

An official newsletter of the historic Marion Palace Theatre

FROM THE DIRECTOR'S CHAIR

HAPPY REMINISCING - BEV FORD, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This is an exciting year for our community. It is Marion County's bicentennial celebration. I'm honored to be included in the Marion200 Speaker Series. My topic is the history of entertainment. I've been doing some research; thinking back to my own childhood and what we did for entertainment.

If you grew up in Marion "back in the day," chances are when the temperatures dropped you bundled up for some time spent outdoors. Maybe you donned a pair of ice skates and made your way to a frozen pond or icy surface at McKinley Pond, Sawyer Ludwig, or Chapel Heights. Or maybe you enjoyed trekking up and down the hill at the Harding Memorial or Lincoln Park with a sled in tow. I was never much for sledding, although we did put in our fair share of time on the hill at the Harding Memorial. But ice skating has always been a favorite childhood memory for me. I'm sure I wasn't as good as I remember myself to be. But I loved it nonetheless, and I love to reminisce with my daughters about my prowess on the ice, even learning to skate backward and taking the corners like a pro.

Fast forward with me to Christmas 2019. Our middle daughter surprised us with an "experience" gift. You guessed it; an ice skating outing with her family at Penn State's Pegula Ice Arena. When we opened the envelope to learn where we were headed, I was STOKED! Images of my younger self gliding gracefully across the ice filled my head only to be shattered by reality when I hit the ice and busted up my knees. I wish that was the end of the story, but sadly there's more.

What I didn't know is that my husband had NEVER...that's right NEVER...been ice skating. He and my oldest granddaughter were hugging the wall of the rink and holding on for dear life. But at some point a sense of confidence began to build, and he made his way away from the wall and into the flow of skaters. I lost track of him but when I "bit it," I headed off the ice to survey the damage to my knees only to return to the ice a short time later to see him being wheeled off the ice in a wheelchair. My youngest granddaughter reported that Papa had done "the pretzel" while trying to avoid a young skater who had fallen. Turns out that move resulted in two breaks to his right leg.

With a few weeks, a plate, some screws, a huge cast, and a scooter between him and the incident, he's now on the mend. And while I licked my wounds for a day or two and nursed my crushed childhood memories of skating days gone by, thankfully I wasn't badly hurt.

I learned my lesson. From now on, I'll stick to reminiscing not reliving my memories.

Maybe you have some entertainment memories you could share to help with my 200 Series speech. I'd love to hear your stories of how your family experienced entertainment through the decades. Feel free to contact me (bev@marionpalace.org).

In the meantime, how about making some current entertainment memories by joining us for our upcoming events? This issue is filled with great opportunities to engage in the arts with friends and family. I invite you to make plans now to take in a class or a show. Let's continue writing Marion's entertainment history right here at the Marion Palace Theatre.

Happy reminiscing!

Bev

CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

FEBRUARY 2020

- 6 CUP & CANVAS Academy Painting Workshop
- **7-9 MOVIE WEEKEND** Title to Be Announced
- 10 ACADEMY OF THE ARTS Winter Session IV Begins
- 14 TOMMY JAMES & THE SHONDELLS 70s Classic Rock Legend
- **15-16 MOVIE WEEKEND** Title to be Announced
- 16 AUDITIONS
 Nunsense II: The Second Coming
- 21-23 ROBIN HOOD & HIS MERRY MEN
 Junior Palace Production
- 24 ROSIE REVERE ENGINEER & FRIENDS School Matinee Series
- 28-Mar1 MOVIE WEEKEND
 Title to be Announced
- 29 LEAP INTO LAUGHTER
 Presented by Downtown Marion, Inc.

MARCH 2020

- 6-8 LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS
 Presented by Ridgedale Music Department
- **13-15** *MARY POPPINS*Presented by Pleasant Music Department
- **20-22** *INTO THE WOODS*Presented by Elgin Music Department
- **27-29 MOVIE WEEKEND**Title to be Announced

APRIL 2020

- 3-4 NUNSENSE II: THE SECOND COMING
 A Musical Comedy Palace Production
- 6 ACADEMY OF THE ARTS Spring Session V Begin
- 18 AMY GRANT
 Queen of Christian Pop Music
- 24 HEY MAVIS Soulful Appalacian Americana Music
- 25 THE MARIONAIRES
 Annual Barbershop Music Concert

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.

TOMMY JAMES and the Shondells

VALENTINE'S DAY FRI, FEBRUARY 14 @ 7:30PM

This Valentine's Day, you may want to skip the candy, flowers, and cards and instead climb aboard a rock n' roll time machine at the Marion Palace Theatre. The one and only TOMMY JAMES AND THE SHONDELLS will perform his biggest hits of the 60's and early 70's on Friday, February 14.

His stunning array of hits includes the 1966 smash record that launched his career "Hanky Panky," as well as "Crystal Blue Persuasion," "Crimson and Clover," "Mony Mony," "I Think We're Alone Now," "Draggin' the Line," "Sweet Cherry Wine," "Three Times in Love" and "Mirage."

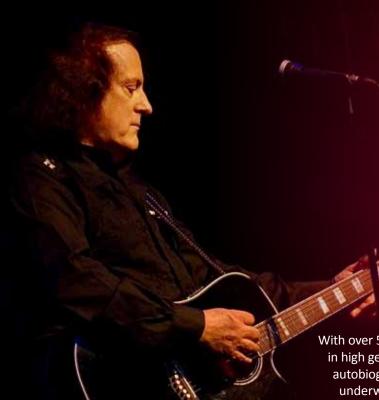
In all, TOMMY JAMES AND THE SHONDELLS has earned 23 Gold Records, 9 Platinum Albums, 32 Billboard Hot 100 chart hits, and over 100 million records sold worldwide.

His songs have been recorded by Prince, Bruce Springsteen, Billy Idol, Joan Jett, Kelly Clarkson, Dolly Parton, Carlos Santana, Cher, Tom Jones and The Boston Pops. And his timeless music has been heard in television shows such as "Breaking Bad," "Criminal Minds," "The Simpsons" and "The Goldbergs;" more than 42 films; and in many commercials.

His pop culture classics continue to attract multigenerations of concert-goers. "I look out at our concert crowds now and I see three generations of people." Tommy said in a recent interview with Music Mania Podcast. "It's really amazing. When we first started, did we think we would still be doing this for 50 years? The fans and the good Lord have been very good to us."

With over 5 decades as a recording artist under his belt, Tommy's career is still in high gear. Along with recording and touring, the artist's critically acclaimed autobiography, "Me, the Mob and the Music," a fascinating look at how the underworld tried to take control of his career, is on Rolling Stone's Top 25 Best Music Memoirs list and is now in production for a major motion picture. Additionally, Tommy hosts his own show on Sirus/XM Radio 60s on 6 channel. "Getting Together with Tommy James" airs from 5 to 8 pm on Sundays.

Sponsored by Marion Industrial Center, Inc. | Tickets \$60, \$52, \$48, \$40



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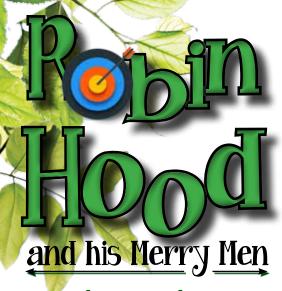
AUDITIONS ANNOUNCED! NUNSENSE II

They're back! The Little Sisters of Hoboken, those humble nuns with a touch of show biz flair, will return to the Palace stage in April with a new show, "Nunsense II: The Second Coming." In preparation for this musical comedy, show director Kristi Wink will hold open auditions on **SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16 FROM 1PM TO 4PM** in the May Pavilion. Wink is looking to cast 5-16 people ages 18 years and up.

Those interested in auditioning for this should enter through the May Pavilion and come prepared with a 1-2 minute musical theatre audition piece. No CDs and NO a capella pieces please. A pianist will be provided. Auditioners should also come prepared to read from the script. There are no specific dance requirements but auditioners should be aware that there are simple dance movements in the show. A full

character breakdown can be found on the Palace Theatre website www.marionpalace.org.

Performance dates for "Nunsense II: The Second Coming" are April 3 and April 4 on the Marion Palace Theatre main stage. In addition to the show, patrons may purchase tickets to a pre-show dinner in the May Pavilion. Tickets are on sale now.



Grab your bow and arrow and get to the

Palace for a madcap adventure!

The comic retelling of the classic story, *Robin Hood and his Merry Men,* takes place on February 21, 22, and 23. Show times for this Junior Palace Production are Friday and Saturday at 7pm and Sunday at 2pm.

Prince John has decreed that the citizens of Nottingham pay weekly taxes or face the penalty of death. His decrees are enforced by the evil Sheriff of Nottingham. The citizens think that all hope is lost until they hear word of a noble hero, Robin Hood of Locksley. Robin Hood, with the help of his merry men (which are all girls) robs from the rich, gives to the poor, and saves the fair Maid Marian. This hilarious version of the story includes thumb wars, missed cues, and a slow motion fight.

Directed by Emily Yaksic, Robin Hood and His Merry Men features a cast of 74 young actors ages 7 to 14 years. Playing lead roles in this stage play will be Carson Maharry as Robin Hood, Linnea Gerlach as Maid Marian, and Kennedy Hummel as Sheriff of Nottingham. Robin's Merry "Men" will be played by Krissy Klaiber, Elise Kramp, Alexa Schertzer, Olivia Shirring, and Lucy Turner.

Additional pricipal characters include: Matilda- Waverly Werling; Prince John-Tanner Miles; Kevin- Matthew Stover; Friar Tuck- Addison Dawson; Little John- Dana Congrave; Duncan- Austin Hicks; King Richard- Owen Breglia; Woodsman- Susanna Turner; Guards- Sawyer Bruestle and Joe Maharry; Lady Gwen- Clara Bruestle; Lady Helena- Ella Giorgi; Lady Elizabeth- Ciara Sturm; Lady Jacquelyn- Julia Pearch; Lady Isabel- Emily Hypes; Lady Cassandra- Madelyn Cheney; Lady Gertrude- Ameera Snyder; Lady Sybil- Miley Turner; Narrator- Isabelle Combs; Mac- Brooklyn Wallace; Stage Manager- Isaac Atwell; Lighting Guy- Kylee Mosley; Sweeper- Zoe Clark; Costumers - Katelyn Wicker and Ruby Williams; Prop Guy- Marin Cheney; Tech Guy-Halli Schenk; Throne Guys- Sam Briglia and Maddux Miles; Citizens- Becca Baldinger and Marissa Loyer.

Rounding out the cast as Nottingham kids are Joanna Adams, Julia Atwell, Ellianna Burns, Emmerson Burns, Hannah Carroll, Elana Cornell, Carly Cruse, Dylan DeWitt, Alexis Folk, Rilynn Giorgi, Emery Gorenflo, Abby Griffith, Skyler Hatten, Meghan James, Harleigh Kennedy, Devyn Kindell, Kaia Lawson, Caleigh Leslie, Amelia McFarland, Kaddalyn McGary, Cate Murray, Jaidyn Opuni, Brooklyn Orians, Willow Orians, Sophia Raimo, Kaylynn Ramey, Erin Ramsey, Valerie Riegel, Isaiah Rossiter, Scarlett Roston, Ava Stover, Samantha Stover, Avelyn Tway, Meleah Tway, and Robbie Whalen.

Don't miss out on this fun adventure and order your tickets right away. Reserved seating for adults is \$19 and children ages 12 and younger are \$12.



Sponsored by Marion Community Credit Union, Inc.

A SENSORY ERIENDLY

Fri, February 21 7pm Sat, February 22 7pm Sun, February 23 2pm

A SENSORY FRIENDLY viewing of the performance will take place on Wednesday, Feb 19 at 5:30pm. Doors will open at 5pm. Sensory Friendly show tickets are \$12 for all ages.

SCHOOL MATINEE SERIES LINKS ARTS AND EDUCATION ROSIE REVERE ENGINEER AND FRIENDS

Join us on MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, as the Marion Palace Theatre becomes Marion's largest classroom! The Palace Theatre's School Matinee Series strives to link Arts and Education by bringing to the stage live performances that support curriculum content. Taking the stage to perform the final show in the 2019-2020 Series will be professional touring company, TheatreWorksUSA in "ROSIE REVERE ENGINEER AND FRIENDS." This fun new musical, intended for grades K-4, is based on the books "Rosie Revere, Engineer," "Iggy Peck, Architect," and "Ada Twist, Scientist" by author Andrea Beaty, and spotlights the STEM curriculum (focusing on science, technology, engineering and math). Show times are at 10am and 12:45pm. Admission is \$3.50 for students and chaperones. Educators receive free admission.

This show is open to the public. For reservations please contact the Palace by phone, (740) 383-2101 or by e-mail, tickets@marionpalace.org. Thank you to our 2019-2020 School Matinee Sponsors:

Honda, Marion Public Library, and Ohio Arts Council.

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MARION PALACE THEATRE & MAY PAVILION

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Box Office Hours Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri, 9a-5p







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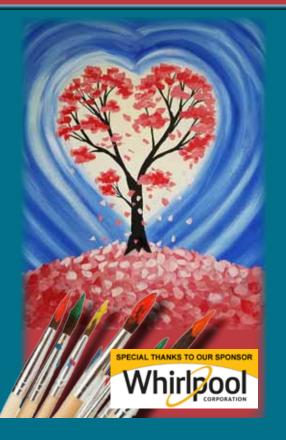
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POPULAR ADULT PAINTING WORKSHOP RETURNS TO THE PALACE

CUP & CANVAS THURSDAY, FEB 6 6:30PM-8:30PM

With sample paintings as a reference and qualified instructor Anne Quilter guiding you through the process of creating a take-home acrylic painting, this casual class is a fun way to create art, enjoy a favorite beverage, and socialize with friends.

"Cup and Canvas" participants will meet in the Scharer Patron Lounge on Thursday, February 6 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. No experience is required for this painting workshop. All supplies will be provided and coffee drinks, wine, and soda beverages will be available. The cost for this class is \$35 and includes all supplies and limited drinks. Sorry no walk-ups – all tickets must be purchased in advance in order for the



instructor to prepare class materials. To register, please contact the Palace Theatre Box Office during box office hours: Mon, Tue Thu and Fri, 9am to 5pm at (740) 383-2101 or enroll online at marionpalace.org. "Cup and Canvas" is sponsored by Whirlpool.

More group classes are offered at the Palace Academy of the Arts. Winter Session IV will begin the week of Feb 10 and includes ADULT CLASSES (Acting, Dancercize, Knitting, Tappercize, Yoga) and YOUTH CLASSES (Acting, Dance, Preschool Music). For just \$5, new students who register in advance may try a class on for size before making a commitment to a 7-week session. A limited number of scholarships are available for Youth from the John & Kathy O'Shea Marion Community Foundation Fund through a competitive application process. For info on PRIVATE LESSONS for all ages (Voice, Acting, Piano, Dance), please contact the *Palace.* ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆