



**Florence
Community Theater**
Home of the Florentine Players

Florentine Players
July 2021
Newsletter

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



BY DEREK KOWAL

I want this newsletter to reach you and to get you excited.

I am excited! We have had to be away for a while, but now we are ready to explode!

After a successful run of Making God Laugh in May, we are ready for our next endeavor, *The Game's Afoot*, or *Holmes for the Holidays*, running in August.

Oh but wait, there is more...once that show ends, we will be holding auditions for our next show, *Steel Magnolias*, running in October... but I'm not done... we also have a fundraiser for the Florence Historic Foundation happening this month!

Details for all of these will appear in this newsletter, so please take a moment to read through it. I imagine you will be just as excited as I am when you realize we are coming back, and coming back in a big way!

Please feel free to reach out to me via email, derekkowal@gmail.com or you can even text me directly at (402)216-4944 if you want to get involved in any of these events.

I cant wait to see you all again very soon!

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



Twitter Facebook Instagram YouTube

OMAHA'S CHOICE AWARDS

Thank you once again for all of those who voted for us for Live Theater in the Omaha's Choice Awards. We have made the top three winner's list for our fourth year in a row! We owe it all to you, so thank you!

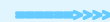
Live Theater
First Place
Omaha Performing Arts
Winners
Omaha Community Playhouse
Florence Community Theater



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Games Afoot	2
Wizard Trivia	3
Director's Notes.....	4
Florence City Hall	4
Letter from VP / Script Submissions....	4
MGL Memories.....	4
Audition Notice	5
Aloha Anderson.....	5

DONATE NOW— SCAN THIS QR CODE



[Point the camera on your phone at this code, and it will take you to PayPal, where you can renew your membership on-line]





FLORENCE COMMUNITY THEATER PRESENTS

Ken Ludwig's

THE GAME'S AFOOT

OR

HOLMES FOR THE HOLIDAYS

August 5, 6, 7 at 7pm

August 8 at 2pm

Tickets \$12 | Reservations strongly encouraged
Florence City Hall | 2864 State St | Omaha
Reservations | 531-600-8634

Comedy Rated PG: The show contains some material not suitable for children. Parental guidance suggested.

Presented with special arrangement by Samuel French, Inc



BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY
HomeServices
Ambassador Real Estate



THE
Swanson
GROUP

SwansonGroupRealEstate.com

WONDERING WORLD OF WIZARD WORD WISDOM WARFARE

Wizards of Fiction and Film Trivia Tournament

Friday, July 30, 2021

7:00 pm, Doors Open at 6pm

- * Tickets are \$10.00 per person participating or not. All ticket proceeds go to The Florence Historical Foundation.
- * Limited seating, reservations encouraged contact Florence City Hall (402) 885-9925
- * Fun for the whole family.
- * Cash prizes for adults and trophies for the under 12 participants. 1st to 3rd Place
- * Costume Contest, so dress for the occasion.
- * Cash Food & Bar.
- * Food and Drink menu is themed for the evening.
- * Teams up to 8 people

**Florence City Hall
2864 State Street
Omaha, NE 68134
402.453.4280**



LIKE AND FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK FOR MORE INFORMATION

TRIVIA FUNDRAISER

BY LAURA HAYDEN

FRIDAY NIGHT, JULY 30TH, 2021 FLORENCE CITY HALL IS SPONSORING THE WONDERING WORLD OF WIZARD WORD WISDOM WARFARE TRIVIA TOURNAMENT.

A WIZARDING THEMED MENU OF SWEET AND SAVORY WILL BE OFFERED. FOR THOSE WHO WISH TO IMBIBE WE WILL FEATURE BUTTERBEER AND OZ GROG

FEAR NOT, THE BUTTERBEER ALSO COMES IN A NON-ALCOHOLIC VERSION. THE ENTIRE \$10.00 TICKET PRICE IS A DONATION TO FLORENCE HISTORICAL.

THE GAME'S
AFOOT

OR

HOLMES FOR THE
HOLIDAYS

By Sara Scheidies

The Game's Afoot has truly been a blessing to me. As a first time director, I was plenty nervous when this whole process began, but the wonderful people with the Florentine Players assured me that they would do everything in their power to make this show as great as it can be. And I believe that's exactly what we're gonna have: a great show. I said at both evenings of auditions that I believe that The Game's Afoot is one of Ken Ludwig's best plays, and getting to see it come to life has been incredible. I am constantly blown away by the talent of my cast during rehearsals. Their instincts and willingness to collaborate has made the rehearsal process a breeze. In fact, I frequently find myself wrapping up rehearsals earlier than expected simply because they take what I give them and run with it! The show hasn't been without its challenges, of course, but with the help of my amazing production crew, those challenges have all been minor and easily overcome. We've got a fantastic show on our hands, and I hope that our audiences enjoy watching it as much as I've enjoyed bringing it together!

FLORENCE CITY HALL



By Laura Hayden

It's been a busy spring and summer (so far) at the Florence City Hall. My weekends have been booked with two to three events most weekends since I took over from Carrie in April. Last weekend with the storm and power outage was the first completely event-free weekend since May 1st.

The remaining summer and into fall looks to be busy as well. We are adding a new marketing tool to our arsenal in October. The Florence City Hall will be hosting a Bridal / Event Fair. We have a dozen vendors committed already, and we only just started exploring the idea. Hopefully this will become a twice yearly event.



LETTER FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

By Tracie Mauk

With our 2021 season reaching its halfway mark with *The Game's Afoot* (August 5-8), it's time to look ahead to our next season and beyond. We have a few exciting productions already in the works, including the long-awaited return of the Florence Melodrama, but we are always looking for the next exciting Florentine production!

Do you have a script in search of a stage? An idea burning in your head just waiting to leap out onto the page? The Florentine Players have an open call for script submissions. We're looking for original scripts to produce in upcoming seasons for the Florence Community Theatre.

If you have a script sample you'd like us to consider for an upcoming production, email a sample and plot description to scriptsubmissions@florencetheater.org. We'll review the sample and contact you via email should your script be chosen in our next annual board meeting production vote. Our deadline for next season is September 1, and we will vote in October.

There's nothing quite like seeing your vision brought to life on the stage by our many talented volunteers. If it's been your dream to unleash your imagination before the Florence faithful, we'd love to see it through! Our email inbox is waiting for you!



Memories from Making God Laugh - May 2021



AUDITION NOTICE



Audition Information

Show Title: Robert Harling's *Steel Magnolias*

Producing Theater & Audition Location: Florence Community Theater, Florence City Hall 2864 State St, Omaha, NE 68112

Audition Start Times: August 8 & 9 at 7pm

Production Dates: October 21, 22, 23 at 7pm, October 24 at 2pm

Rehearsal Dates: TBD

Audition Material Needed: Audition will consist of cold reads from the script. Please bring a headshot and/or resume if you have them and a list of conflicts for the months of August, Sep-

tember, and October. Scenes selected for auditions available from director upon request.

Show Summary: The action is set in Truvy's beauty salon in Chinquapin, Louisiana, where all the ladies who are "anybody" come to have their hair done. Helped by her eager new assistant, Annelle (who is not sure whether or not she is still married), the outspoken, wise-cracking Truvy dispenses shampoos and free advice to the town's rich curmudgeon, Ouiser, ("I'm not crazy, I've just been in a bad mood for forty years"); an eccentric millionaire, Miss Clairee, who has a raging sweet tooth; and the local social leader, M'Lynn, whose daughter, Shelby (the prettiest girl in town), is about to marry a "good ole boy." Filled with hilarious repartee and not a few acerbic but humorously revealing verbal collisions, the play moves toward tragedy when, in the second act, the spunky Shelby (who is a diabetic) risks pregnancy and her life. The sudden realization of their mortality affects the others, but also draws on the underlying strength—and love—which give the play, and its characters, the special quality to make them truly touching, funny and marvelously amiable company in good times and bad.

Rated: PG – The show contains some material not suitable for children. Parental guidance is suggested.

Contact Information: Director email: nealherring99@gmail.com; or info@florentineplayers.com

"*Steel Magnolias*" is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service

Director's Note: The six ladies in *Steel Magnolias* are to be portrayed as real people. Not caricatures or cartoons.



ROLES:

Truvy Jones: (age 40-50) Owns the town beauty shop, vivacious, upbeat, knows everyone's business and share it with anyone willing to listen. Dispenses advise with lots of hair spray.

Annelle Dupuy Desoto: (age 20-28) Very shy. Newly hired hair salon assistant. Transitions from unsure to wild to religious.

Clairee Belcher: (age 50-65) Widow of the former mayor. A grand lady. Elegant and sophisticated. Sarcastic member of the group. Loves to laugh and poke fun at the little things others cry over.

Shelby Eatenton Latcherie: (age 20-28) Prettiest girl in town. Strong willed and very passionate. Loves pink.

M'Lynn Eatenton: (age 40-55) Shelby's mother. Over protective at times. Always knows what's best. Strong and stubborn. The heart of the production.

Ouiser Boudreaux: (age 50-65) Wealthy curmudgeon. Tough, eccentric character. Very direct and very set in her ways.

ANDERSON ALOHA

A hui hou

Aloha means hello and goodbye in Hawaii. But a hui hou means see you later.

The Florence stage has been home to so many of our grand adventures over the last 13 years. We met, we got married, we bring Robin to rehearsals (where she immediately finds a parasol in the fire barn and energetically plays for however many hours we are there). Florence is our family, and the friends we have made here have helped us grow into the happy and adventurous family that you all know.

Our next adventure is taking us to sandier shores for a while. By the end of August, we will be making a new home somewhere on the island of Oahu. But it isn't goodbye, it is see you later. We will be back in a few years for good, and for plenty of visits too. We will be taking visitors once we get settled.

We expect to be the farthest address on the mailing list for future newsletters, but we will be keeping an eye on you, so don't do anything we wouldn't do (which leaves your options wide open).

A hui hou,
Molly, Stuart,
and Robin



MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS



For as little as \$5 a year, you can get all these great benefits:

- 4 quarterly printed newsletters per year
- Invitation to the annual *Florentine Players Awards Banquet* held every January.
- Voting rights to elect board members and changes to bylaws
- \$2 discount to *Florence Community Theater* productions
- Annual gift presented at the annual *Awards Banquet*
- Free promotion for your artistic endeavors through our social media channels and newsletter ("Florence Supports")

FLORENTINE PLAYERS

PLEASE MAIL THIS FORM AND A CHECK
MADE PAYABLE TO "THE FLORENTINE
PLAYERS" TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS:

FLORENTINE PLAYERS MEMBERSHIP

PO BOX 12061

OMAHA NE 68112

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name: _____
Street Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____
Home Phone: _____
Email Address: _____

Please mark one of the following:

- This is a renewal
 I'm a new member

I would like to receive the newsletter

- By US Mail
 By Email at the address listed above

Membership Category (mark one):

- Headliner (\$1,000 and up)
 Producer (\$500)
 Director (\$100)
 Patron (\$25)
 Star (\$15 per family of 3 or more)
 Player (\$5)

I would like to make a gift/donation in the amount of \$_____

Florentine Players

P.O. Box 12061
Omaha, NE 68112

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Mailing Address Line 1
Mailing Address Line 2
Mailing Address Line 3
Mailing Address Line 4
Mailing Address Line 5



The Florence Community Theater