



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 9, 2008

Music Society, Peanut Gallery & Theatre Guild Announce Audition Schedule for 2008-09 Season

MIDLAND – The audition schedule for next season’s community theatre shows at Midland Center for the Arts has been announced. All auditions are open to the public, with the exception of Chorale, Camerata and Youth Honors Choral Program auditions, which require an appointment. “Performing onstage or working backstage is the greatest hobby I know,” said Tami Ramaker, managing director of Music Society and Theatre Guild. “You meet great people, develop long-lasting friendships and explore your own creativity in fun new ways.” For more information on auditions, script perusal or to arrange an appointment, call or email Amy Behrens at 631-5930 x 1702, behrens@mcfta.org. Complete show descriptions are available online at www.mcfta.org.

AUDITIONS:

“The Foreigner” June 2 & 3 @ 7:30 pm - Lecture Room. Cast: High school age to adult – 5 men, 2 women. Performance dates: September 26-28 & October 2-4, 2008. Comedy written by Larry Shue. Directed by Jan Huff. Charlie overhears some eye-popping revelations when he poses as a foreigner who speaks no English and finds himself embroiled in a zany caper with some of the strangest people he’s ever met! Scripts available for 7-day loan with refundable deposit. Presented by Theatre Guild

“You Can’t Take It With You” – June 14 & 15 @ 1 pm to 4 pm - Lecture Room. Cast: Ages 13 to 21 – 9 men, 7 women and 3 extras. Performance dates: July 31, August 1 & 2, 2008. Comedy by Moss Hart and George S. Kaufman. Directed by Sonja Roden. Tony, an attractive young man falls in love with Alice and through many hilarious mishaps his parents try to stop their relationship. Many strange family activities like the manufacture of fireworks, a printing press in the living room, and Grandpa who doesn't believe in income tax contribute to the madness and humor of the plot. Scripts available for 7-day loan with refundable deposit. Presented by Interim Theatre, a youth division of Theatre Guild.

Youth Honors Choral Program –June 16 to 20 – by appointment only. For grades 3 to 8. Call 989-631-5930 x 1270 for an audition time and additional information.

“Singin’ in the Rain” June 20 @ 7 pm; June 21 & 22 @ 1 pm - Rehearsal Rooms A & B
Adult cast: Over a dozen speaking roles for singers, dancers and actors, plus chorus. Performance dates: October 11, 12 & 17, 2008. Songs by Nacio Herb Brown and Arthur Freed. Directed by Mychelle Hopkins. A sparkling smile of a musical! Love so sweet the guy can’t keep himself from...singin’ in the rain! Audition packets available at MCFTA front desk three weeks prior to audition dates. Presented by Music Society. Choreography in full collaboration with Dean/Black Studios.

Chorale Sept. 7 @ 1-5 pm – Rehearsal Room A – By appointment ONLY.
Performance dates: November 16, 2008 (Rutter’s Mass for Children) and December 13 & 14, 2008 (Christmas concerts). Chorale is a mixed voice choir that performs a wide repertoire of music. Members are

expected to read music and have a background in choral music. Auditions consist of vocalizing, sight-reading, and aural comprehension. Please call 631-5930 x 1270 for an audition time. Presented by Music Society.

"To Kill a Mockingbird" Sept. 8 & 9 @ 7:30 pm - Lecture Room Cast: 11 men, 6 women plus extras. Performance dates: November 7-9 & 13-15, 2008. Written and revised by Christopher Sergel. Directed by Susie Polito. Based on the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel by Harper Lee. The deeply moving story of how one man's quiet convictions transformed a town and changed its course for the future. Scripts available for 7-day loan with refundable deposit. Presented by Theatre Guild. A Northwood University collaboration.

"Scrooge! The Musical" Auditions: Adults & high school - Sept. 26 @ 7 pm & Sept. 27 @ 1 pm; Youth - Sept. 27 @ 10 am - reservations required for youth. Email behrens@mcfta.org. Cast: Large cast of mixed ages. Performance dates: December 18 - 21, 2008. Book, music & lyrics by Leslie Bricusse. Directed by Denyse Clayton and Kristiina Pilnik The grumpy old Scrooge is barely recognizable in this light, funny, warm and thoroughly enjoyable musical loosely based on the Charles Dickens classic tale, A Christmas Carol. Audition packets available at MCFTA front desk three weeks prior to audition dates. Presented by Music Society, Theatre Guild and Peanut Gallery

"Almost, Maine" Nov. 9 @ 1 pm and Nov. 10 @ 7:30 pm - Lecture Room Adult cast, flexible casting. Performance dates: January 23-25 & 29-31, 2009. Written by John Cariani. Directed by Tami Ramaker. Welcome to Almost, Maine – a mythical town where the winters are bleak, snowsuits are almost sexy, and residents find themselves falling in and out of love in unexpected and often hilarious ways. Vignettes offer excellent flexible casting opportunities – audition for one vignette or several. Scripts available for 7-day loan with refundable deposit. Presented by Theatre Guild.

"As Bees in Honey Drown" Dec. 1 & 2 @ 7:30 pm - Lecture Room Adult cast: 3 men, 3 women, flexible. Performance dates: February 20-22 & 26-28, 2009. Written by Douglas Carter Beane. Directed by Debbie Lake. The rich, sexy and fabulous Alexa has her sights set on Evan, a struggling author and the newest rising star in showbiz today. How could he help but succumb to the sweet life of fame and fortune she so enticingly lays at his feet? Choice character roles, great fun to play! Presented by Theatre Guild.

"Mother Goose is Eaten by Werewolves" Jan. 9 @ 7:30 pm and Jan 10 @ 1pm - Lecture Room Cast: 6th-8th graders. Performance dates: March 19-22, 2009. Written by Steph DeFerie. Directed by Cheryl and Larry Levy. Mother Goose is no fool; as soon as she discovers real werewolves are in this production, she makes a break for it and it looks like our show is over before it's begun. But wait – a fairy godmother, a witch, a prince and a wolf save the day by acting out their own version of "Sleeping Beauty" Audition packets available at MCFTA front desk three weeks prior to audition dates. Presented by Peanut Gallery.

"Urinetown" Feb. 20 @ 7 pm and Feb. 21 @ 1 pm – Rehearsal Rooms A & B - Cast: 22 parts plus extras. Performance dates: April 24 & 25, 2009 and May 1, 2, 3, 8 & 9, 2009. Music and lyrics by Mark Hollman, book and lyrics by Greg Kotis. Directed by Bill Anderson Jr.; musical direction by Jim Hohmeyer. A playful satirical romp poking fun at greed, corruption, love and even musical theatre itself! Don't let the name fool you – this multi-award-winning Broadway hit is good clean fun! Nominated for 10 Tony Awards, including Best Musical! Great comic fun and terrific character roles. Presented by Music Society and Theatre Guild.

Chorale Jan. 4 @ 1-5 pm – Rehearsal Room A – By appointment ONLY.

Performance dates: March 21 & 22, 2009 (Voices of Light). Chorale is a mixed voice choir that performs a wide repertoire of music. Members are expected to read music and have a background in choral music. Auditions consist of vocalizing, sight-reading, and aural comprehension. Please call 631-5930 x 1270 for an audition time. Presented by Music Society.

Camerata Singers Feb. 22 @ 1-5 pm – Rehearsal Room A – By appointment ONLY.

Performance dates: June 21, 2009 plus four to five off-site concerts throughout the mid-Michigan area. Camerata is a chamber choir that performs music of all styles, from classical to modern. Please call 631-5930 x 1270 for an audition time. Presented by Music Society.

“There’s a Monster in My Closet” Mar. 20 @ 7 pm and Mar. 21 @ 1 pm - Lecture Room Cast: 4th & 5th graders. Performance dates: June 11-14, 2009. Book by Angela Stewart. Music and lyrics by Bill Francoeur. Directed by Denyse Clayton and Kristiina Pilnik. Emily’s sleepover party discovers a monster in her closet, but Murray the Monster doesn’t mean any harm – he’s more afraid of the children than they are of him! Friendship and a sprinkling of magic lead to a delightful ending. Audition packets available at MCFTA front desk three weeks prior to audition dates. Presented by Peanut Gallery.

Music Society of the Midland Center for the Arts is a premier, volunteer musical arts organization serving mid-Michigan. It provides volunteers and audiences with exciting, quality musical events, utilizing professionals to educate and develop its talented, community-based participants.

Peanut Gallery is the youth theatre division of the Theatre Guild, a resident organization of the Midland Center for the Arts. Peanut Gallery produces multiple shows a year, as well as classes, all designed to build young people’s theatre skills and to introduce young people and their families to live theatre.

Theatre Guild is one of the most successful and exciting community theatre companies in the Midwest. Established in 1929, Midland’s oldest and most innovative theatre organization presents a main season of five plays, a children’s theatre season and a continuing program of community service, school residencies, senior theatre, theatre classes and workshops.

Midland Center for the Arts, Inc. is a non-profit, tax-exempt corporation formed under the laws of the State of Michigan incorporating six groups: Alden B. Dow Museum of Science and Art, MATRIX:MIDLAND, Midland County Historical Society, Midland Symphony Orchestra, Music Society and Theatre Guild. Activities at Midland Center for the Arts are supported in part by the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts. For the latest Center news, visit our web site at www.mcfta.org.

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