

Ann Arbor Civic Theatre  
Act  
75  
years  
1929-2004

# Spotlight

December, 2003



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President: Anne Bauman  
Vice President: Brian Harcourt  
Treasurer: Fred Patterson  
Secretary: Linda Borgsdorf

Glenn Bugala  
Tiff Crutchfield  
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**Ann Arbor Civic Theatre**  
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Ann Arbor, MI 48104

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Ticket Line: 734/971.2228  
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Office Hours: Mon.-Fri, 10 AM - 1 PM

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## From the Managing Director and the Program Director

**A**s the leftover turkey dwindles and the holidays approach, we thought it would be appropriate to take time to thank some of A2CT's unsung heroes. Although so many people at Civic volunteer countless hours on and behind stage, a few

dedicated members work tirelessly even further behind the scenes. This year's Board of Directors is one of the most active Boards we've experienced in a long time. They not only carry out the usual Board responsibilities, but volunteer in myriad other ways. Talk about a "working Board!"

Our president, **Anne Bauman** is

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## "Fiddler on the Roof" Brings New Twist on Tradition

**W**hen *Fiddler on the Roof* opens on January 15, 2004, audiences expecting a straight dose of

Broadway tradition will find themselves looking at the show with a whole new perspective. Director Rachel Francisco has set the musical drama not in a Russian village, but amid the expressionist art of the show's early-1900s timeframe.

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*In addition to all of his other challenges, Fiddler's Tevye (Mark Bernstein) must contend with his wife, Golde (Kathleen Beardmore).*

## From the Managing Director & the Program Director (continued)

an absolute dynamo. In addition to governing the organization, Anne is often onstage (look for her in *Fiddler on the Roof*) and steps up to any job that needs to be done. You can find Anne pitching in at workdays, organizing the archives (and trying to organize our office), sprucing up the rehearsal room, and even cleaning the bathrooms! Vice President **Brian Harcourt** is the chair of the Play Selection Committee and a member of our Technology Committee. He, too, can be found onstage (most recently in *The Importance of Being Earnest*) and he graciously fields numerous computer questions from the technologically-challenged staff. Treasurer **Fred Patterson** is new to the organization (although an audience member for years) and has hit the ground running. In addition to preparing amazing monthly reports, he is an efficiency expert and has researched and installed terrific software programs on our computers. Fred is a natural problem solver, and is currently working on a way to get the heat in our office to flow evenly. Secretary **Linda Borgsdorf** is also new to A2CT, but it hasn't kept her from jumping in. Linda is on a mission to organize the props in our storage room, and spends hours unpacking, sorting, and cleaning. Her dream is to get the inventory in order and catalogue it. Wow! Board member **Glenn Bugala** is involved in just about every aspect of the organization. He acts (most recently as Billy Flynn in *Chicago*), directs (*Tommy* and this Spring's 75th Gala to name a few), teaches workshops, manages the website, and serves on the Technology Committee. He also manages to work full time and be a hands-on dad to his adorable 8-month-old daughter, Sophie. **Anthony Provenzola** is another working stiff and hands-on dad who acts (Amos in *Chicago* and the title role in *Jekyll & Hyde*) and is producing all of this season's programs. **Kendra Smith** served as Secretary last term and is now deeply ensconced in organizing the 75th Gala--under her guidance, it promises to be a lovely event! Kendra has managed to lend marketing expertise and hands-on help with archiving. **Tiff Crutchfield** (a past A2CT president) produces shows, designs and runs lights, and contributes his talents as a professional graphic designer to numerous projects (look for his fabulous poster and ad designs for *Fiddler on the Roof*). **Don Devine**, also a past president, still imparts wisdom and advice while building (with his own hands) a home in New Hampshire. Even though he lived in a tent while building, we still got e-mail and

2 phone communication from Don on a regular basis.

We are certainly thankful for all the hard-working volunteers at A2CT, and our Board of Directors exemplifies the spirit and dedication that has kept this organization going for 75 years!

Cassie and Suzi ■

## Free Workshops at A2CT

**A**s part of a grant from Pfizer, A2CT is offering a series of free workshops on various aspects of theatre. A director's workshop, led by Glenn Bugala, already took place in November at WCC and was a big success. Other workshops planned include:

- Producing a show for A2CT: January 24 from 1-4 pm at A2CT, 322 W. Ann St.
- Auditioning for a straight show: February 7 from 1-4 pm at WCC's College Theatre
- Auditioning for a musical: March (date and place TBA)
- Auditioning for Junior Theatre: March (date and place TBA)

All workshops are free, but pre-registration is required. Registration can be done on our website at: [www.a2ct.org](http://www.a2ct.org), or by phone or in person at the A2CT office, 322 W. Ann St, 971-2228. Call or visit the website for updates on dates and locations for the workshops in March. ■

## Spotlight in Cyber Space

**G**ot e-mail? We want YOUR address. In an effort to cut costs and increase efficiency, A2CT is working toward an electronic version of the Spotlight. We will, of course, continue to send the Spotlight via regular mail to members who do not have e-mail, but will send an electronic version to those who are "connected."

To get on the electronic list, please e-mail your name, phone number and e-mail address to: [manager@a2ct.org](mailto:manager@a2ct.org)

Thanks!

## **Fiddler: a New Twist (continued)**

The show centers on the life of Tevye, his wife Golde, and their five daughters in the early 1900s--a volatile time for Jews in Russia. The family and their friends and neighbors struggle to hold onto their traditions in the face of religious and political persecution. First-time Civic director Francisco emphasizes the importance of presenting the show with strict representation of Jewish culture and traditions, many of which are lost in other productions of the show.

"Just the little things like the physical separation of the men and women and adding folk dances to the original choreography--we wanted the show to be truly authentic while still giving it very different staging and feeling," explains Francisco.

She achieved a unique atmosphere thanks to the set design and artistic contributions of professional watercolor artist Bill Anderson, who adapted his backgrounds and set décor to reflect the artwork of Russian-born painter Marc Chagall. The expressionist staging, says Francisco, helps to bring more of an abstract, timeless feel to the story.

"Our point was that while *Fiddler on the Roof* follows one particular family in one particular village, this story is universal," she said. "The persecution and discrimination faced by Jews at this time is a story that had existed for thousands of years, and continues to exist today."

Civic's *Fiddler on the Roof* stars Mark Bernstein as Tevye, Kathleen Beardmore as Golde, Amy Bogetto-Weinraub, Marci Roseberg and Anna Boonin as daughters Tzeitel, Hodel and Chava, as well as Curt Waugh as Perchik, Dave Feiertag as Motel, Lisa Putman as matchmaker Yente and Anne Bauman as Frumah Sarah. The staff is led by music director Kimberley Dolanski, with original Jerome Robbins choreography adapted by assistant director/choreographer Caitlin Frankel and Francisco. ■

*Fiddler on the Roof* runs from January 15-18, 2004 at the Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre in the Michigan League building. Performances are Thursday-Saturday at 8 pm, Sunday at 2 pm, with a newly-added Saturday matinee at 2 pm. Tickets are \$21 for adults and \$19 for students and seniors at all performances, except opening night, where all tickets are \$14. Tickets are available through the Michigan Union Ticket Office at 734-763-TKTS.

## **Volunteer for A2CT**



is the season for giving! And what would a volunteer organization be without people who are willing to give, not only from their pocket-books, but also of their time and talents?

A2CT would like to take this opportunity to say "thank you" to those volunteers who have wielded hammers, picked up paintbrushes, taken out the trash, moved boxes, sorted a bucket of nails, swept the floor, answered the phone, passed out programs, run an errand, memorized lines, sewn a seam, or gotten on a ladder, all for the sake of Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. We wouldn't be celebrating 75 years of theatre if it weren't for these and countless other tasks undertaken by so many of our selfless volunteers!

A special thanks goes to the UM Gandhi Day of Service students and Anne Bauman, Tiff Crutchfield, Cassie Mann, and Jimmy Dee Arnold, all of whom helped spruce up our new Ann Street space on October 4th. We would also like to thank Odie Eldon and Lorna Colon for helping in the office and Ben Sweetser for installing our new computer. Last, but not least, we appreciate all the ushers and box office personnel who helped out with *Chicago* and *The Scarlet Pimpernel*.

Are you interested in volunteering for A2CT, but not sure how you can help out? Here are a few things on A2CT's volunteer wish list for this holiday season:

- Producers – We are currently looking for a producer for this season's production of *My One and Only*, as well as producers for the 2004-05 season.
- Office help – Cassie and Suzi need an extra pair of hands to help out in office once a week.
- Ushers and Box Office Personnel for *Fiddler on the Roof* – Sign up now to volunteer and see the show for FREE!
- Cleaning volunteer – A2CT needs someone to do some regular light cleaning at the Ann Street office (This lucky volunteer gets season tickets in exchange for his/her dirty work!)

Contact our volunteer coordinator, Emily Perryman at [volunteer@a2ct.org](mailto:volunteer@a2ct.org) to let us know if you are interested in filling one of these positions. You may also visit the Participation page on our website at [www.a2ct.org](http://www.a2ct.org) for more ideas about how you may volunteer for A2CT. ■

# Civic Gets Ready to Tap!...in *My One and Only!*

**A**uditions for *My One and Only*, the June musical production directed and choreographed by Ron Baumanis, is still a few months away (the first week in April), but it is NOT too early to start preparing for this Gershwin-laced tap dance show! (See audition information at our web page at [a2ct.org](http://a2ct.org)).

While *Steel Pier* featured a short tap-dancing sequence a few seasons ago (remember the tap dancing number on top of the airplane wings?), there hasn't been any all-out tapping in a Civic show since 1992...so it is time to end that long, long hiatus!

While there are several parts for non-tappers, all cast members will be required to learn several short tap routines for the show. Like most of Ron's productions, there really are no non-dancing parts.

Muscle-memory needs to be re-activated prior to resuming tap after a long absence.

If you haven't tapped in awhile, now is a great time to dust off those tap shoes and take a review course. If you have never tapped, there are beginning classes available this winter that will teach you the basics prior to auditions. Basic dancers might want to consider an intermediate or ongoing tap class. All of the local colleges offer tap as part of their standard musical theatre and dance curriculum.

Swing City Dance Studio in Ann Arbor offers all levels of tap dance instruction. Swing City owner, Susan Filipiak, has previously choreographed for Ann Arbor Civic Theatre (On the Twentieth Century and other shows) and is intimately familiar with musical theatre tap. She will also be offering some short workshops prior to auditions (see article at right).

So...dust off those tap shoes (or buy a pair if you don't have one) and get yourself out of the cold winter doldrums by taking a nice hot dance class!

It's also great aerobic activity!

Tap shoes are available at Dancers Boutique on East Stadium Boulevard--those who already own sturdy oxford shoes or women's character shoes can buy

④ the correct size taps and have them attached at

Town Cobbler in Briarwood Mall.

You can also mail order tap shoes through [capezio.com](http://capezio.com) and several other web sites. (Note: we will use standard non-reflective black tap shoes in the show.)



Hopefully we will see a lot of you at auditions come April...and for those of you who come to our productions and don't appear on stage, you will have a bit of a heads up as to how intricate the numbers will be that you will see performed for you in *My One and Only!*

The countdown to the "Strike up the Band" tap finale has started...■

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## Susan Filipiak Offers "Intensive Tap Brushup" Mini-Workshop

**T**o coincide with auditions for *My One and Only* directed and choreographed by Ron Baumanis, Susan Filipiak is presenting a three-class mini-workshop to brush up tap techniques.

This workshop is intended for those who are auditioning for *My One and Only* that already know how to tap, but need a quick intensive review.

The workshop will be held at Susan's dance studio, Swing City Dance Studio, and the cost of the three classes will be \$30 inclusive. You should bring your own tap shoes, although there are a few pair at the studio to borrow for the classes. The classes will be held on Saturdays March 6th, 13th, and 27th from 5 to 6 pm.

To register, make out your check to Swing City Dance Studio and mail it to Ann Arbor Civic Theatre, indicating your interest in the workshop. Please do NOT register for this class if you do not have any previous tapping experience. This is meant as an intensive brush-up only.

Beginning classes are available at her studio starting in January for those who have no tap but would like to learn the basics.

Registration is strictly limited to the first 25 people who sign up, so make sure you register today! ■

# President's Corner



Dear A2CT Members,

**T**he 2003-2004 season has gotten off to a terrific start! There has been lots of buzz and positive feedback about our first three shows, with *Chicago* dazzling everyone at the Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre in September, and *The Scarlet Pimpernel* and *The Pied Piper* bringing in enthusiastic audiences to WCC's Towsley Auditorium and College Theatre, respectively. What a great way to get the season going!!

The new office and rehearsal space at 322 W. Ann Street is working out wonderfully, and rehearsals for *Fiddler on the Roof* are currently in full swing. Ann Arbor Civic Theatre is definitely alive and well, and much of our success is due to the individuals and corporations who support our community theatre with sponsorships and donations on an annual basis. You recently received our annual fund-raising appeal letter, requesting your support of Ann Arbor Civic Theatre again this year. Many of you have already generously responded, which we deeply appreciate. To those of you whom we've yet to hear from, let me take this opportunity to again ask that you consider a tax-deductible gift to Ann Arbor Civic Theatre (which can still be written off in this calendar year!). Every dollar we receive goes toward our continuous effort to provide meaningful and entertaining theatre experiences to our members and general audience.

Thank you so much for your continued support of Ann Arbor Civic Theatre!!!

Anne Bauman,  
A2CT President ■

LOG-ON: Up-to-the-minute information is always available on our website: [www.a2ct.org](http://www.a2ct.org).

## ANN ARBOR CIVIC THEATRE Membership Form 2003-04

The Ann Arbor Civic Theatre (A2CT) is a nonprofit community theatre that provides the citizens of Ann Arbor and the surrounding region with opportunities to participate in all aspects of theatre: performance, production and appreciation.

As has always been true, revenue from ticket sales alone cannot cover the entire costs of operating our community theatre. We hope that you will join us as a supporter of this vibrant and venerable institution. In addition to providing support needed to keep A2CT fiscally sound, membership offers you:

- a discount on Season Tickets
- our "Spotlight" newsletter
- a listing on lobby signage for gifts of \$500+
- a listing in all of our show programs
- a vote for Awards Night nominees

**Sign up** (I want to make a tax-deductible gift!)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ ST. \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Determine level of contribution:**

Member \$25 or more/year My Amount \_\_\_\_\_

75th Anniversary level \$75 or more/year My Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Star \$100 or more/year My Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Director \$250 or more/year My Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Benefactor \$500 or more/year My Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Producer \$1,000 or more/yr My Amount \_\_\_\_\_

**Pay Ann Arbor Civic Theatre** by credit card, check, or money order:

Credit Card  VISA  Mastercard  AMEX

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to:**

Ann Arbor Civic Theatre  
322 W. Ann Street  
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

**Make a difference in your community . Thank you  
in advance for your support.**

# And the Winners Are...Results of A2CT Awards Night

On Saturday, October 25, 2003, Ann Arbor Civic Theatre celebrated the best of the best with a fun night of awards, performances, food and drink. Thom ("TJ") Johnson hosted the event, and there were performances from most of the nominated shows and one of last year's fundraisers.

For those of you who weren't able to make it on a very rainy and cold night, we know you've been waiting with baited breath for the results, which appear below. Ann Arbor Civic Theatre would like to thank everyone who participated in last season and all the nominees. You are all "winners" in our book!



## Best Actress in a Featured Role

Lorna Colon (Maria Gonzales), *Smile*

## Best Actor in a Featured Role

Bob Skon (John Utterson), *Jeekyll & Hyde*

## Best Actress

Emily Raymond (Emma), *Jeekyll & Hyde*

## Best Actor

Anthony Provenzola (Jeekyll),  
*Jeekyll & Hyde*

## Best Music Director

Diana Laurence, *Jeekyll & Hyde*

## Best Choreographer

Ron Baumanis, *Smile*

## Best Director

Wendy Sielaff, *Jeekyll & Hyde*

## Best Production

*Jeekyll & Hyde*

## Best Prop/Special Effect

Linda Wark, for *Jeekyll & Hyde's* Laboratory

## Best Set Design

Mike Sielaff for *Jeekyll & Hyde*

## Best Costume Design

Susie Berneis, *Jeekyll & Hyde*

## Best Lighting Design

Don Smith, *Jeekyll & Hyde*

## John Rae Cameo Award

Robin Barlow, Chausible, *Importance of Being Earnest*

## President's Awards

Dennis Block, for Buildout  
Glenn Bugala, for various  
Ben Sweetser, for various  
Bob Skon, for sound improvements  
Curt Waugh, for fundraisers  
Anne Koczlakowski-Magee, for storage organization

## A2CT Awards Night

The Ann Arbor Civic Theatre Awards Night was held on Saturday evening, October 25th at the small, but charming, College Theater at Washtenaw Community College. Over 80 people braved the torrential rains to attend the Awards Night party - "dressed to the nines" - and ready to socialize, cheer, and celebrate. It was a great evening.

We are already starting to make plans for the Awards Night for next year, and we want to include as many people as possible in the process. We'd love to see more votes coming in from our Season Subscribers and long-time members. How can we do this? We're eager to hear your suggestions on this question and on any aspect of this annual event. Please contact me if you'd like to be part of an Ad Hoc Committee that will work to evaluate, plan, and organize the 2003-2004 Awards process. Just call me at 734-665-4573 and we'll set up a time to meet. We're always looking for new ideas, and I look forward to hearing from you!

Anne Bauman,  
A2CT President ■



*Rebel Without a Cause (represented above with a picture from our season brochure) is just one of the great shows for which Ann Arbor Civic Theatre is holding auditions.*

## Upcoming Auditions

### Dinner with Friends

Directed by Janet Myer

Auditions take place Sunday and Monday, January 25 and 26 at 7 pm. Callbacks, if needed, are Tuesday, January 27. All auditions take place at A2CT Rehearsal Studio, 322 W. Ann St.

This Pulitzer Prize-winning exploration of marriage and relationships finds two couples—all best friends—rocked by the sudden revelation of infidelity and impending divorce. *Dinner with Friends* features roles for 2 men and 2 women, ages 35-50. Auditions consist of cold readings from the script and improvisations. Those interested in auditioning need attend only one of the regular audition dates, and no pre-registration is required. Production dates are March 18-21, 2004, at Washtenaw Community College's Towsley Auditorium.

### Rebel without a Cause

Directed by Lorna Colon

Auditions take place Sunday and Monday, February 22 and 23 at 7 pm. Callbacks, if necessary, are Tuesday, February 24. All auditions take place at A2CT Rehearsal Studio, 322 W. Ann St.

*Rebel without A Cause* is the stage version of the classic 50's movie starring James Dean. The rebel in question is Jim, a disaffected teen trying to fit in at a new high school. Jim's struggle to find his niche and gain

independence from his parents fuels this quintessential study of American adolescence. *Rebel* has roles for 7 adult men ages 3-65, 6 adult women ages 30-80, 6-8 boys who look 15-18, 3-5 girls who look 15-18, and one boy or girl, age 10-14. Auditions consist of cold readings from the script. Those interested in auditioning need to audition for only one of the two regular audition dates, and no pre-registration is required. Production dates are April 22-25, 2004, at Washtenaw Community College's Towsley Auditorium.

### 75th Anniversary Gala

A memorable evening of entertainment and refreshment to commemorate this landmark year.

Performance: May 6, 2004, WCC's Towsley Auditorium

Auditions for Core Cast in March. 5 weeks of rehearsals during April and May, 2004

### My One and Only

Look on page 4 of this publication for further information.

*For further information on these and other auditions, please visit the audition page of the A2CT website at [www.a2ct.org](http://www.a2ct.org) or call the A2CT office at 971-2228. ■*



*"Would it spoil some vast eternal plan...if I were a wealthy man?" - Mark Bernstein plays Teyte in Ann Arbor Civic Theatre's upcoming production of Fiddler on the Roof.*



Ann Arbor Civic Theatre  
322 W. Ann St.  
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

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## ANN ARBOR CIVIC THEATRE



BRINGING DRAMA TO ANN ARBOR FOR 75 YEARS, AND IT SHOWS.

### **Our 2003-2004 Season**

Chicago  
The Scarlet Pimpernel  
*Junior Theatre's* The Pied Piper  
Fiddler on the Roof  
Dinner with Friends  
Rebel Without a Cause  
75th Anniversary Gala  
My One and Only  
*Junior Theatre's* The Odyssey