

Shawano County Arts Council Inc.
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Shawano County Arts Council Newsletter
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In order to serve you better and provide additional entertainment during the year, the SCAC asks you fill out this form and return it either by e-mail or regular mail.

The money we save using e-mail will be added to the budget for new ways to better use your Mielke Arts Center. E-mail will allow us to increase the amount of information we can provide you. What can we do to make the newsletter more informative to you?

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Become a member of The Shawano County Arts Council. Your membership helps support the arts in the greater Shawano area. You will be kept up to date on all our events and have a vote at the annual meeting held in January.

Membership Form

Single \$20 Student \$10

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Shawano County Arts Council News Letter

Promoting the arts in the greater Shawano area • June 2011 • www.shawanoarts.com

SUMMER TIME

Elton John and Tim Rice's **AIDA**

The 2011 summer musical will open for nine performances July 14-16, 20-23 at 7pm and July 17 and 24 at 2pm. **Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for 18 and under.**

The Box in the Wood Theatre Guild has the distinction of being the second community theatre troupe in the state of Wisconsin to put on this production.

"Elton John and Tim Rice's AIDA" is a contemporary musical take on a grand classic tale of the timeless bond between an enslaved Nubian princess and an Egyptian soldier. As forbidden love blossoms between them, the young lovers are forced to face death or part forever. Together, they set a shining example of true devotion that ultimately transcends the vast cultural differences between their warring nations, heralding a time of unprecedented peace and prosperity.



With a pop-rock score that features stirring ballads and rousing choral numbers, Elton John and Tim Rice's AIDA is a modern crowd pleaser that embraces exuberant

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43rd Arts & Craft Fair

Sunday July 31st, 2011

Art Fair Update: The entries for this year's art fair are coming in slowly, but usually increase later. If any of our readers knows an artist or crafter, please encourage them to sign up!

Anyone interested in helping on the day of the fair please contact Cheryl Folkerts at 715-745-6222. A donation of \$2 is requested at the gate. Come join us.

WATER STREET HOT SHOTS *An Evening of Old-Time and String Band Blues*

Michael Lee Ammons and The Water Street Hot Shots will perform in concert at Shawano's Mielke Arts Center on Saturday, June 18th at 7:00 pm.

Tickets for the Water Street Hot Shots are \$15, and are available at the door on the night of the concert. They can also be ordered online at Brown Paper Tickets (www.brownpapertickets.com/event/179343). The Water Street Hot Shots are based in Sheboygan, WI. Michael Lee Ammons, Rich Higdon, Alan "Doc" Mock, Tim Decker and JR Fedder combine vocals, guitar, harmonica, washboard, jug, kazoo, mandolin, banjo, mandolin and fiddle to create String Band Blues, a mix of old time blues, string band blues, jug band music, ragtime, "hokum" party music, Hawaiian, sweet instrumentals, and novelty tunes. The band members bring a set of influences that range from Pete Seeger to the blues, from the '20's and '30's, to barn dances, bluegrass, folk-rock and jazz. It all combines for an evening of great music. The Hot Shots are the First Place Grafton Blues Challenge winners for 2009 and 2010.

The concert begins at 7:00 pm, and the Box Office opens at 6:00 pm. For more information, contact Dori at 7145-850-1244.

This concert is part of SCAC's effort to bring more live entertainment to the Shawano area.

33rd Shawano Folk Music Festival

August 12, 13 & 14, 2011

The 2011 Festival features Evening Concerts on Friday, August 12th and Saturday August 13th. Daytime programs fill Mielke Park on multiple outdoor stages on Saturday and Sunday.

Advance tickets are available at the Shawano Country Chamber of Commerce; M&I Bank in Shawano, and Beans & Books in Shawano. Tickets can be purchased online at Brown Paper Tickets (www.brownpapertickets.com/event/172325), or at the gates on Festival weekend. For more information, call Dori at 715-850-1244, email us at shawanofestival@hotmail.com, or check the Festival website at www.shawanofestival.com



This year's Festival is full of music, dance, crafts and activities that will keep a smile on the face of every member of the family. Mark

Dvorak has appeared at the Festival many times, and he's become an audience favorite. He's a master who brings traditional music to life and puts contemporary music into a historical context, inviting his audience to join him. Coming from Chicago's Old Town School of Folk Music, he makes the music look and sound easy. When Mark Dvorak first appeared in Shawano in 1994, we knew right away that he belonged here. www.markdvorak.com

Leahy's Luck plays Irish folk music with a twist – and they've been doing it since 1990. Brothers Brian and Tom Leahy lead the band with guitars, bass, distinctive vocals, storytelling and a bit of sibling rivalry. Evan Leahy, on bodhran, is a world-class

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AIDA continued from page 1

dancing, staging and singing. Known songs include: "Fortune Favors The Brave", "My Strongest Suit", "Elaborate Lives", "Dance of the Robe", "Written in the Stars", and the Act 1 finale "The Gods Love Nubia."

"Elton John and Tim Rice's AIDA" premiered on Broadway in 2000, following the success of John and Rice's musical "The Lion King". "Elton John and Tim Rice's AIDA" was an instant audience favorite and also received 5 Tony nominations, winning for Best Original Score, Best Actress in a Musical and Best Lighting Design. The show also won the 2001 Grammy for Best Musical Show Album.

"Elton John and Tim Rice's AIDA" closed on Broadway on September 5, 2004, after an impressive run of 1,852 regular performances. The production was seen by over 2.5 million people and grossed over \$150 million dollars.

The cast features over 20 local musicians and actors from across the area. Principal characters included in the cast are Ellen Kann (Aida), Andrew Ott (Radames), Olivia Jeske (Amneris), Tom Webster (Zoser), Karl Laude (Mereb), Maribeth Weidner (Nehbka) and Tony Klose (Pharaoh). Completing the cast are Brittany Pensis, Sam Zaddack, Megan Schulz, Gus Kroenke, Tony Watters, Andre Korenak, Chris Watters, Jacob Yorton, Brooke Friedrichs, Tianna Field, Jenni Heup, Kelsy Kowalkowski, Natalie Hohn, and Tammy Watters.

The production is under the direction of Bowler native Dan Terrio, who makes his return to the Mielke after a two-year hiatus. Terrio directed the 2008 production of "Footloose". With Terrio, music direction is provided by Kari Devine of Appleton. Devine comes to the Mielke with a lengthy theatrical resume including being the first director of "Elton John and Tim Rice's AIDA" by a community theatre troupe in De Pere.

Production team includes: Amber Pamperin (rehearsal accompanist), Cherish Heath (stage manager), Nick Schutt (assistant stage manager/prop master), Shasta Prey and Ali Nowak (choreographers), Dierdra Stary (costume designer), Steven Stary (fight choreographer), Don Klose (lights), Chris Dalke (sound), Will Church (lighting/sound assistant), Amy Steenbock and Mary Beth Kuester (House management), Hilary Sunnicht (graphic designer/publicity) and Ann Van Grinsven (Producer)

"Elton John and Tim Rice's AIDA" is made possible through a special agreement with Music Theatre International (MTI) in New York, NY, and through a grant by the Pat and Ruth Crawford Family Foundation.

folk music festival continued from page 1

Irish drummer who adds some guitar and vocals. Randal Harrison is a versatile fiddler who received the Madison Area Music Award for both Classical and Jazz Artist of the Year in 2008. Stas Venglevski, an internationally acclaimed bayan virtuoso, rounds out the band. In addition to traditional Irish fare, there are hints of country, bluegrass, and jazz, with some world music influences thrown in. This is Leahy's Luck's first time at the Festival. www.leahysluck.com



We welcome Mustard's Retreat back to Shawano after a long absence. David Tamulevich and Michael Hough have been performing since 1974, pleasing audiences across the Midwest and East Coast. Just another two guys with guitars? Hardly. Whether singing traditional songs or contemporary, for children or adults, on big stages or in living rooms, their music is robust, witty, fun and infectious. It wipes out that line separating performer and audience. www.mustardsretreat.com

Chris Kokesh is an award-winning singer and songwriter from Portland OR. She's got her guitar, her fiddle, her songs and her solo voice — sort of country, kind of folksy, a little Americana, an urban flavor — it's not easy to put her music into a neat box. It's easy to say that her songs are honest and intimate, with stories of lost loves and bad timing, all with grace and humor, with Chris' crystal-clear voice. www.chriskokesh.com



Eddie Biebel and AJ Srubas bring old time roots music to Shawano. Guitarist Eddie Biebel has been performing in the US and Europe for over 40 years. He's played with Vassar Clemmens, Mark O'Connor, and Jethro Burns. AJ Srubas comes from a musical family, and has been fiddling since he was 12 — his last time here he was the youngest member of the family band. Since then, he's won competitions and soaked up

fiddle styles in Ireland. Eddie's guitar playing and baritone voice join with AJ's fiddling and down home vocals to create some great music. www.eddieandaj.com

Indie Femme is another Festival first-timer. Tash Terry was raised on the Navajo Nation (Dinetah), born into the Todich'ii'nii (Bitter Water) clan, got her first guitar when she was 11 years old and kept playing. Elena Higgin was born in Aotearoa, New Zealand of a Samoan matrilineal aiga (family) and a Maori whanau (family), and raised by a pakeha (white) foster family. These strong cultures influenced her music after she moved to Magnetic Island in Australia. In 2006, she found her way to Santa Fe and met Tash. Indie Femme was born. The parallels in their ancestries are apparent as they use 6 & 12 string guitars, mandolin, djembes, medicine drum and other percussion instruments in original and traditional songs. www.indiegiefemme.com

Don Morman is well-known to the Festival. This year, his family joins him as the Don Morman Family Band. As a group they incorporate harmony-filled vocals, guitar, autoharp, mandolin, recorder and bass fiddle. Don specializes in singing songs that tell a story. www.donmorman.com

Join Island Magic and their steel drums on a musical trip to tropical islands. Chris and Marisol play classic steel band melodies — reggae, soca, calypso, jazz, bossa novas, classical works, even a polka or two with a new twist! www.dorseyentertainment.com/island-magic

If you haven't yet heard of Macyn Taylor, hang on to your hats! In 2008, Macyn was named one of the country's "Most Promising New Talents" by Acoustic Guitar Magazine. She is past winner of the Woodstock Harvest Fest guitar contest, and is the 2009 East Troy, Wisconsin, Bluegrass Festival Guitar Playing Champion. Guitar, mandolin, banjo, traditional country, blues, bluegrass, singing — at only 17, Macyn does it all with dazzling style. www.macyntaylor.com

Vibhas Kendzai grew up in West Germany. His original music is influenced by Latin percussion and traditional instruments from around the world, including the Bansuri (native East Indian bamboo flute), which he discovered in India and the Navajo flute, which he discovered in Sedona, AZ. He plays piano with a classical touch, haunting melodies on the Indian flutes, and smooth jazz on the soprano sax. www.music-fromthegarden.com

Music isn't the only thing at the Festival. The Wisconsin DNR's Traveling Aquarium will be at the Festival all weekend. It's a truck-sized aquarium, full of native fish from Shawano waters. The Festival is run entirely by dedicated and creative volunteers. If you'd like to help out, please let us know. There's sure to be a task to match your interest.

President's Report



Hard to believe it's almost summer. Whatever, it's time for another letter from me about the Mielke and our projects. We had hoped to finalize the designs and interior décor for the theater

upgrade, but with the roof problem, the heating and air-conditioning and a few other items, we found we are still a little short of our fund raising goal. We need to make this goal in order to turn it over to the County for issuance of the building specifications needed for contractors to prepare bids. We are still taking donations, pledges and anything that will help us meet the goal of issuing specifications and evaluating bids this year for a possible winter or spring start.

One of the things we want to accomplish is to have a historical display in the lobby tracing the progress of the Arts Center from its inception to the completion of the current expansion project. We need to get this history in a place where all those attending a function can appreciate the birth and growth of the Arts Center and the annual functions held there. I'm looking for help in putting this together, better yet someone who has the expertise and knowledge to take this over and provide a display we can all be proud of. Interested? Call me.

Dan Terrio is working on the casting and rehearsals of "Aida". The show features the music of Elton John. It is a very popular musical of our times and we are fortunate in having an individual like Dan willing to take on the task of producing and directing a show of this magnitude. Tickets may be at premium as we are already getting inquiries from the Green Bay and Fox Cities areas. Watch for the special ads coming out soon.

Cheryl has said she is getting excellent responses from vendors already setting their calendars for the Arts and Crafts Fair in July. She has taken care to encourage crafts people to show only original work and not mass produced items.

This will be year 33 for the Folk Music Festival. Dori, Karen,

Joyous, Linda, Norm and Joel have been organizing and overseeing this event for quite a while now. Thanks to all of you. As usual they have booked some of the past favorites and some new interesting prospects.

Mystery time comes in the fall show, "Out of Sight...Out of Murder.", directed by Cheryl Jones Ritter. (Same Cheryl as directs the Homeschoolers' shows.) All I will say for now, is this is shaping up to be a real mystery comedy and will provide you with a few suspenseful moments as well as laughs. More to come.

Tom Suttner

Shawano County Arts Council

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Water Street Hot Shots

String Band Blues
June 18th

Aida

Directed by Dan Terrio
Elton John's & Tim Rice's Musical
July 14 - 17, 20 - 24

43rd Arts & Craft Fair

Sunday July 31st • 10am to 4pm

33rd Shawano Folk Music Festival

August 12, 13 & 14
shawanofestival.com

Out of Sight...Out of Murder

A Mystery Comedy directed by
Cheryl Jones-Ritter Oct 6-9, 13-16

Mielke Christmas Spectacular – Music & Dance

Directed by Mary Beth Kuester
December 1, 2, 3 & 4

"This activity 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."



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THANKS TO OUR MEMBERS AND CONTRIBUTORS

A BIG thank you to all the supporters for their new or renewed membership and/or donations:

The Shawano County Arts Council is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Donations will be acknowledged and are tax deductible. If you would like to help support the Mielke Arts Center and the work of the Shawano County Arts Council, we would be extremely grateful for your financial support.

Mielke Arts Center

For Information & Reservations call 715-526-2525 (leave message)