



Market House Theatre

April 2010 Off Stage Noises

We don't just entertain... We change lives!

Opening April 15th at Market House Theatre is **Wedding Belles**, a delightful Southern comedy by Alan Bailey, co-author of the ever-popular *Smoke on the Mountain* series, and Ronnie Claire Edwards, best known as Corabeth on *The Waltons*.

Set in 1942, *Wedding Belles* is the uplifting story of a young girl who shows up at the bus station in Eufala Springs, Texas to meet her fiancé, an infantryman set to ship off to World War II the next day. When four eccentric ladies of the local garden club learn the couple intends to marry at the courthouse that day, the women impulsively decide to plan an elaborate wedding, throwing their lives and friendships into turmoil as they race to accomplish the nuptials in one frenzied afternoon.

Nominated for the American Theatre Critics Association 2009 Steinberg New Play Award, this heartwarming play was hailed as "delightful!...funny and folksy" by *The Dallas Morning News*. Forty theaters across the country inquired about the rights to *Wedding Belles* before the play had its first performance.

Playing "good old girl" Bobrita Tolliver is MHT veteran and St. Mary Middle School teacher **Sue Fletcher**, seen in *The Sugar Bean Sisters* and *Dearly Departed*.

Kris Shanks of Blythe, White & Associates portrays Glendine Slocumb, a Southern firecracker.

A newcomer to the MHT stage, Shanks performed recently in *The*



From Left to Right- Kris Shanks, Marsha Cash, Sue Fletcher, and Diane Byrd.

April 15-18 and 22-25, 2010

Vagina Monologues at the Cherry Civic Center. MHT Business Manager **Marsha Cash** plays Violet Montgomery, a compassionate woman who thinks of herself as frail. Cash has appeared in numerous MHT productions, including *Communicating Doors* and *The Sugar Bean Sisters*. Confident and in charge, Laura Lee McInerney is portrayed by **Diane Byrd**, recent director of *God's Favorite* and seen in *Tom, Dick and Harry*. Playing the young Ima Jean Tatum is veteran MHT performer **Audra Hall** of Paducah Remediation Services. Hall has been seen in *Beauty and the Beast* and *Annie Get Your Gun*.

Michael Cochran directs, with Susan Odum as Assistant Director. *Wedding Belles* is sponsored by NewPage and Don & Renie Barger. Paducah Bank and IVS New Media sponsor the entire main stage season.

(Continued on back page)

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Market House Theatre Summer Programs



JUNE CLASSES

(Rising 4th through 8th grade) **Disney's ALADDIN KIDS Musical Performance camp:** Members of this workshop will have loads of fun working on Disney's ALADDIN! Discover a "whole new world" with the incorrigible dreamer Aladdin, headstrong Princess Jasmine, the nefarious advisor, Jafar, and of course, everyone's favorite DISNEY'S ALADDIN KIDS is certain to thrill actors and audiences with its immensely popular score and timeless yet thrilling songs. This stage adaptation of the Disney film specifically-for young performers features hit songs including Friend Like Me, Prince Ali, and A Whole New World. Additional characters include: Lamp Salesman/prince

teller, Sultan, Iago, Tiger God, Flying Carpet, Belly Dancers, Royal Guards, Gymnast. This workshop culminates in two public performances! In addition to improving skills as a performer - members will also learn a bit about other aspects of show production - including stage makeup, scenery and props. Zany, fast-paced theatre games will add to the fun! **June 14-25, Two weeks - Monday through Friday, 9:00 - 12:00.** Minimum/Maximum enrollment: 20/40 **Fee: \$130** Instructor: April Cochran **Performances will be Friday, June 25 at 5:00 and Saturday, June 26 at 2:30 in our MainStage theatre!**

(ages 8-12) **Ballet Workshop - The Ugly Duckling:** During this workshop dancers will be learning an original short ballet about a familiar duck's transformation into a beautiful swan to be performed on the last day of class! No previous ballet experience is required. Dancers should wear a leotard with pink tights and leather ballet slippers. Hair should be pulled away from the face and off of the neck. **June 7, 9, 11, 14, 16, 18. 2-3:00.** Min/Max: 4/12 **Fee: \$45.** Instructor: Emi Chapman Hensel.

(ages 13 & up) **"Work It Out" Conditioning Class:** Have fun while getting an awesome workout! Kick start your workout routine with exercises that will improve strength, flexibility, and stamina through yoga, pilates, and even kickboxing. The class will consist of a warmup followed by strength building and aerobics and end with a cool down. Come ready to work hard & have fun! **June 7, 11, 14, 18, 21, 25. 3-4:00.** Min/Max: 4/16 **Fee: \$45.** Instructor: Emi Chapman Hensel.

JULY CLASSES

(Rising 1st through 5th graders) **"Grammarosaurus" Musical Performance camp:** News Flash! The Loch Ness monster has been spotted nearby! Roving reporters Jessica, Roberta and Sally have been assigned the task of tracking down these elusive creatures. It turns out that they are actually Grammarosauri - here to save the the world from its grammatical crisis! This hilarious, tuneful and (*don't tell the kids*) educational show will be presented for family and friends on the final class day. In addition to improving skills as a performer while working on the play - members will also learn a bit of other aspects of show production - including stage makeup, scenery and props. Zany, fast-paced theatre games will add to the fun! **July 12-23, Two weeks - Monday through Friday, 10:00 - 11:30.** Minimum/Maximum enrollment: 14/30 **Fee: \$80** Instructor: April Cochran **Performance of GRAMMAROSAURUS will be Friday, July 23 at 5:00 in our MainStage theatre!**



(ages 4 & 5) **Pre-ballet** An introduction to the exciting world of ballet and movement! Pre-ballet is designed to get your preschooler moving and having fun while learning rhythm, creative movement, and basic ballet positions through fun exercises and sing-a-long songs. Little movers should wear comfortable clothing and ballet slippers with hair worn away from the face. Leotard and tights are optional. Boys welcome! **July 6, 8, 13, 15. 1-2:00.** Min/Max: 4/10 **Fee: \$30.** Instructor: Emi Chapman Hensel.

(Ages 4 & 5) **Quack, Oink and Squeak Creative PlayShops!:** Children will explore art, movement, and storytelling as they act out favorite stories! Through theatre games - children will develop expression and self-confidence by playing with language and pantomime. A great introductory class for preschoolers or soon-to-be Kindergartners! **July 12, 14, 19 & 21. 2:00 - 2:45 p.m.** Minimum/Maximum enrollment: 8/12 . **Fee: \$30** Instructor: April Cochran

CLASS SIZES LIMITED! CALL MHT BOX OFFICE TODAY TO REGISTER!



Spotlight on...

Murder For Hire Troupe

While no one is exactly certain when the Murder For Hire Troupe was created, the seasoned on-call cast of 8 to 10 all agree that improvisation and spontaneity keep the audiences involved, entertained and coming back for more.

Actors in this virtuoso troupe have included Renie Barger, Don Barger, Marsha Cash, Steve Schwetman, Tom Dolan, Roy Hensel, Fowler Black, Audra Hall, Chip Bohle, Julie Price, Michael Brewer, Travis Hensel, and April and Michael Cochran. The troupe performs on location (at schools, country clubs and private parties) and interacts with the audience members throughout the entire semi-scripted show.

"Our scripts, which are written by Eileen Moushey of *Mysteries by Moushey*, reflect the host's chosen theme or a relevant subject matter," said Marsha Cash, Box Office Manager for Market House Theatre and seasoned MHT performer. "While we do stay in character for the duration of the performance, there is a part of the dialogue that is improvised on-the-spot, made up for that particular audience. We have creative freedom to produce a character based on general outlines."

When the Troupe arrives to the specified location, they are ushered in as party guests with everyone else. Once the action begins, though, audience members must search for clues to determine the murderer of the party.

"Depending on the clue, we'll have guests come up to us and sing," said Steve Schwetman, radio personality for Bristol Broadcasting and most recently seen in *God's Favorite*. "Or they will ask us our favorite color, all to find out the true identity of the murderer."



*No Photos are available as all current members are in the Witness Protection Program to protect their identities!

The show is usually centered in a dinner theatre style setting. This type of event is perfect for high school fundraisers, where the students serve dinner to the guests and raise money for class projects. One of the troupe's favorite school venues is Caldwell County High School. "We are asked back almost every year," said Renie Barger, immediate past president of Market House Theatre Board of Directors and seasoned MHT performer. "It's an overall fun experience for actors and audience members."

"Rehearsals are more laid back than those of a regular show," said Barger. But just as the audience members must wait for the end to learn the murderer's identity, so must the actors during rehearsal. "Michael Cochran will hand out only the beginning of the scripts," said Cash. "We won't know until many rehearsals later who will play the murderer. It really heightens the suspense for us, and we carry that out during the performance."

The Murder For Hire Troupe is available! Book them for your next event or school fundraiser by calling the Box Office at 444-6828. But be mindful of those whom you sit beside. You never know when an unsuspecting party guest will jump right into the who-done-it murder mystery.



MARKET HOUSE THEATRE
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www.mhtplay.com

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Wedding Belles (continued)



Performances of *Wedding Belles* will be April 15-18 and 22-25, 2010 at 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday evenings and at 2:30 p.m. Sundays. There will be an additional matinee performance on April 24th at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$19 for adults and \$16 for seniors, military, and children (12 and under). Tickets are available through the box office (444-6828) at 132 Market House Square Tuesdays through Fridays from noon to 5:00 p.m., or online at www.mhtplay.com.

Annual Campaign

Market House Theatre greatly appreciates our loyal supporters who faithfully make their donation in the spring of the year, and we always welcome new supporters! Checks may be mailed to:

Market House Theatre
 132 Market House Square
 Paducah KY 42001

As a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, Market House Theatre depends on the support of individuals who believe that community theatre enriches the lives of participants and audiences alike.

The Kentucky Arts Council, a state agency, provides operational support funding for Market House Theatre with state tax dollars and federal funding from the National Endowment for the Arts.	
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