

226 S. Broadway, Coos Bay OR 97420

# Center Stage

(541) 269-2501

ON BROADWAY THESPIANS, INC. NEWSLETTER

August  
2006



ON BROADWAY THEATER PRESENTS:

## "NunSensations! The Nunsense Vegas Revue"

Mix gold lame, feather boas, and a holy roller's slot machine with Nun habits and you've got a recipe for laughter as The Little Sisters of Comedy combine determination and good will with a little T&A (*Talent & Attitude*) to take on Sin City - and win!

Dan Goggin, creator of the original smash hit Nunsense, has jackpot once again with a new chapter in his ongoing story of The Little Sisters of Hoboken and their unorthodox fundraising tactics. In 'NUNSENSE: VEGAS REVUE' the world's most popular Sisters are offered a \$10,000 donation for their school if they will perform in a Las Vegas showroom! After convincing Reverend Mother that "what happens in Vegas stays in Vegas," the Sisters find themselves performing in the Pump Room Lounge, high atop the 3rd floor of the Mystique Motor Lodge in Sin City! With outrageous adventure and hijinks, the Sisters sing, dance, and entertain with full frontal glitz and glitter, fans and feathers!

Reprising their roles from previous Nunsense shows are **Barbara Booth** as the Reverend Mother and **Leatha Gonzalez** as Sister Robert Anne, along with new-to-the-habit-comers **Cheri Stuart** as Sister Amnesia, **Yvonne Frey** as Sister Hubert, and **Erika Schultz** as Sister Leo.

Co-Directed by veterans Leatha Lewison-Gonzalez and Jeff Roberts, **NUNSENSATIONS!** opens August 18, 2006 and will run through September 10th, with 8 pm show times on Friday & Saturday evenings, and 4 pm matinees on Sundays. Tickets are \$10 adults Fridays & Saturdays, \$8 Sundays, with \$7 kids under 12 all shows.



### 5 Minutes with... Leatha Lewison-Gonzalez and Jeff Roberts

CS: *What made you decide to do another Nunsense play?*

LLG: Why, Tradition of course!

JR: And the fact these Nuns get to twirl some tassels!

CS: *What originally attracted you to this series?*

LLG: Tosca Means & Joe Oyler did the very 1st Nunsense shows back in 1994 and you can't help but want more of the Sisters!

JR: Besides, the script is incredibly funny and witty and deserving of being staged.

CS: *How many other Nunsense plays in the series has OBT done?*

LLG: Counting this one, Nunsense 1 through 6. There is a 7th one actually, but it starred an all-male cast (Nunsense: A-Men).

JR: Actually this is my 1st.

CS: *Tell me a little something about the playwright.*

LLG: He's an award winning playwright with an incredible sense of comedic timing.

JR: And when she grows up she

wants to marry him!

CS: *Tell me a little about your cast.*

LLG: Well as Luck would have it, two of the five roles are being reprised by favorite actresses of former Nunsense shows. Barbara (Bernhisel) Booth for example, is once again set to play the Reverend Mother. She's solid and stoic, but scratch the surface a little and there's an inner Diva in there!

New to the Nunsense series but not to our stage is Yvonne Frey as the no-nonsense Sister Hubert. She's the disciplinarian of the troupe with her gentle guiding hand...

JR: ...yeah, hiding a ruler...

LLG: Cheri Stuart is another wonderful veteran new to the Nunsense series. She takes on the role of Sister Amnesia (or Sister Mary Paul as she's known in other circles) whose childlike innocence is a refreshing tonic amongst audiences everywhere...

JR: ...more like Gin and Tonic...

LLG: And finally, newcomer Erika Schultz stepped into the shoes of our ever loving dancing nun, Sister Leo! Still sweet, still nutty, still can't get over why she can't wear a tutu and dance for God.

CS: *And what about you?*

LLG: (sigh)....yeah, I kinda inherited my role as Sister Robert Anne, the tough streetwise Nun from Brooklyn trying to keep it real.

JR: Yeah, right...two words...Jimmy Hoffa...

CS: *OK, now tell me a little about your Co-Director.*

LLG: He's about 5'11", dark hair, mustache....oh! you mean his attributes!!! Jeff's a real stand-up guy, with a wonderful sense of humor which I think is perfect for this show. He's my extra set of eyes



## Coming Soon!

### The OBT Presentation of THE SECRET GARDEN

A charming classic adapted by Tim Kelly, based on the original story by Frances Hodgson-Burnett. A sudden orphaned girl leaves India to live with her uncle in a dreary English manor. Befriending her invalid cousin, the pair soon discover a hidden garden with magical healing powers. The Play, directed by Becca Ruley, will open a week earlier than originally announced on Sept 29th, 2006 and close of October 22nd.



### Play Submissions slated to Continue...

Submissions, readings, and final selections for the 2007 theater season are still ongoing, with play reading sessions scheduled for the following Saturdays, ending with the August 26th session:

- ◆ July 29th - 10:00 am
- ◆ August 12th - 11:00 am (following Board Meeting)
- ◆ August 26th - 10:00 am

Interested submitters are asked to contact **Barbara Booth** at 541-297-0269 or email her directly for more info at: [barbara.booth@fnf.com](mailto:barbara.booth@fnf.com)

or **Becca Ruley** at 541-269-1578, email: [tsana@hotmail.com](mailto:tsana@hotmail.com) to set up an appointment.

Please attend appointments with the following items and/or information:

- \* A brief overview of the play's plot, sets and special needs
- \* An estimated budget (including royalties, sets, props, etc.)
- \* Selected scene for reading, that best depicts the story and action of the play (15 minutes maximum)
- \* Enough scripts copies for each player to read. You may bring your own players or ask the available committee members or board members to read.
- \* A list of (and brief description of) the primary lead and supporting

characters, their genders and ages (if a musical, their vocal parts), and the total number of cast members.

\* Will this play be precast? If so, how many characters? Do you have the cast in place already?

\* An estimate of the number of stage & tech crew members you require.

\* Any notable facts about the play that might be of concern to the theater, the players or the community at large (ex: nudity, adult language and or physical contact, or controversial material). This is not to say that any of these items would automatically preclude the play from being produced at OBT, only that all of these factors will need to be disclosed and considered by the selection committee and board of directors before a decision can be made.

\* Performance dates preferences? Are there any date ranges that you are absolutely not available?

Traditionally, the On Broadway Thespians troupe has required in the past that selected directors have experience directing a stage production before; preferably at On Broadway Theater. Still, first time directors will be considered with a named mentor and/or producer approved by the OBT Board of Directors. This is not intended to discourage first time directors, only to assist them in such an enormous undertaking. The names of known producers or assistant directors should be submitted at this time as well.

We welcome original as well as time tested materials. Adaptations will be considered, however, should meet the necessary criteria to distinguish it from other sources which might compromise the theater's right to use such material.

Thanks in advance for thinking of us, and Good Luck with your presentations!

#### On Broadway Thespians, Inc.

226 S. Broadway  
(across from Egyptian Theatre)  
Coos Bay OR 97420  
(541) 269-2501  
email: [obthespian@yahoo.com](mailto:obthespian@yahoo.com)

If you have never been to our theater, there are written directions plus a virtual map available at our website to help you find us.

[www.onbroadwaytheater.com](http://www.onbroadwaytheater.com)



### American Theater Web

As many of you have undoubtedly noticed, **On Broadway Theater** is conveniently listed on the American Theater Web (ATW) database, an incredible online venue of literally thousands of stages spanning the good US of A. They feature news and reviews, theater and show information, a play writing forum, messageboards, and even a chat room for those wishing to converse with other theater enthusiasts. Additionally, you can sign up for their free e-newsletter to help keep up with all the latest ground breaking news. Simply point your browser on **o v e r t o :**  
[www.americantheaterweb.com](http://www.americantheaterweb.com)



### New 2006 - 2007 Board announced

The new ON BROADWAY THESPIANS Board of Directors for the 2006-07 season has been announced.

Five new names joined the remaining school of eight, with Joe Vos staying on as President and Leatha Lewison-Gonzalez as VicePresident. Jay Flaxman will continue to serve as Treasurer and Becca Ruley as Secretary.

Incoming members Liz Vos, Cheri Stuart, Jeff Roberts, Michael Gonzalez, and Juanita Snyder will serve alongside incumbents Barbara (Bernhisel) Booth, Dave Jordan, Jevanna Toribio, and Gordon Freid as members-at-large. Phyllis Andersen will continue her post as the group's Historian.

Look for a whole slew of fresh, exciting new ideas to come from this play group's core!

**"Ordinary people make do;  
creative people make Margaritas!"  
-Videomaker Magazine**



A Hilarious Comedy  
Written by Larry Shue

# THE Foreigner

LAUGHS!

Rated PG  
London  
BLASNEY  
GOK  
STAY SEATED

June 30  
July 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23

Fri. & Sat. 8pm - \$10  
Sunday 4pm - \$8  
Children to Age 12 - \$7

Directed by  
Dave & Susan Jordan

On Broadway Theater 269-2501  
For Ticket Information Call  
1-877-725-8849 or visit our Website

On Broadway Theater  
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www.OnBroadwayTheater.com

Produced by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Svc. Inc. Poster by DW2006



Charlie Baker is a socially phobic Englishman marooned by his friend Froggy in a small Georgian fishing lodge. To avoid interactions with other guests, Charlie pretends to be a "foreigner" who doesn't speak English. The locals assume Charlie does not comprehend and speak freely in front of him, making not only for hysterical unintended consequences but also leading Charlie to uncover a scheme putting him and his fellow guests in danger.

This laugh-out-loud comedy written by Larry Shue, won two Obie awards, and two Outer Critics Circle awards as Best New American Play and Best Off-Broadway Production.

Directed by Dave and Susan Jordan.

Running June 30th through July 23, 2006 it starred Federico Gonzalez (as Charlie), George Nixon (Froggy), Brandon Vos (Ellard Sims), Brennan Jenson (Rev. David Marshall Lee), Cherish Merritt (Catherine Sims), Marilyn Erdman (Betty Meeks), and Jeff Roberts (as Owen Musser).



*(Continued from Page 1 ... Interview: 5 Minutes with...)*

when I'm busy on stage rattling off lines. Professionally, he has a Bachelor's degree in Theater Arts along with several seasons of other play Directorials under his belt that I think brings a certain amount of knowledge & experience to our show. But most importantly he seems strangely in touch with his feminine side cuz wow, he really "gets" us!  
JR: aw shucks....

CS: Tell me about involvement the late Tosca Means had with this series originally? How is this her Legacy?

LG: Back in 1994, Joe Oyler directed the very first Nunsense. Originally Marty Crouse was schedule to play Reverend Mother; however, due to health issues Marty had to withdraw from the play and that's when Tosca stepped into the role of Reverend Mother. In the years to follow, she just kind of made that role all her

own, as evident by the number of sold-out shows. Thus started the tradition of a string of Nunsense shows stretching from 1994 to 2004. We had like this huge following with people everywhere associating them with Tosca. I want to carry on that tradition of offering Nunsense plays. In fact, I will be dedicating this show to her memory.

CS: Have there been any particular challenges in directing or putting this play into production?

JR: YES!!! FINDING A PIANIST!!!  
LGG: That and trying to stay true to Tosca's original vision. She always said Theatre was like this kit you had to put together yourself!

CS: How is NunSensations similar & different to prior Nunsense shows?

JR: Similar it's the same characters we originally fell in love with, and different of course, there's no men!

CS: Why do this play? Tell me why should I come see it?

LLG: For me, it's always been about keeping the tradition of Nunsense going.

JR: You've already been on a cruise ship with the Sisters, and even an old fashioned Barn Jamboree. So why not Vegas?!

CS: There's a rumor going around that your play is slated to be in direct competition with another play going on at LTOB being directed by your son. Tell me about that.

LGG: Well, originally "THE OUTSIDERS" was scheduled to go head to head with "NUNSENSATIONS." And of course Michael (my son) was bragging how his show (a poignant coming-of-age story about young teen boys) was sure to beat out my musical comedy of tassel-twirling nuns going burlesque in Vegas. However LTOB ended up moving the time slot for "The Outsiders" to late Sept., well after my show. Too bad. I would have loved the challenge!



**COLUMBUS STATE UNIVERSITY THEATRE  
International Playwriting Competition  
2006 Larry Corse Prize for Playwriting**

The Larry Corse Prize for Playwriting was established in 2003 by Dr. Larry Corse, Professor Emeritus of Theatre and English at Clayton State University, to *encourage the development and production of new works for the stage*. The 2003 competition was won by Robert Karmon for his play **CALIBAN AND MIRANDA**. In 2004, the competition was moved to its new host, Columbus State University Department of Theatre, Columbus, Georgia. The competition has attracted more than 300 entries each year from around the world. The 2004 winning entry was the comedy **SEAGULLS IN A CHERRY TREE** by William Missouri Downs. Ian Walker received the 2005 award for **THE GRAVEDIGGERS TANGO**. For a complete list of all entries from 2005, go to **www.larrycorse.com**

The Prize: \$1,000 and a premiere production by Columbus State University Department of Theatre.

Eligibility: Competition is open to all.

The Play:

1. A play submitted to the competition should be finished, original, in English, and must not have been previously published or performed (excluding workshop readings).
2. The play may be either full-length, one-act, or a series of related one-acts, and should have a running time of between 45 and 120 minutes.
3. Number of actors needed for the play should be between 5 and 10.

Columbus State University Department of Theatre will have first production rights for the winning play. The playwright will retain all other rights, including copyright, publication, and performance rights. If for some reason, Columbus State University Department of Theatre is not able to produce the winning play during the academic year following the announcement of the winner, first production rights revert to the playwright. If, in the opinion of the jury, no play worthy of the prize is submitted, Columbus State University Department of Theatre reserves the right to withhold the prize.

Submitting a Play:

1. Because the play will be submitted to the juries anonymously, the author's name must not appear on any page of the play.
2. Plays should be submitted with a cover sheet containing the following information:
  - a. Author's name
  - b. Author's address
  - c. Title of play
  - d. Author's phone number and e-mail address

e. A signed statement that the play has not been previously produced or published.

3. Each play must also include a synopsis of the play which is a real synopsis and not a teaser or advertising copy.

4. Plays previously submitted to the competition may not be re-submitted unless major revision has taken place.

5. Deadline for Submission: Plays must be received by the Columbus International Playwriting Competition on or **before October 20, 2006**.

6. Address for Submissions:

Columbus State University  
International Playwriting Competition  
#324  
931 Monroe Drive NE, Suite A-102  
Atlanta, GA USA 30308

The copies of the plays submitted will not be returned. Please do not send one and only originals.

The plays will initially be read by theater professionals. Finalists will then be submitted to the Theatre Faculty of Columbus State University for final judging. The selection process should be complete by February, 2007.

The winning playwright may be invited to come to Columbus State University for a lecture or workshop immediately prior to the production.

For additional information, contact **Steve Graver, Department of Theatre**, Columbus State University at *Graver\_Steven@colstate.edu* or by writing to the above mailing address.

## **Marketing on the Cheap: Theater Business Cards**


Next time you're having business cards printed up for your theater - use the front for the usual stuff (logo, address, number to call for reservations, website URL, etc.) but print your season schedule on the back. Make sure all your members have a supply - that way whenever anyone asks them "What's playing next?" or "How do I get tickets?," they can hand over a business card that tells them not only what's playing now, but also lists all the other shows to come as well. **Now that's innovative!!!**

# Playbill

# Auditions

# Coming Soon

*Dan Foggin's*  
**NunSensations!**  
*The Nonsense Vegas Revue*



Directed by  
Leatha Lewison Gonzalez  
Co-Directed by  
Jeff Roberts

**August** Fri. & Sat. 8pm - \$10  
18, 19, 20, 25, 26, 27  
**September** Sunday 4pm - \$8  
1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10 Children to Age 12 - \$7

On Broadway Theater 269-2501  
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Produced by special arrangement with Tams-Witmark Music Library Inc. - Poster by DW2006

## 1940's RADIO HOUR

Auditions for the December Holiday musical, "1940's Radio Hour" will be held August 21 & 22, 2006 at 7:00 PM at the On Broadway Theater.

This wonderful Holiday musical by Walton Jones takes a nostalgic trip down memory lane against the backdrop of World War II, to swinging big band music and song, and old-fashioned situation comedy. Centered around a 5000-watt New York City radio station (WOV) and a cast of hopefuls attempting to make the "big time" in show biz., this radio program is unique as it unfolds itself through

the eyes of theatre patrons who become the actual 1940s radio station listening audience. Prepare to rock to the old time greats such as "Ain't She Sweet," "Blue Moon," "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy," "Old Black Magic," "Kalamazoo," and a score of other popular numbers from that era.

Previous acting experience helpful but not mandatory. For more info, call 269-2501 and leave a message for the director, Roger Vines.

### General Audition Info:

You will be asked to fill out an official Audition Form listing contact info, special skills, experience, and other pertinent info. Dress comfortably but appropriately, be punctual, and come prepared to read, dance, or sing (depending on the script). Generally seek enthusiastic people who look and feel comfortable on stage, listen well and follow directions easily, and are open-minded enough to try new & different roles than originally intended auditioning for. If you are a musician, let your talent be known! We are always on the lookout for musicians for our musicals!

## NunSensations!

The Nonsense Vegas Revue  
Aug 18 - Sept 10

## The Secret Garden

Sept 29 - Oct 22

## 1940's Radio Hour

Dec 1 - 17

## Ticket Info

Show times are Friday & Saturday eves at 8 pm, with Sunday matinees at 4 pm.

Tickets are available at the door one hour before curtain, or through online vendor, Ticket Alternative: 1-877-725-8849  
[www.ticketalternative.com/VenueDetail.aspx?FacilityKey=17](http://www.ticketalternative.com/VenueDetail.aspx?FacilityKey=17)

**Credit Card orders** must be made online. In addition to vendor service charges, **phone orders are subject to additional \$1 surcharge.**

### Seniors/Adults/Students:

Friday & Saturday Nights - \$10

Sunday Matinees - \$8

Children (to age 12), all shows - \$7

Gift Certificates, Season Tickets, Group Tickets, & Buy the House options are available. Inquire in person at the OBT lobby.

Tickets to one of our plays make excellent Birthday, Anniversary, Thank You, and Holiday gifts. What better way to reward your family, friends, staff, or employees than with a ticket to an OBT production?!

Always a need for Light Techs, Sound Operators, Stage Managers, Stagehands, Choreographers, Vocal Coaches, Costumers, Makeup Artists, Poster designers, Program cover artists, Set Construction, Graphic Artists, Concessions personnel, Directors & Assistants, and Producers. If you have free time on your hands, or would like to break into theater this way, please give us a call 269-2501 or come to one of our open auditions and talk with a Director.

## On Broadway Thespians, Inc.

### Board of Directors

Joe Vos	President
Leatha Lewison-Gonzalez	Vice-Pres
Jay Flaxman	Treasurer
Becca Ruley	Secretary

### Members-At-Large

Barbara Booth	Dave Jordan
Jevanna Toribio	Gordon Freid
Liz Vos	Cheri Stuart
Michael Gonzalez	Jeff Roberts
Juanita Lewison-Snyder	

### Staff

Phyllis Andersen	Historian
Juanita Snyder	Webmstr & E-Nwsltr