



Wisconsin Rapids Community Theatre, Inc
220 3rd Avenue South, Ste #6
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495
715-421-0435
www.wrctheatre.org

NON PROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
WISC RAPIDS WI
54494
PERMIT NO. 31

Presenting live comedy, drama
and musical theatre since 1975



WISCONSIN RAPIDS
**COMMUNITY
THEATRE**
INC.



Spring 2016

From the Executive Director



I'm happy to give you the first sneak peek at WRCT's 41st season. This will be one for the whole family, and we are excited to be offering fun, old favorites, and new surprises for the 16-17 season. Season ticket forms will be available for

you to pick up at the spring show. If you're not able to get them then or don't feel like picking one up, we'll mail one to you in June or you can pick one up at the office. Thanks for a great season! Here's the lineup for next year:

FALL – Fox on the Fairway – Remember last year's Leading Ladies? Well, here's another great comedy by Ken Ludwig. The Fox On the Fairway takes audiences on a hilarious romp which pulls the rug out from underneath the stuffy denizens of a private country club. A charmingly madcap adventure about love, life, and man's eternal love affair with... golf.

HOLIDAY – Christmas Stories that Never Grow Old – This is an original script family show incorporating favorite Christmas stories and carols, told in skits, dance and music. For everyone from 3 – 103 to get you into the Christmas spirit.

WINTER – SHOW 1 (3 nights) – Full length 1-woman show.

Shirley Valentine - The heroine in this actor's tour-de-force is an ordinary middle class English housewife. As she prepares chips and egg for dinner, she ruminates on her life and tells the wall about her husband, her children, her past, and an invitation from a girlfriend to join her on holiday in Greece to search for romance and adventure.

WINTER – SHOW 2 (3 nights) – Three Shorties:

Graceland – It's 5:00 a.m., three days before the Graceland estate will be open to the public. Two ardent Presley fans, Bev and Rootie, are camped out before the gates, each determined to be the first to enter the sacred precincts.

Mrs. Sorken, a middle-aged suburban matron is scheduled to give a lecture on the meaning of theatre, but has lost her notes.

Wanda's Visit – Jim and Marsha have been married for 13 years and are feeling a little bored and unhappy. Wanda, Jim's old girlfriend, shows up for a visit. Out one night for dinner, all chaos breaks loose in the restaurant as a waiter tries to cope on his first day with the confused threesome.

SPRING – Steel Magnolias – WRCT travels back to Truvy's beauty salon in Chinquapin, Louisiana, where all the ladies who are "anybody" come to have their hair done. The outspoken, wise-cracking Truvy dispenses shampoos and free advice to the town's rich curmudgeon, Ouiser; an eccentric millionaire, Miss Clairee; and the local social leader, M'Lynn, whose daughter, Shelby, is about to marry.

Ellen

2016-2017 Season This is the place for great theatre!

Our Fall 2016 production Sept. 30
The Fox On the Fairway Oct. 1 & 6-9
By Ken Ludwig 2016

Our Holiday 2016 production Dec. 9-10
Christmas Stories Dec. 15-18
That Never Grow Old 2016
By Ellen Roeseler

Our Winter TWO-FER 2017 productions Feb. 9-10
Shirley Valentine Feb. 12
By Willy Russell 2017

Trifecta Feb. 16-17
Graceland by Ellen Byron, Feb. 19
Mrs. Sorken & Wanda's Visit by Christopher Durang 2017

Our Spring 2017 production May 12-13
Steel Magnolias May 18-21
By Robert Harling 2017

WRCT Board of Directors

Andy Gilbert *President*
Shirley Jung *Vice President*
Don Matthews *Secretary*
Lucy Runnells *Treasurer*
Stephanie Hoerth
Bob Kell
Marlin Schneider

Ellen Roeseler *Executive Director*
Cory Gavinski
Production & Facility Coordinator
Cathy Meils *Founder*

Tickets on sale
Tuesday-Friday from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. at
WRCT office at east end of Rapids Mall
Call 715-421-0435

Tickets will also be sold one hour
prior to performance at the box office



President's Corner

It has been a busy first four months at the Wisconsin Rapids Community Theatre (WRCT). We have put on two plays – *The Gin Game* and *Love, Loss and What I Wore* – and are in rehearsal for our last production of the year – *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike*. In addition to these plays, WRCT and its many volunteers provided both fiscal management and operational assistance for the immensely popular 10-day ArtiGras Festival. And for the first time, we provided facilities and technical assistance for Assumption High School's spring musical appropriately titled *High School Musical*. While these shows were all put on as full-scale productions, WRCT also presented a series of play readings by the great Russian playwright Anton Chekov. While WRCT's mission is to present plays to the community, we are also able to provide facilities for other types of programs. As usual, the theater was sold out for the Cody Clauson Trio performance. We also provided facilities for meetings of Aspirus Riverview Hospital, Heart of Wisconsin Shrine Club, the TerMaat Glavin Group and the Wisconsin Cranberry Research and Education Foundation. Even our kitchen facilities have been used by the SWC Humane Society during their Souper Snow Sculpture event.

What does this mean to you? It means that WRCT has provided, is providing, and will continue to provide a valuable space for the community for both appreciating the theater arts and rental space for all types of events. Of course we who are deeply involved in the activities of WRCT would be remiss in not thanking the community for their support 10 years ago that took our theater from a dream to reality.

Not only do we provide space, but we provide opportunity. Opportunity abounds in the theater with acting, technical theater and backstage work. To those outside the theater, we provide various spaces and technical expertise for group meetings or a performance venue for performances of any kind. I encourage you to take advantage of what WRCT has to offer.

Andy Gilbert, President

WISCONSIN arts BOARD
Creativity. Culture. Community. Commerce.

This season is supported in part by a grant from the Wisconsin Arts Board with funds from the State of Wisconsin and the National Endowment for the Arts.

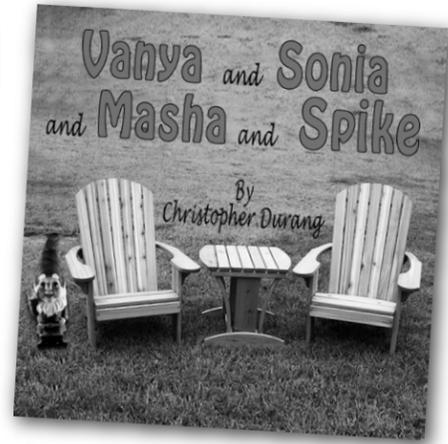
WRCT Presents:

Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike

By Christopher Durang
Directed By Susan Leslie Edgren

Performance dates:

May 13-14 & 19-21 7:30pm
May 22 2:00pm Sunday matinee



Family. Can't live with 'em but can't live without them, either. That's the theme in Christopher Durang's *Vanya, Sonia, Masha & Spike*. This play explores sibling relationships (and rivalries) among three middle aged adults, all of whom have been named after characters in Anton Chekhov plays by their community theatre loving parents. Vanya and Sonia have spent their lives living in their parents' house, caring for their aging parents and becoming financially dependent on their sister, while Masha went out into the world to become a world famous movie star. Now she is back with Spike, her new boy toy, determined to sell the house and be out from under the burden of supporting her siblings. Sonia resents her sister's glamorous life while Vanya yearns to be a playwright. Add a voodoo practicing psychic housekeeper and an idealistic young lady from next door into the mix and faults, foibles, laughter and tears ensue as this crazy, funny

family tries to find happiness (or at least temporary contentment).

This show won a Tony Award for best new play of 2013. In it, Mr. Durang explores the question, "What if my siblings and I were like Chekhov characters, trying to cope in a situation similar to any of Chekhov's plays?" You don't have to be familiar with the plays of Chekhov to thoroughly enjoy this production, but knowing that there are gentle references to *The Seagull*, *The Cherry Orchard*, *The Three Sisters* and *Uncle Vanya* add to the mirth.

I have a wonderful cast in *Vanya*! New to the WRCT stage is Christopher Moore as Vanya and Lisa Lang as Nina. Veterans Jody Steinke, Lucy Runnells and Jessica Chesebro are back! And you may remember Dorabian Schedgick from *Harvey*. We have been having the best time bringing these characters to life and are eager to present them to you!

Come to WRCT in May. Bring a friend, a sibling or anyone who may be psychically inclined and you just might be the first to spot the blue heron.....or wild turkey.... or whatever.

Susan Leslie Edgren – Director,
Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike



Thank you to our advertisers & sponsors of our 40th Anniversary Season

We couldn't have done it without you!

Animal Medical and Surgical Clinic of Wisconsin Rapids
Arts Council
Aspirus Hospital
Bank-A-Count Corp
Becker & Kumm, CPA
Central WI Cultural Center
Dog Star Resort
Eagle Construction

Edward Jones
Golden Eagle Log Homes
Great Expectations
Hilltop Assisted Living
Key Savings Bank
LaChappelle, Kryshak & Nettesheim, LLP
Optimists Club of WR
Paper City Savings

Paul Gross Jewelers
The Print Shop
Renaissance Learning, Inc.
Retirement Community of Nekoosa
Schmidt & Grace
U.S. Bank Foundation
WoodTrust Bank
WFHR



The WRCT Silver Foxes

A 2nd Tribute to Erma Bombeck
May 26, 2:00pm
Tickets: \$5, all seats reserved

Those of you who may have enjoyed the Silver Foxes ARTi Gras production of "Tribute to Erma Bombeck" will be happy to know the Silver Foxes Spring Show will be a 2nd Tribute to Erma Bombeck. Show time will be on Thursday, May 26 at 2:00pm in the WRCT Auditorium. Tickets are just \$5, all seats reserved, and are available at the WRCT office in the Rapids Mall, or by calling 715-421-0435. Our 2nd Tribute to Erma Bombeck is unlike the first in that it presents all new Erma material with an encore of "Family Vacation," which proved to be popular with audience members and actors alike.

Columnist Erma Bombeck was known for her quick wit and her wisdom about mother hood and family life. Her career began in the mid-60's and carried through to the '90s.

As always, the Silver Foxes meet twice a month on Thursdays and welcome newcomers to join us.

Community Space

The WRCT Auditorium and the Studio Theatre spaces are available for rent. The auditorium seats 223, and is designed as a performance or large meeting venue. The Studio Theatre is a multi-functional, black box facility and seats up to 60 people, depending upon the setup. WRCT personnel are happy to work with you to accommodate usage for your particular group or occasion.

The rental policy is available on the WRCT website or by contacting the office. If you are a non-profit organization, fees will be negotiated.

incourage community foundation

This season is funded by grant funds through
Incourage Community Foundation

Visit our web site
www.wrctheatre.org
for all the
latest information!

Upcoming Auditions:

WRCT Children's Theatre
presents

Without Strings

By Patrick Rainville Dorn

Directed by Kayla Jukich & Kaitlyn Keech

AUDITIONS:

May 25 & 26, 2016

5:30 - 7:30pm

Wisconsin Rapids Community Theatre

Anyone ages 8-18 can audition!

PERFORMANCE DATES:

July 15-17, 2016

You do NOT have to attend both audition days.
If these nights do not meet your schedule please let us know ASAP and let's figure out when you can audition!
We want you to audition!

Thinking of giving theater a try? The great thing about community theater is that ANYONE can do it, whether they've acted before or not! While we have a wonderful group of veteran actors that we can count on, we are always looking for new actors to add an exciting and fresh perspective to our productions. Give us some of your time and we will help you learn the skills you'll need to perform on our stage! Don't feel ready to jump into a lead role? That's okay! We'd be happy to let you get your feet wet with a smaller part!

If you have any questions,
visit wrctheatre.org
or call Kayla Jukich
(715) 323-1606
or Kaitlyn Keech
(715) 323-3767.

