**THEATER HAPPENINGS**

**Community Theatre**

One of my favorite things to talk about is community theatre. I grew up in a strong community theatre program and as a result, developed a passion for acting, stage craft, lights, sound, directing, and found that working concessions could also be a rewarding experience. You quickly learn that some of the best productions you will ever see are on your local stage, performed by people you see each day on the street. I am exceptionally passionate about the potential that community theatre has to unite and encourage a town of any size.

It was exciting to move to a town with a group of dedicated thespians. Even more exciting when they immediately invited me in to direct *On Golden Pond* in 2020. While the Gold Camp Players disbanded in the midst of the pandemic, we are proud to build on the legacy they left with Homestake Theatre Works (HTW). We are wrapping up HTW’s first season with *See How They Run*, a classic British farce by Philip King. You won’t want to miss this hilarious show.

For the younger crowd who are ready to take to the stage we are excited to announce auditions for Disney’s The Lion King Jr. Students will rehearse in the month of June and give three performances of this cherished classic.

HTW is a great place for people of any experience level to get a chance to perform, direct, or work in the light and sound booth or backstage. Really, the thing that I love most about theatre is that it combines so many different artistic mediums into one cohesive product to tell a story. We are ready to teach you whatever you need to know to be a part of that story!

Join us **Saturday, May 14th at 6pm** when we will announce a new line up of exciting plays on tap for next year!

*Thomas Golden, Executive Director*

*"All the world's a stage, And all the men and women merely players; They have their exits and their entrances; And one man in his time plays many parts..."

* - William Shakespeare, 'As You Like It'*
CHILDREN'S THEATER AUDITIONS

Spring is upon us, even though we are still getting snow. Ugh! But with the arrival of spring, we anxiously await the arrival of summer. At the Opera House, we are very excited for this summer, as we are doing our first children's theatre camp ending in a production of Disney's The Lion King Jr.! Auditions for the play will be May 11 and May 13 at 4pm. Kids need to be at the Opera House for auditions at 4pm because they will be doing group auditions and group work. Rehearsals will then be May 31st through June 27th from noon to 4pm, with the performance taking place at 6pm on June 28, 29 & 30th. We are encouraging kids aged 5-18 to audition and participate in the play and camp. The Opera House also feels very fortunate to have Katrina Hutchison as the director and Jenn Larson as the music director. For more details on auditions and the rehearsals, please contact Katrina at katrina@explorefitnessandadventures.com.

-Cassie Sams, Director of Outreach and Administration

DIGITAL NEWS

This is the last time you will see this newsletter in print. Due to rising printing and postage costs, 'Words from the Wings' will be completely digital from now on. Past editions will also be available on our website. Don't miss out on exciting shows, deals, news, and more by signing up for our email list at homestakeoperahouse.org.

Thomas Grier Day

Thomas Grier did BIG things in Lead, BIG, BIG things. The Homestake Opera House is proud to be amongst the biggest of his achievements and we dare to say one of the closest to his heart. We celebrate his contributions to Lead on Thomas Grier Day. This year on Saturday May 14th at 5:00 PM, we again throw open our doors to the public and welcome everyone to celebrate all things Opera House just as he did back in 1914. We invite everyone to attend this open house and find out about next year’s season as well as some other projects we have been keeping up to ourselves...BIG, BIG projects. You won’t want to miss it!

-Christine Allen, Development Director

UPCOMING EVENTS

To give an idea of how important Thomas Grier was to the Opera House and Lead, look at this picture taken on the day the Thomas Grier statue was dedicated in its original location in the Opera House Courtyard.