated in morning performance camps. The days were filled with all the preparations required to present a show on Friday: auditioning, rehearsing, creating sets, and making props and costumes.

2nd-3rd grade afternoon attendees participated in creative drama camps. Youth engaged in theater-related activities and created scenes to perform without the pressure of performing in front of a large audience. On both Thursdays, the youth presented a short show and tell time for their parents.

4th-9th graders performed plays as well during Week 1. Campers auditioned, learned lines, made sets and props, and created costumes. During Week 2, campers participated in half day workshops which focused on building various skill sets: auditioning, script writing, and improvisation.

Week 3 was our Broadway Bound camp for 6th-12th graders which was held at the theater. Eighteen youth learned fifteen songs along with choreography and presented two half-hour performances for family and friends on Friday.

It takes many talented people to run a successful camp program. ACT would like to thank the staff whose hard work made this year a success: Michelle Andrew, Susan Casber, Anne Claes, John Claes, Sydney Crutcher, Riley Devick, Sarah Devick, Abbie Gartland, Chris Jensen, Andrea Lupo, Fran Paterik, Debbie Rasko, David Veatch and Josh Zirkle. Doug Arterburn provided tech support for the registration program, helped paint performance boxes, and helped set up and take down the camps. Dawn Hockemeyer served as guest ACT director for a portion of Rock the Audition camp. Lisa Wagner designed and operated lighting for the Broadway Bound performances. Scott Nielsen helped with take down for camp. Lynn Arterburn was the director of the program.

ACT would also like to thank Ankeny Lutheran Church of Hope for allowing us to hold the camps at their facility. Their generosity and support of our camp program is greatly appreciated.

Drama Workshops at Kirkendall

ACT and Kirkendall Library once again teamed up this past school year to offer drama workshops free of charge to area youth. Twenty-two workshops for children ranging in ages from 4 to 17 were offered from October through May. Over 180 youth participated in the workshops.

Many of the workshops had a holiday theme or gave a sneak peek of our summer camps. The workshops taught participants theater terminology, improved acting skills, and allowed for plays to be presented to parents at the end of some of the workshops. Director of Education, Lynn Arterburn, is the instructor for these workshops. Thank you to the Kirkendall Youth Librarians, Sherry Schlundt and Kelly Munter, and Library Director Sam Mitchel for their support in making these opportunities a reality.

