

EAU CLAIRE CHILDREN'S THEATRE
1814 OXFORD AVENUE
EAU CLAIRE, WI 54703

(715) 839-8877



SEPTEMBER 2009

EMAIL: info@ecct.org
WEB: ecct.org

• Theatre for All Ages •

WE'RE 21 YEARS OLD! TIME TO GET OUR OWN PLACE!

We've all been there- turned 21, about done with college, really done with having roommates and looking to spread your wings. It's time to take that next step and get a place of your own! ECCT is taking that next step during its 21st season with the creation of a new space that will indeed allow ECCT to spread its wings with the creation of new programs and the opening of a whole new chapter in ECCT history.

Why It's Needed

Eau Claire currently has a dearth of smaller performances spaces. While ECCT is committed to, and will continue to perform at, the State Theatre with the larger Broadway musicals, there are a number of shows that are just too small for an 1100 seat theatre. They require a more intimate setting. Others are critically-acclaimed works with a more limited appeal. Still others require a great deal of audience interaction or only work if the young audience is right up near the stage. Popular shows could run for multiple weekends. Young performers could rehearse in their actual performance space. There have been many ideas suggested to ECCT on what types of programming it could offer- unfortunately the answer is too often- "there's no place to do that."

What You'll See There

The new space will have a permanent stage and flexible seating for up to 286 patrons connected to the current building by a vestibule. This will be surrounded by 92 parking spaces. The construction of the multi-purpose space will allow ECCT to:

- Create a new KIDS 4 KIDS series of shows that features performers ages 8-12 as they cultivate their dramatic skills
- Offer a second season of shows by EXPRESS ENTERTAINMENT for our adult performers and audiences
- Increase programming for preschoolers and day care centers with shorter shows, puppet theatre and creative classes
- Encourage small performance troupes in improv and experimental theatre
- Provide the community with a small venue that can be used for meetings, receptions, bands, parties and other gatherings

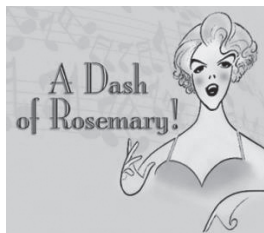
When You'll See It

Sept. 11- Plans approved by State of WI; bidding process closes
Sept. 18- Contractors selected
Sept. 30- Groundbreaking Ceremony (watch for more details)
Oct. 5- Site preparation and grading
Oct. 23- Slab poured
Nov. 15- Parking lot completed
Dec. 31- Project completed
Jan. 31- Lighting installed and building outfitted
February, 2010- Grand Opening!

How You Can Help

Over the next few months ECCT will be working diligently to raise \$500,000 for the construction and outfitting of the building. Opportunities range from naming rights for the facility and amenities to the purchase of lights and chairs with nameplates. Donations of all sizes will be gratefully accepted and can be a one-time gift or a 3 or 5 year pledge depending on the size of the tax-deductible gift. Donations of in-kind goods and services are welcome as are ideas and volunteers for increased fundraising efforts. Watch your mailbox over the next few weeks for specific fundraising materials. Can't wait that long to give or get involved? Call Wayne at 839-8877 to pledge your support!

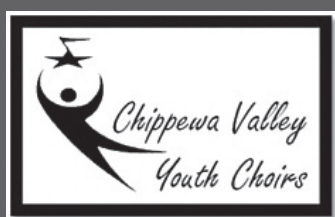




September 11 at 7:30pm
September 12 at 2pm & 7:30pm
Mabel Tainter Center for the Arts

Join us for this tribute to American musical icon Rosemary Clooney. This four person show features Cathy Reitz, Jessica Breed, Zach

Schultz and David Olson performing such standards as "Come On-A My House", "Mambo Italiano", "Sentimental Journey", hits by Cole Porter and Irving Berlin and favorites from the movie "White Christmas" accompanied by a five piece jazz combo. Tickets are \$16 for adults; \$14 for seniors and \$6 for youth and are available through the Mabel Tainter box office only at www.mabeltainter.com or by calling 715-235-0001.



CVYC is getting ready for the 2009-2010 Season and we want YOU to be a part of it! Four choirs are open to girls in grades 4-12 and boys in grades 4-8. The first rehearsal and mandatory parent meeting for all registered singers and all other interested singers is Tuesday, Sept. 8 from 6-7:30pm at DeLong Middle School in the auditorium. Those girls wishing to audition for the Chanson Choir should contact CVYC at info@ecct.org and we'll forward your request on to the director. For more info on the choirs, the 2009-10 calendar and an application contact info@ecct.org or 839-8877.



Dancers prepare for the Sept. 18 "DANCING WITH THE EAU CLAIRE STARS" event at the Ramada Convention Center. Pictured are Ken Vance Automotive's Kristin Everett with Kelly Peak; TV-18's Jamie Paige with Lee Heike; Country Jam's Kathy Wright with Taylor Price. The event features 10 area dancers paired with 10 local celebrities competing in two rounds of dancing. Dinner and show or show only tickets can be purchased by calling 839-8877- at press time only 40 dinner and show tickets remained.

HATS OFF TO...

- Charter Media, Maverick Media and ECRAC for the sponsorship of HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL 2 last month
- Andrei Strizek for donating 6 new music stands for use by ECCT musicians- only 14 more needed!
- Isabelle Campbell, winner of the \$100 Border Gift Card in ECCT's READ A GREAT BOOK, SEE A GREAT PLAY program
- Johnson Litho Graphics for donating the printing of this month's newsletter
- Volunteers from Market and Johnson, M & I Bank and Wells Fargo Bank for completing many projects at ECCT during the United Way Day of Caring

Murder Mystery DINNER THEATRE WIN, LOSE OR DIE!

Sept. 25, 26, Oct. 2, 3
Ramada Convention Center

A game show with murder in the bonus round! Lyrical Pursuit, the popular game show where knowledge of lyrics could lead to fame and riches, has come to Eau Claire. Host Sparky Duke invites audience members to challenge the current Lyric King, Furlong Shemp. But before the show is over, someone winds up very dead! Join in the fun to find out who-dunit!

The following performers will be in the show- a different cast each weekend!

Sparky Duke Andrew Martin, Andrew McKenzie
Daisy DeCarlo Terri Johnson, Nikki Lee
Joe Plum Greg Kernkamp, Michael Strubel
Judy Dawson Angie Southworth, Jessica Breed
Del Spiggins Kathleen Sullivan, Bev Olson
The Accompanist Judy Willink
Furlong Shemp Dan Ekblad, Justice Varsho
Dr. Les Parker Steve Turek

Tickets are \$27 and include a 3-course Italiano Dinner featuring a Traditional Caesar Salad with Reggiano Cheese & Foccacia Crowns, a 3-item Pasta Sampler, Dessert, tax, tip and the show. Seating is at tables of 8 and is limited to 144 patrons per show. Reservations must be made and paid for by the Tuesday the week of your show at 839-8877.

October Auditions

All auditions held at ECCT, 1814 Oxford Ave.

The Orphan Train

October 4 & 5 at 5:30pm

The orphan trains were designed to move orphans living in poor conditions in the city to families in the Midwest to give them the chance for a better life. From 1854 to 1929, over 250,000 children were placed with families through this program. This series of vignettes is based on the actual stories of children riding the orphan train from New York to Kansas City.

Auditions: Cold readings from script- no prep needed

Roles: 6 boys and 6 girls ages 8 to 13; 3 males and 3 females ages high school-adult

Rehearsals: generally 5:30pm-7pm 3-4 nights per week Oct. 7-Nov. 4.

Shows: 4 school matinees and 2 public shows Nov. 5-7 at North HS; 2 school matinees and 1 public show Nov. 17 & 19 at the Mabel Tainter Center for the Arts.



October 4 & 5 at 7pm

The mischievous Cat in the Hat acts as the emcee for this fantastical, magical, musical extravaganza, bringing to life all of our favorite Dr. Seuss characters- Horton the Elephant, Gertrude McFuzz, Lazy Mayzie and all of the Who's of Whoville. Clever, colorful, tuneful and full of heart, Dr. Seuss comes through again!

Auditions: Leads- prepare a 1 minute cutting from any Broadway musical; chorus roles and children will sing a familiar song. You may be asked to read from the script; there will be no dance audition

Roles: 22 males and 18 females ages 8-Adult including The Cat in the Hat, Horton the Elephant, Maysie LaBird, Gertrude McFuzz, the Grinch, the Wickersham Brothers, the Sour Kangaroo, Jojo, a large chorus of jungle animals and all the Whos in Whoville.

Rehearsals: generally 4 nights per week from 7-9:30pm Oct. 7-Nov. 18.

Shows: 5 public shows Nov. 19-22 at the State Theatre

For more audition info contact us at info@ecct.org.



Based on the books by Louis Sachar

Come along with the wacky students of the Wayside School as they journey on one crazy thrill ride of a school year! Crazy costumes, colorful scenery and Louis Sachar's zany characters will have you roaring with laughter and giggling in delight- no matter your age!

You'll see the following cast members in the show:

Mrs. Gorf, Miss Valoosh	Annika Ekblad
Mrs. Jewls	Kristin Wogahn
Mr. Gorf, Mr. Pickle	Dan Ekblad
Louis	Alex Ekblad
Myron	Kyle Wogahn
Dameon	Carson Johannsen
Bebe	Paige Vasel
Rondi	Hannah Jones
Leslie	Sammy Gibbons

Shows are October 2 at 7:30pm and October 3 at 1:30pm at North High School. Reserved seat tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for seniors and youth online at www.ecct.org or by calling 839-8877. The show is sponsored by Family Times Newspaper and is rated **E** for Everyone.

Harvest Hustle

Saturday, October 17- Eau Claire Orchards
(6470 Balsam Road, Eau Claire)

10K Road Race • 2K Run/Walk

USATF Sanctioned

Enjoy the beautiful autumn countryside as you run this challenging course to support ECCT! Registration starts at 7:30am with the 10K race at 9am and the 2K at 10:30am followed by the hilarious Mascot Race. Enjoy the corn maze, apple catapult and hayrides while cheering on your favorite runners. Registration forms can be downloaded at www.ecct.org or you can register online at www.active.com.

Sponsorship opportunities available. For more information and a sponsor packet contact Wayne at 839-8877 or info@ecct.org.



1814 Oxford Avenue
Eau Claire, WI 54701

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Permit #1868
Eau Claire, WI

The Eau Claire Children's Theatre is a non-profit volunteer-driven community theatre providing quality theatrical and educational experiences for western Wisconsin residents of all ages.

Check out our website at ecct.org for the latest ECCT information!

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Newsletter Printing Donated by Johnson Litho Graphics

NEW at ECCT!

ECCT is pleased to expand its musical offerings this fall at 1814 Oxford Ave.! Starting Sept. 8 Annelies Slack will be opening her private voice and piano studio at ECCT. Annelies has been offering lessons for almost 20 years and taught music for 10 years, including the Arts Conservatory of

Central Pennsylvania. She sings with the MasterSingers in Eau Claire and has her BME and Masters from UW-Eau Claire. Half hour lessons (\$17/lesson) will be offered Tuesdays and Wednesdays 3-7pm and Fridays 3-6pm. The studio is filling quickly; to register contact annelieslack@gmail.com.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER

September 8	CVYC Rehearsals Begin	6pm	DeLong MS
	Voice and Piano Studio Opens		
September 11	A DASH OF ROSEMARY	7:30pm	Mabel Tainter
September 12	A DASH OF ROSEMARY	1:30pm & 7:30pm	Mabel Tainter
September 13	YAC Meeting	7pm	ECCT
September 15	ECCT Board Meeting	5:15pm	ECCT
September 18	DANCING WITH THE EAU CLAIRE STARS	6pm	Ramada
September 25-26	Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre- WIN, LOSE OR DIE	6:30pm	Ramada
October 2-3	Murder Mystery Dinner Theatre- WIN, LOSE, OR DIE	6:30pm	Ramada
October 2	SIDEWAYS STORIES FROM WAYSIDE SCHOOL	7:30pm	North HS
October 3	SIDEWAYS STORIES FROM WAYSIDE SCHOOL	1:30pm	North HS
October 4 & 5	Auditions- THE ORPHAN TRAIN	5:30pm	ECCT
	Auditions- SEUSSICAL	7pm	ECCT
October 17	2nd Annual Harvest Hustle	9am	Eau Claire Orchards
October 22-24	RENT	7:30pm	State Theatre
October 30	Big Band Monster Bash	7pm	Ramada

Find us on **facebook** - "ECCT Fan Club"