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# APPLAUSE

An official newsletter of the historic Marion Palace Theatre

## FROM THE DIRECTOR'S CHAIR

BEV FORD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

High fives. A pat on the back. Group hugs. And laughs all around. Another local cast has come together and rehearsals have begun.

This same process has been taking place for decades -- Marion Little Theatre, Marion Community Theatre and now Palace Produced Events. Each group, under the direction of great talent like Marilyn Babich, Ula Watts, Clare Cooke, and others involved before my time at the Palace, has written their chapter in the history of Marion's incredible performing talent.

Individuals with all different back stories and life experiences have been gathering center stage with an end goal in mind; a local production to entertain community members, co-workers, family and friends. It's a labor of love.

Love for the stage. Love for the performing arts. Love for the Palace.

This community has loved this Theatre for 90 years. Our recent Facebook series of #90YearsIn90Days has helped us relive, rediscover, or uncover for the first time some hidden treasures or little known facts about this magnificent facility. We hope you have enjoyed this look back. It continues until November 28. If you haven't checked out those Facebook posts, be sure to do so. There are some truly unique insights into the Palace.

A look at our history can serve as inspiration for our future. What can we do today that will build upon the efforts of those who worked so hard before us? I don't know what the dreams and aspirations were of those who

gave their talent to Little and Community Theatre groups. Could they have imagined what productions would look like in 2018? They inspire me to do more because I see the value of the foundation they laid.

I often ask myself, "How can we grow the influence and impact of the performing arts for our community and this region?" Ninety years of history is an inspirational launching pad for more great plans in the future.

I invite you to get inspired. Expose yourself and your family to the influence and impact of the performing arts this holiday season. Christmas at the Palace is another labor of love that unwraps the power and the presence of the arts in our community.

Bev



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[www.marionpalace.org](http://www.marionpalace.org)

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## CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

### NOVEMBER 2018

- 9-11 Harding H.S. presents **LEGALLY BLONDE**
- 16-18 **A STAR IS BORN (R) Movie Weekend**
- 17 **ECO ART SHOW** - Presented by Marion County Recycling & Litter Prevention
- 30 **CHRISTMAS AT THE PALACE 2018**

### DECEMBER 2018

- 1-2 **CHRISTMAS AT THE PALACE 2018**
- 7-9 **CLASSIC CHRISTMAS MOVIE WEEKEND**
- 13 **THE ART OF LETTERING**
- 14-16 **MOVIE WEEKEND** - Title TBA
- 18-19 **AUDITIONS** - *The Tale of Snow White*
- 22-23 **MOVIE WEEKEND** - Title TBA
- 26-30 **HOLIDAY BREAK MOVIE WEEK** - Title TBA

### JANUARY 2019

- 4 **IMPROV IN THE MAY**
- 4-6 **MOVIE WEEKEND** - Title TBA
- 11-13 **MOVIE WEEKEND** - Title TBA
- 12 **ANNIE MOSES BAND**
- 18-20 **MOVIE WEEKEND** - Title TBA
- 21 **MLK BREAKFAST**
- 25 **IMPROV IN THE MAY**
- 25&27 **MOVIE WEEKEND** - Title TBA
- 26 **RUMOURS ATL: FLEETWOOD MAC TRIBUTE**
- 28 **SCHOOL MATINEE** - SOLVE IT CYRUS

Please note, the views and opinions expressed by those renting the facilities and/or those performing in the program do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the Marion Palace Theatre and the Palace Cultural Arts Association.

KICK OFF YOUR HOLIDAYS WITH A MEMORABLE ANNUAL EVENT

# CHRISTMAS AT THE PALACE

## THE GIFT OF *Family*



SPONSORED BY



MARION OB/GYN  
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For many holiday seasons, the popular production of *CHRISTMAS AT THE PALACE* has delighted theatre-goers of all ages, and with good reason.

The show, which features hundreds of community members, combines all your favorite elements of Christmas resulting in a joyous, playful, and heartfelt celebration of the season. The annual production is a perfect blend of traditional and contemporary numbers from sacred songs to fun-filled tunes and heart-felt vignettes to silly sketches. Each year focuses on a unique story line and new theme. Often, the inspiration for the theme is discovered at unexpected times and places such as this year's "The Gift of Family." Writer/Director Clare Cooke shares, "It came to me this summer when I was watching a performance of *NEWSIES* and feeling so blessed I get to work with my daughter. We've watched her children grow up on stage, as we've watched so many. *CHRISTMAS AT THE PALACE* has over 35 different families in it...entire families, cousins, sisters, brothers, grandparents. It's wonderful. I've worked with this crew for years and, we too, are a family."

The festive variety show originated in 1982 under the direction of Ula Watts. When Ula retired, Clare took the reins and to date has written and directed 12 productions including this year's show, "The Gift of Family." A year-round planning project for Clare, the

details begin to be nailed down as soon as the summer musical ends. Music is chosen for the tap lines and ideas are brainstormed with the Assistant Director/Choreographer Kristi Wink, auditions are planned, and ideas for the set and costume design are discussed with production team members. Once auditions are complete in October, Clare begins the writing process which is about 10-12 hours daily. Before rehearsals begin, the team has already dedicated over 200 hours of work for the show.

This year a spirited cast of more than 250 of the community's most talented singers, dancers, and actors will take the stage.

North Pole residents Santa (Bruce Cudd), Mrs. Claus (Sharon Gale), Sassy the Elf (Julia Vanderhoff), and the UPS Delivery Man (Dustin Rawlins) return with their trademark humor and wit, while a new character, Sparkle the Elf (Sara Grote), adds to the holiday hijinks.

Crowd pleasing dance numbers will be performed by Pleasant Spartans Dance Team, Martha Douce Dance Studio Sr. Line and Marti-ettes, Diverse Moves Dance Studio, Ryan Howard and Danielle Knight. Not to be missed in this season lineup is the perennial favorite Tap Lines featuring 72 dancing feet belonging to Sherril Applefeller, Bob Bender, Joe Blue, Linda Blue, Melissa Bollinger, Kim Bradshaw, Joni Carlson, Jen Chiles, Diana Dailey, Steve deWeber, Dee Ehrman, Drew Ellerkamp, Linda Fargo, Doug Ford, Brent Gorenflo, Jacob Hartman, Ralph Hill, Dean Jacob, Lynn Jamison, Justen LaPlante, Judy Little, Colleen Mauk, David Mauk, Adam Radloff, Dustin Rawlins, Peggy Rittler, Shahara Sansotta, Stan Sansotta, Nissa Stump, Chelsea Sims, Bill Tabbert, Marcia Weir, Charles Wells, Tammy Wells, Sadie Wink, and Amanda Zucker.

The River Valley High School Fab 4 String Quartet will lend their musical talents to this year's holiday program along with a wide range of vocalists including Brody Cahill, Jenny Evans and Wes Peters, John W. Garnes, II, Tamela Knight, Brian Schenk and Madision Schenk, Macy Snyder, and Brooklyn Wallace. Audiences will also enjoy hearing songs of the season performed by local barbershop group the Marionaires, the a cappella group NINE, and a parody number by the Drama Mamas.

In addition to Clare Cooke and Kristi Wink, behind the scenes of *CHRISTMAS AT THE PALACE* is a well-oiled artistic team comprised of Vocal Director Steve deWeber, Orchestra Director Rick Baird, Rehearsal/Pit Pianist Dee Ehrman, Assistant Choreographer Sadie Wink, Costumes Susan Wenig, and Stage Managers Barb Yaksic and Rhonda Arnold.

You don't want to miss this show! To avoid a long line at the door, get your tickets early. *CHRISTMAS AT THE PALACE* will take the stage at 7:30pm on Friday, November 30 and Saturday, December 1 and at 2pm on Sunday, December 2. Reserved tickets are \$18-\$22 for adults and \$12 for children age 12 and younger.

Sponsored by First Citizens National Bank and Marion OB/GYN, Dr. David & Jude Foulk. Media sponsors The Marion Star and Buckeye Country 94.3. Supported by Ohio Arts Council.

FRIDAY, NOV 30 @ 7:30PM

SATURDAY, DEC 1 @ 7:30PM

SUNDAY, DEC 2 @ 2PM

A \$1 fee will be added to each ticket purchased by a NON-PCAA MEMBER.





# December Events



**DECEMBER 7, 8, 9**

Fri 7:30pm | Sat & Sun 2pm & 7:30pm

## A CHRISTMAS STORY

Rediscover the artistry and wholesomeness of a classic film in the Palace's atmospheric theatre. This December, the Palace will present a Classic Christmas Movie Weekend featuring the beloved 1983 holiday movie, A CHRISTMAS STORY. Sweetly nostalgic, the movie lovingly and hilariously depicts a childhood Christmas in 1940s America. For 35 years, generations of movie-lovers have delighted in the wintry exploits of young Ralphie Parker (Peter Billingsley), who wants one thing from Santa Claus more than anything else: a Red Ryder Carbine Action Air Rifle. A must-see holiday film. Rated PG. 94 minutes. Movie Admission: \$4 All Ages, \$2 Current PCAA Members.

## The Art of Lettering

**DECEMBER 13**

Thu 6:30pm - 8:30pm

## THE ART OF LETTERING

Have you always wanted to learn how to write beautifully but don't know where to begin? Join Danielle Knight in the Scharer Patron Lounge as she teaches you the art of hand lettering! Danielle will walk you through everything you need to get started on your lettering journey including: basic drills, letter forms, and her favorite tips and tricks. You'll receive two brush pens, a marker, a workbook and have the opportunity to make something that's perfect for the holiday season. Grab a few friends, a cup of coffee or a glass of wine, and join Danielle for a night of fun and creativity!

Coffee drinks, wine, and soda will be available. Sorry no walk-ups – all tickets must be purchased in advance. \*\$35 PCAA Member/ \$36 Non-PCAA Member (includes supplies & drinks)



**DECEMBER 18 & 19**

Tue & Wed 5pm - 7pm

## AUDITIONS

*The Tale of Snow White*

Auditions for the Palace Theatre's junior stage production THE TALE OF SNOW WHITE will be held on the main stage Tue, Dec 18 and Wed, Dec 19 from 5:00pm to 7:00pm each day. Director Emily Yaksic is looking for children ages 7 to 14 years to play a variety of leading and supporting characters for this fresh and funny stage adaptation of the classic fairy-tale by Barbara Lennon and produced in special arrangement with Pioneer Drama Service. All participants may audition either day and should enter through the front theatre doors. Auditioners should dress comfortably and come prepared with a short monologue or poem of their choice. Show dates are February 8, 9, & 10, 2019

*'Tis the season* to count our blessings, and we at the Palace Theatre have many for which to be grateful. THANK YOU to our amazing community of supporters who include corporate sponsors and individual donors, PCAA members and volunteers, local performers and artistic team members, and of course ticket buyers who help keep the arts alive and well at the historic Marion Palace Theatre. A special word of thanks to JOAN AND KENNY COMSTOCK who along with the MARION COMMUNITY FOUNDATION recently funded the replacement of the theatre's hearing assist devices! An additional shout out to the MARION COMMUNITY FOUNDATION for selecting the Palace as a grant recipient for funds to purchase new body mics and cyc lights for the theatre stage.



Thanks to JOAN AND KENNY COMSTOCK and MARION COMMUNITY FOUNDATION the Palace owns 12 listening devices that connect directly into the sound system. Hearing impaired patrons may request to use a device at no cost during an event.



Body mics were worn by Junie B. Jones, Jr. cast members in October thanks to a grant from MARION COMMUNITY FOUNDATION. On November 2, Diamond Rio will be the first event to utilize the new cyc lights.

# Going Once, Going Twice.....SOLD!

Want to grab amazing one-of-a-kind items such as autographed concert memorabilia, movie posters, music CDs, and more? Then you'll want to check out the Palace Theatre's brand new Facebook Online Auction Group. Simply go to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/marionpalace> and request to be approved. You never know what you'll discover!

Items are available for a LIMITED TIME so you will want to visit this page regularly to check out new auction items and to place bids on your favorite pieces – but, hurry once items are gone, they're gone!



## MARION PALACE THEATRE & MAY PAVILION

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## HOLIDAY SHOPPING MADE EASY

With the holidays just around the corner, it's time to start thinking about gift ideas for all of those special people in our lives and the Palace Theatre is the perfect place to start.

Tickets to an upcoming show make excellent stocking stuffers and are hands-down one of the best presents you can give for any occasion. Here are a few staff recommendations: For the **music connoisseur**, ANNIE MOSES BAND (JAN 12) is an excellent choice. This band combines the best of a diverse blend of genres including bluegrass, jazz, and classical. For **dance and performance enthusiasts** THE GOLDEN DRAGON ACROBATS (MAR 8) delivers a spellbinding and breathtaking performance that all ages love. For the **Classic Rock music lover** on your list, you can't go wrong with tickets to RUMOURS FLEETWOOD MAC TRIBUTE (JAN 26) or AMERICA (FEB 22). And don't forget **the little-ones** who would love to see THE TALE OF SNOW WHITE (FEB 8-10) come to life on stage!

But, don't just take our word for it, see for yourself by checking out the artists' promo videos on the Palace website- [marionpalace.org](http://marionpalace.org). In addition to the events listed above, you'll find a comprehensive list of upcoming movies, concerts, rentals, and more. If you need help selecting a show, the Palace Box Office ticket agents are happy to assist you. Stop in or contact us by phone at 740.383.2101 on Mon, Tue, Thu, and Fri from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The box office also sells gift certificates, light-bulb ornaments, books, and more.

And if you choose to do some online shopping, did you know you can also support the Palace at AmazonSmile? This site, operated by Amazon, offers the same convenient shopping features as on Amazon.com. The difference is that when you choose to shop on [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com), the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the charitable organizations you've selected. Support the Palace Cultural Arts Association everytime you shop! <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7456843>

