

Ann Arbor Civic Theatre  
**Act 75**  
 years  
 1929-2004

# Spotlight

September, 2004



## A2CT Board of Directors

*President:* Brian Harcourt  
*Vice President:* Tiff Crutchfield  
*Treasurer:* Fred Patterson  
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 Paul Bianchi  
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John Eman	Burnette Staebler
Robert Green	Gayle Steiner
David Keren	Phyllis Wright
Ron Miller	Sheryl Yengera

**Managing Director: Suzi Peterson**  
**Program Director: Cassie Mann**

## Ann Arbor Civic Theatre

322 W. Ann Street  
 Ann Arbor, MI 48104

*Website:* www.a2ct.org  
*Email:* manager@a2ct.org  
*Office:* 734/971.0605  
*Ticket Line:* 734/971.2228  
*Facsimile:* 734/971.2769

**New Office Hours! M-F 9 am- 2 pm**

04-05 season sponsors



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## From the Managing Director and the Program Director

**W**elcome everyone to the first newsletter of the 2004-2005 season!

Our annual meeting at Arbor Brewing Company on June 13th was such a success and we thank everyone who attended. We celebrated our past season, discussed ways to improve, elected new Board members, and had a great time socializing with everyone. Please welcome newly elected Board members Thom Johnson, Bob Skon, Kim Perlman, and Paul Bianchi to an already strong and hard-working group. Please also welcome newly-appointed community members Catherine Lilly and Ellen Woodman.

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## A2CT Goes On the Town

**T**he first show of Ann Arbor Civic's 04-05 Season is in the final weeks of rehearsals and it is looking fantastic!

Directed and choreographed by Emily Perryman, *On the Town* follows three WWII sailors as they cut loose in New York City on a 24-hour leave. With just one day in which to cram as much fun as they can, each sailor has different ideas. Chip wants to see all the sites, but relies on an outdated guidebook provided by his father.

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(From left to right) Caitlin Frankel, Brandon Cave, Timm Gillette, January Provenzola, Dann Smallwood, and Joy Martin star in *On the Town*, September 16-19 at the Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre.

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

We're off to a busy start here in the office. Our online ticketing system, recently designed by Online Technologies Corp. with guidance from Glenn Bugala, is up and running. We've processed all season and single ticket orders so far on the new system, and things are running smoothly. Seating charts and selection are streamlined and more accurate. If you've ordered season tickets this year, we've entered your information into our ticketing system and have created a password for you. We're happy to pass along that information if you'd like to see the process for yourself or order additional tickets to a show. Just contact us in the office for more info.

Membership renewal letters will go out shortly, so look for them in your mail. As you all know, A2CT relies on the memberships and donations of all of you to support us in providing exciting shows and opportunities, so please, continue your support!

As always, we welcome all of you to get involved: join a committee, usher at a performance, audition for a show or help backstage, or help us in the office with mailings and administrative tasks. One of the most satisfying feelings for us here is to experience the community spirit and involvement among our members.

The curtain's about to go up; see you at the theater!

Suzi & Cassie ■

## We Want to Hear from You!

Our Civic Theatre Board meets every month to discuss the operation of the Theatre and make decisions regarding each performance and the overall organization. As we are a member organization, we welcome all suggestions, questions and input from you, the members. If you have something you'd like discussed, please inform us in the office and we'll pass along your thoughts at the next Board meeting. Or, come to a Board meeting to voice your opinion. Get involved: suggest an area of improvement and join the committee to implement your idea! Board meetings are

held the 3rd Sunday of every month. ■

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## Junior Theatre's 04-05 Season



We are happy to have two great plays with equally wonderful directors for our 2004-05 Junior Theatre season. Our fall production is *The Emperor's New Clothes*, directed by Claire Stevens. The show runs November 18-21 at WCC's College Theater. *The Emperor's New Clothes* is a funny, updated version of the children's classic.

Auditions for *The Emperor's New Clothes* will take place Wed, October 6 and Friday, October 8. Rehearsals will take place Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday afternoons and will begin October 9. There are great roles for young actors in grades 4-12. Auditions will consist of improvisations and cold readings from the script. No prepared audition or pre-registration is necessary; actors need to attend either the Wednesday or Friday audition from 4-6pm. For more information, contact the office or visit our website at [www.a2ct.org](http://www.a2ct.org)

The spring Junior Theatre production is *Sleeping Beauty*, adapted by long-time Civic actor/director Kerry Graves and directed by Adrienne Clark. This charming adaptation puts a twist on the age-old story-the "beauty" in this case is a boy, and his "savior" is a girl! *Sleeping Beauty* runs May 19-22, also at WCC's College Theater. Look for audition information on our website soon. ■

## Upcoming Auditions

*Inherit the Wind* - Directed by Jon Elliott

**Show Dates:** November 11-14, 2004 at Towsley Auditorium

**General Auditions:** Monday and Tuesday, Sept. 20th - 21st at 7:00 p.m. at 322 W. Ann St.

**Callbacks:** Thursday, Sept. 23rd, at 7:00 p.m.

Those auditioning need to attend only one night of General Auditions.

*Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* - Directed by Wendy Sielaff

**Show Dates:** January 6-9, 2005 at Mendelssohn Theatre

**Children's Auditions:** Sat Oct 2 10:00-1:00 OR 3:00-6:00 at the A2CT space - Must come for entire audition

**Adult Auditions:** Joseph 11:00-1:00, Narrator 1:00-3:00, Pharaoh 3:00-4:30

**Adult General Auditions:** Sunday Oct 3 7:00-10:00 at A2CT space

**Callbacks:** Monday Oct 4

**Check the website for complete information - [www.a2ct.org](http://www.a2ct.org)**

## President's Corner

Greetings A2CT Members!

It is with great trepidation that I fill the shoes of our outgoing president, Anne Bauman. She is leaving the theatre in a very strong position. I can only hope to come close to her achievements.

Many of you may not know who I am and why I'm the president of the Ann Arbor Civic board. Allow me to introduce myself. I've appeared on the Civic stage three times but my experience with theatre runs back quite a few years. I graduated with a BA in Theatre from Grinnell College in 1983. In that year, two fellow Grinnellians and I founded Suspension Theatre here in Ann Arbor. Believe it or not, we actually thought we'd make a living from it. It took us three years to realize that was unlikely. But by then I loved Ann Arbor too much to go to New York or Los Angeles to try my hand in the big leagues. So, I see myself as quite a bit like most of this band of talented actors, directors, designers and more in our community; with a passion for theatre and for Ann Arbor. It is with this dual passion that I hope to contribute in any way I can to the continued growth of the Ann Arbor Civic Theatre.

As I begin my tenure, I look to the Civic's mission statement for guidance: provide opportunities to participate in theatre and promote creative excellence in theatre. How can we get more people involved and how can we make each show better? If you have any ideas please drop us a line!

Finally, as with all non-profit endeavors, we worry about funding. I'm very proud to call Pfizer, OTC and Michigan Radio partners; we continue to seek organizations that may be looking for ways to increase their involvement with the community. If you have any ideas here, we'd certainly welcome them as well. See you at *On the Town*!

Sincerely, Brian Harcourt ■

## On the Town (continued)

Ozzie wants to meet as many girls as he can, and Gabey just wants to meet that one special girl. With a clever script by the famous team of Comden and Green and classic tunes by Leonard Bernstein—including "New York, New York"—*On the Town* promises a lighthearted evening of musical romantic comedy.

This production is the Ann Arbor Civic Theatre premiere of the show. Originally developed from a ballet by Bernstein and Jerome Robbins ('Fancy Free'), the musical expands on the ideas found there. And it is an unusual musical in that it has six extended Modern Dance sequences where there is no singing. The musical became a popular Gene Kelly-Frank Sinatra movie, but inexplicably used little of the fantastic Bernstein score.

To recreate 40's era New York City, director Emily Perryman has enlisted set designer Leo Babcock, artistic director Gregg Bugala, and costume designers



*All the classic musicals have a dream ballet! On the Town in rehearsal.*

Erin Sarbinoff and Ginger Grolle. "I wanted the set and costumes to have the look of those old black and white photographs that were hand-tinted in basic, primary colors," says director Perryman. "Leo, Gregg, Erin, and Ginger are doing a terrific job in bringing that vision to life. With Timothy Semanik directing the orchestra and Ben Cohen directing the vocals, this show promises to be both a visual and musical feast!" ■

*On the Town will be presented September 16-19 at the Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre. Performances are Thursday-Saturday at 8pm and Sunday at 2pm. Tickets are \$23 adults and \$21 students and seniors Friday through Sunday, and \$15 for all tickets on Thursday. Tickets are available through the Michigan Union Ticket Office at 763-TKTS. Information is available at 971-2228 or by visiting [www.a2ct.org](http://www.a2ct.org).*



Non-Profit Organization  
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Ann Arbor, MI  
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Facsimile: 734/971-2769

## ANN ARBOR CIVIC THEATRE



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

### 04-05 'world tour' season

- 09/04 On the Town
- 11/04 Inherit the Wind
- 11/04 (Jr.) Emperor's New Clothes
- 01/05 Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat
- 03/05 Our Town
- 04/05 Lysistrata
- 05/05 (Jr.) Sleeping Beauty
- 06/05 Cabaret

2003-04  
Season Awards  
Event, October 30.  
Look for more info on  
our website and in  
the mail.