

THE GRIFFIN

NEWSLETTER OF THE HISTORIC IRONWOOD THEATRE

SUMMER 2019

WHAT WILL YOUR VERSE BE?

The verse that you contribute to the play of life is your legacy.

What will you be known for when you leave this earth? The most influential people, the ones who leave behind incredible legacies, will live on in the hearts of the people they touch. Physically, they will no longer be a part of society—but their principles, philosophies and achievements will become immortal, spreading from generation to generation.



VIRGINIA (VELIN) BURCHELL

Virginia was instrumental in saving the Historic Ironwood Theatre in the early 1980s, helping to prevent its permanent closure or demolition, spearheading its acquisition from Wren Theatre Co. to public ownership, and working toward its historic renovation and restoration. Virginia gracefully and forthrightly faced the daunting challenges ahead in this work, alongside a dedicated team of wonderful community members who became dear friends in their united mission and dedication to the Theatre. Virginia and that early team recognized the Theatre's importance as a downtown anchor, and had the vision to work tirelessly to renovate and restore the Theatre to the historical purpose for which it was designed and built: a major cultural and artistic performance venue for downtown Ironwood and the region.

Virginia had a special place in her heart for the Theatre's iconic "Ironwood" marquee sign, and engineered the plan to have it transported to Marquette for its complete restoration.

"Edie" gifted to HIT because she loved and appreciated small town life and understood the importance of arts and culture for children and families. She knew that a rich community with culture and theatre makes it a better place to grow up.



EDITH SAARI

Ever since Walt retired from Motorola in Schaumburg, Illinois, he enjoyed all the great programs that the Ironwood Theater brought to town. Being a bachelor and living by himself, going to the theater meant a lot to him. He enjoyed being a part of the Ironwood community. Walt's gift to HIT was to make sure that the theater would remain open so more performances could be enjoyed for years to come.



WALT HESS

Arts Midwest Presents

PAULO PADILHA & BANDO



Sat. Sept. 28 @ 7 PM



PHOTO CREDIT: GAL OPPIDO

Catch the rhythm of urban Brazil with Paulo Padilha and Bando. Paulo's bright music, mischievous humor, and clever lyrics invite audiences to reflect on everything from parents to philosophy. Come experience the samba swing that will make you want to dance all the way home!

Arts Midwest World Fest presents international musical ensembles in intensive week-long residencies in smaller Midwest communities. Its purpose is to foster an understanding of and appreciation for global uniqueness and differences. The residencies consist of school concerts, workshops, and outreach activities, and culminate in a public concert.

To extend the cultural experience to the classroom, Arts Midwest provides participating communities with a curriculum that helps students and teachers better understand and appreciate the customs and traditions of the visiting ensembles. We hope that studying other cultures will spark a lasting curiosity in both teachers and students that will result in further exploration of the diverse and fascinating cultures of the world.

Arts Midwest World Fest is made possible by the National Endowment for the Arts, The Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, 3M, and the Kaufman Family Fund for Israeli Culture.

Sat. June 29 @ 2 & 6 PM

PFCT
PRAIRIE FIRE CHILDREN'S THEATRE



AUDITIONS: MON. JUNE 24 @ 9 AM
REHEARSALS: TUES.-FRI. JUNE 25 - 28 @ 9 AM - 2 PM
PERFORMANCES: SAT. JUNE 29 @ 2 & 6 PM

The Golden Age of Hollywood comes to life in this over-the-top version of the classic tale. On a movie set in the 1930s, everything that can go wrong, does! *Sleeping Beauty* continues the Prairie Fire Children's Theatre (PFCT) tradition of retelling the classics — with a musical twist. Sponsored by Gogebic Range United Way.

July 17, 18, & 19 @ NOON

FESTIVAL IRONWOOD



Enjoy FREE concerts during Festival Ironwood on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday at noon at HIT. Bring your lunch and take a break from the daily grind. Please visit www.ironwoodchamber.org/events/festival-ironwood for the complete schedule and for more information. We look forward to seeing you there!

Sat. July 27 @ 7 PM

Tim Mesun
along with Paul Butcher
and vocalist Erin Colwitz
BARTON ORGAN BENEFIT



Our own "king of the keyboard" is joined by horn player Paul Bucher and a special guest vocalist Erin Colwitz. Proceeds benefit the BARTON ORGAN MAINTENANCE FUND.

Cas & Friends

Sat. Aug 24 @ 7 PM



CAS BORDNER

You won't want to miss *Cas & Friends* — a musical, dance and instrumental show all-in-one. The show will benefit the Theatre's capital campaign for the new heating equipment. Mukavitz Heating installed a high-efficiency three-boiler system last fall. The Xcel Energy rebate was \$884 and the Winter Appeal raised \$20,627. With \$25,364 still to raise, stay tuned for more benefit events — or you may use the enclosed envelope to assist us now. Thank you for your support!

Hi! I'm Cas Bordner. This is my first *Cas & Friends* show at HIT. I've been volunteering here for about two years. I've been the student representative on the HIT Board of Directors for a year and work the light tech booth for many shows. I've been in many productions, including school concerts, plays, musicals, open mic nights, HIT Idol, and Silver Express performances. I've been singing ever since I can remember, and playing guitar for four years. I've taught myself ukulele, and since starting Silver Express, I've gotten into bass playing, as well. I hope you enjoy the show, as all of us involved have worked hard to make it a great one! 🎸

Awkward Stage Drama Club Hosts Playwright Workshop



The ASDC has learned that their summer playwrights group has been funded through a grant from the Superior Health Foundation, in the amount of \$1,849. This grant money will allow area youths in grades 6 through 12 to come together this summer to discuss, in a positive, safe, and supportive environment, the impact of bullying in their lives and the lives of people around them. Working with local playwrights and directors such as Helen Fashbaugh, students will then have the opportunity to take these experiences and write them into a play format. ASDC members will then practice the plays with the intention of presenting them to area schools in a bullying prevention program in the fall of 2019.

This is a follow up to the Peter Yarrow *Operation Respect* program that was presented at HIT in April 2018. 🎭



MURDER MYSTERY PERFORMED BY ASDC



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT for the ARTS
arts.gov

Operation of the Historic Ironwood Theatre is supported in part by a grant from the Michigan Council for the Arts and Cultural Affairs and the National Endowment for the Arts.

GRIFFIN layout/design by SHARPGRAPHICDESIGN.COM

First Friday, Aug 2 @ 7:30 PM



JOSHUA DAVIS & MAY ERLEWINE

Tried and true Michigan musician, Joshua Davis, was a Top 3 finalist on NBC's "The Voice" (season 8) 2015.

Some people might call May Erlewine "Michigan's Songbird," but her songs have traveled far beyond her home state. One of the most prolific and passionate songwriters of her generation, May's music has touched the hearts of people all over the world. Her words have held solace for weary hearts, offered a light in the darkness, and held a lot of space for the pain and joy of being alive in these times. When she starts to sing, there's no way around it. Welcome to the moment, everyone.

Sat. Aug 17 @ 7 PM

**The Eagles Hotel California
Original Tribute**



The Original Tribute to THE EAGLES Hotel California prides itself on creating the illusion that you are listening to the actual Eagles. They've shared the stage with the Doobie Brothers, Lynyrd Skynyrd, Styx, REO Speedwagon, Gretchen Wilson and many more International Artists. They've performed in Dubai, Japan, India, Bermuda and all over North America.

Sat. Sept 21 @ 7 PM

TIM HARMSTON

STAND UP COMEDY



Tim Harmston started doing comedy in 2002 at the Mall of America. In 2003, Tim won Acme Comedy Company's Funniest Person in the Twin Cities competition, something he will be sure to tell people when he's an old man in a bar.

Tim has worked in some of the best clubs and theaters from Los Angeles to New York City. He has made TV appearances on Late Show with David Letterman, Comedy Central, and NBC's Last Comic Standing. Tim's comedy has been described as "absurd," "sharp," "hilarious," and "other."

Iron County 4-H Volunteers @ HIT



BACK: JAYME HARMA, JACK MANZER, OLIVIA CANE
FRONT: AMELIA HARMA, CASSIE BORDNER, SOPHIA VILLANUEVA
Missing from photo: HALEY NYQUIST AND JACKIE BRADLEY

4-H volunteers Jayme Harma, Jack Manzer, Olivia Cane, Amelia Harma and Haley Nyquist were interviewed and asked why they volunteer at HIT. The group reported that community service is not required but they really like being at the theatre helping people and watching the shows.

Their favorite jobs at HIT include working the concession stand, collecting tickets, and handing out programs. Some reported that they want to do more sound and lights tech work and help backstage also. The group wants to put in more hours now that summer is here and they don't have school. 🦋

Save the Date

Sat. June 22 @ 7 PM

MOLLY OTIS AND TRUEGRASS



TrueGrass specializes in reviving music of the old-time masters, adapting modern material to the bluegrass idiom, and creating original songs and new tunes in the traditional stringband style.

All veterans of the Lake Superior Big Top Chautauqua, with over 100 years of combined professional performing experience, they take a traditional music recipe, add a pinch of influence from rock, blues, jazz, and gospel, spice it with experienced showmanship, and cook up a steady diet of fun to engage your audience.

First Fri. July 5 @ 7 PM

Tim Mesun



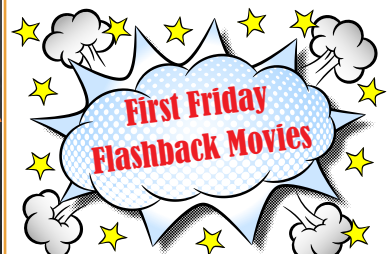
plays Peter Pan on the Barton Organ

Sat. Oct 26 @ 7 PM

**Halloween Silent Movie
& Organ Concert**

by
Andrew Rogers

SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER,
NOVEMBER & DECEMBER



Visit our website for complete movie details.

TICKETS & OTHER INFO

THEATRE BOX OFFICE

Open: Wed - Friday Noon - 4:30 PM

906-932-0618

DAY OF SHOW

Available in the Concourse one hour before showtime



PayPal



www.ironwoodtheatre.net



info@ironwoodtheatre.net



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Ironwood, MI
Permit #9



"I regard the theatre as the greatest of all art forms, the most immediate way in which a human being can share with another the sense of what it is to be a human being."

Thornton Wilder

BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH GIVING

Want to have more meaning in your life? Do you want to do something that is satisfying and of great service to your community? Do you want to ensure the Historic Ironwood Theatre (HIT) stays around for another 90 years? Then become a HIT volunteer!

HIT has some amazing volunteers such as Kristen Mueller Semo who is the Event Coordinator and calls volunteers to work at the numerous shows. Office volunteers Carol Erickson, Barb Gibbons, Karen Talkowski and Pam Iacullo answer phones and sell tickets Wednesday through Friday from noon to 4:30 pm. Sound and light tech volunteers such as Tyler Saari and Donny Osier assure the stage looks and sounds great. Helen Slining and our cleaning crew mop, sweep and vacuum to ensure the health and safety of our audiences. Volunteer Doug Doxey makes sure the concession area is well stocked and that everyone can enjoy popcorn and other treats. There are more behind-the-scenes volunteer board members, grant team writers, programming team members, building/maintenance team workers, and finance team consultants who offer their time to guarantee a wide variety of programs for the community to enjoy while assuring the financial sustainability of the Theatre.



Currently we are looking for a board treasurer, more office volunteers, cleaning volunteers, grant writers, and more!

If you have some spare time, please contact Zona Wick at 715-862-0390, stop by the theatre office and fill out a volunteer form, or ask any volunteer at a show how to become a HIT volunteer. 