



Fauquier Community Theatre's Spotlight

Painting Stories for 32 Years

September 2009

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FCT presents Children of Eden

October 2-4, 9-11, 16-18, 2009

Friday & Saturday at 8:00 pm, Sunday 2:00 pm



From Stephen Schwartz ("Godspell", "Pippin", and "Wicked") and John Caird of "Les Miserables" comes a joyous and inspirational musical about parents, children and faith... not to mention centuries of unresolved family business!

Freely based on the story of Genesis, "Children Of Eden" is a frank, heartfelt and often humorous examination of the age-old conflict between parents and children. Adam, Eve, Noah and the "Father" who created them deal with the headstrong, cataclysmic actions of their respective children. The show ultimately delivers a bittersweet but inspiring message: that "the hardest part of love... is letting go."

Children of Eden appeals to both religious and non-religious audiences. The melodic, energetic score is a mix of pop, folk, reggae, gospel, Broadway and powerful choral moments.

David Merrill is making his FCT debut as Adam alongside Danielle Sanders as Eve. Rick Laimbeer, who you may know as Charlie from "Annie Get Your Gun", plays "Father".

The children, seen prominently in some of last season's performances, are played by Tim Sampson, Liam Mulder, Colin Shea-Blymyer, Hannah Grothaus, Nichole Naccash, Hannah Fakoury, Ben Sampson and Burke Romans-Murray. Storytellers are Meyrem Baer, Sherry Bendt, Alison Cummins, Brandon Dawson, Cody Huntington, Adam Jordan, Sarah LaFantasie, Margot Laimbeer, Brad Nellis, Michael Parrish, Courtney Rice, Mollie Rodgers, Hannah Sachs and Hilary & Holly Tupper.

Children Storytellers are Hannah Abeel, Baylee Alerding, Jeremy Alexander, Skyler Buss, Dylan Cooke, Cady Eldredge, William Janowitz, Juliana Rodgers and Grace Schwab. And of course there have to be animals: Joel Alexander, Kaitlyn Bayer, Carson Buss, Nicole Harrison, Kimberly Jordan, Jakob & Josefina Krasny, Charlotte Kropf, Leah Nascimento, Joey Schwab and Joshua Vest.

Children of Eden is directed by Evelyn Rice and produced by Deanna James and Laurie Abeel. Dorothy French is the music director and Stephanie Sampson is stage manager. The choreography is by Danielle Sanders with costumes by Susan Noe.

Tickets are \$17 for adults and \$15 for seniors and students. You can purchase your [tickets online](#) today, through [email](#), or buy them at the door, subject to availability. Reservations are strongly recommended. Visit our [ticket page](#) for more information on ticket policies.

What Does the Cast Think?

The music is really what makes this show! The emotions are so strong in every piece; from unwavering curiosity in "Spark of Creation", to forbidden love in "In Whatever Time We Have", to learning to let go in "The Hardest Part of Love"...I guarantee you there is a song that will speak directly to you.

- Danielle Sanders (Eve, Mama Noah)

This is from Rick Laimbeer, who is playing the role of Father. David Merrill, Danielle Sanders, and Tim Sampson playing Adam/Noah, Eve/Mama Noah, and Cain/Japheth respectively, are the finest young actors I have ever seen perform in Community Theater. It would be a sin to miss this opportunity to witness these outstanding young actors doing what they do so well!

- Rick Laimbeer (Father)

This has been one of my dream shows that I always wanted to direct. It is a beautiful musical with several messages to give to the director, the cast and the audiences. It is rare for a director to get an opportunity to work with a cast that completely loves and supports each other as much as this cast does. It also warms the heart to see so many of the young people that I have in the show grow and gain confidence and a love for theatre.

This cast has worked very hard and learned a very difficult score and do it beautifully...please come and see a terrific show and the fruits of their labor.

- Evelyn Rice (Director)

Children of Eden is such a beautiful and powerful musical. It wasn't easy learning all the music and being able to fully capture the emotion of the show, but with the guidance of our great directors and dedicated cast, it had made the whole experience a fulfilling and excellent one. All the hard work has paid off and I recommend everyone to come and see the show.

- Hannah Grothaus (Yonah)

Season Subscriptions - Strengthening Friendships



Do you regularly attend FCT productions? Consider purchasing a [season subscription](#). A season subscriber receives a ticket for each of FCT's regular season productions at a discount. The 2009-2010 season has two musicals and three non-musicals. And beginning with our next production, season subscribers will be able to make seat reservations online.

Season subscriptions also make great gifts or can be used to introduce your friends to community theater and strengthen your relationship. One couple bought four subscriptions. For each production, they invited another couple out for Chinese food and then to a Sunday matinee. What a great idea!

Spotlight on Henry Baxley

Accomplishment: Breaking more than a leg for community theater



In the two decades that he's been involved with Fauquier Community Theatre, Baxley has done it all. He's been onstage as a character actor, backstage working lights and sound, and offstage in the box office and the board room.

And for the shows that he simply enjoys as an audience member, he always has an enthusiastic word for the tired actors when he shakes their hands after curtain call.

"I don't claim to be an actor," said Baxley with his self-deprecating grin. "I just enjoy it - and FCT is a neat bunch of people."

Baxley retired after three terms on FCT's board of directors, serving as secretary and briefly as president. He published our Spotlight newsletter for the past eight years and will continue to assist in its publication. Along with this he handled tickets and reservations for one season, and has video-taped and edited several shows, providing a valuable historical record.

He first trod the boards for FCT in "The Fantasticks", back in 1993. He and his wife Ursula had been attending the shows, and Baxley did this one "just to say I'd been onstage." But the bug bit (and there was often a shortage of men), and he saw FCT from its last years at The Loft to the windfall that brought the theatre to a real stage at Vint Hill Farms Station.

The hallowed invocation "break a leg" - spoken before an actor goes onstage so that he won't - didn't ward off disaster the night Baxley fell and broke a collar bone during the premiere of "Into the Woods".

"I was the Steward in this big cloak and I couldn't get my hands loose when I fell," he recalls. But ever the trouper, Baxley came back out for the final number.

He has been on FCT's stage for eleven shows, most recently as Erronius in "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum", and produced three others. In 2005 he was presented with FCT's Story Painter award.

(Updated and edited from The Fauquier Democrat Jan. 28 2001)

Stars of the Night Gala



Fauquier Community Theatre will present "Stars of the Night Gala". This event will take place at The Piedmont Golf Club in Haymarket, Virginia on November 7, 2009 beginning at 7:30 pm. Heavy hors d'oeuvres and cocktails will be served along with a silent auction and live entertainment. There will also be a cash bar. Black tie is optional.

The cost is \$100 per person with all proceeds directly benefiting the theatre.

Live entertainment is the vocal stylings of David Merrill, Danielle Marie Sanders, Rick Laimbeer, Sarah LaFantasie, Tim Sampson, Nichole Naccash, Liam John Mulder and Margot Laimbeer. Please join us in this fantastic evening of fun, cocktails and phenomenal singing.

Reservations can be made [online](#), by [emailing](#) us, or calling 540-349-8760.

Keeping Up with Technology



Everyone knows how difficult it is to keep pace with the changes in technology. When FCT first started producing great community theater, there was no Internet and Apple had just released their [Apple II personal computer](#), with its cassette tape interface. Today our wrist watches have more computing power than the Apple II. That is change.

FCT is doing its best to keep pace. We've upgraded our [web site](#) and are in the process of integrating it with an online ticket vendor. This allows our patrons to [order tickets](#) online and print them at home. Please be patient with us as we all get used to this new process. Next month we plan on integrating our subscribers into the system so that they will be

able to make their seat selection and also print their tickets at home.

In spite of all the technological changes, there are two things that won't change. FCT will continue to be flexible in serving all patrons, whether they prefer to order tickets via the Internet or by more traditional ways. You can always call us at 540-349-8760 to speak with our ticket coordinator about getting the seats you want for any performance. And the second thing that won't change is our commitment to producing great community theater!

Help Us Work "Miracles"



[Auditions](#) for "The Miracle Worker" are coming up next month! The production will be directed by Nancy Daugherty, produced by Laurie Abeel. Auditions are Friday, October 23, from 7pm-10pm, and Saturday, October 24, 1pm- 4pm at White Building - 4260 Sigler Road, Warrenton, VA 20187.

Auditions will consist of cold readings from the script. You may contact [Nancy Daugherty](#) or [Laurie Abeel](#) with any questions.

The cast requirements for The Miracle Worker are:

- Adult man (40-60)
- Adult woman (40-55)
- Adult woman (20-40)
- Girl (10-13 give or take)
- Young man (16-25)
- Man (20+)
- House servants 2-3 (any ages)
- 5 Additional Youth and adults

Auditioning for a play isn't the only way to be a miracle worker. There are many other opportunities to [get involved](#). Volunteers are always needed.

Quick Links...

[FCT Website](#)

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Thank you, for being part of Fauquier Community Theatre. Whether you are a patron, member, subscriber, actor, usher, or any of the other numerous volunteers, you put the Community in our theater.