

Arts & Entertainment

Exhibits



"Newburyport Sunrise" by Sharon Morley

August at East Colony Fine Art

MANCHESTER – East Colony Fine Art Gallery will highlight the work of member artists Sharon Morley and Jane Romps as Feature Artists during the month of August. They have titled their show "Black & White and Bright," since both artists will present pen & ink drawings (black & white) and oil paintings (the bright), Sharon's of places she has had the pleasure of visiting in her travels near and far, and Jane's of a variety of people, places and things that have captured her interest. The exhibition runs from July 28 through August 29, with an Artists' Reception on Friday, July 31, from 5-8 pm.

All gallery events are free and open to the public. East Colony Fine Art is located in Langer Place, 55 South Commercial Street, Manchester. Web site: www.eastcolony.com.

Performances July 29-31

Andy's Summer Playhouse Presents War of the Worlds

WILTON – Andy's Summer Playhouse, winner of the 2009 New Hampshire Theater Award's Vision and Tenacity Award, located in Wilton, NH, will be presenting its second production of its 39th season running from July 22nd through July 31st - an original play based on Orson Welles' infamous 1938 radio broadcast War of the Worlds.

Written by multi-award winning playwright David Greenspan, this never-before-seen theatrical premiere examines the content of the faux news broadcast that made people all across the country believe an alien attack was truly underway. War of the Worlds will explore the broadcast and provide questions relating to our relationship to the news media. The show is appropriate for all ages, though the thematic messages are more suited for teenagers and up.

Director Erik White (a New Hampshire native) will provide a provocative evening of entertainment, bringing a modern audience back to a time when imagination augmented the listening experience. Come and watch the reactions unfold as fear of the unknown gripped the nation!

The performance begins at 7:30pm July 30th, and 31st and 2:00pm on July 29th. Adult tickets are \$14, while twelve and under are \$7. Please call the box office to reserve tickets: 603-654-2613.



Nora Julia, Brendan Wile, and Renee Anderson in War of the Worlds



The Cast of War of the Worlds, panicking from the broadcast

Andy's Summer Playhouse Celebrates 39 Years

WILTON – For 9 months of the year the large white building at the top of a hill in Wilton is quiet, with dark windows and an empty parking lot.

But come summertime, Andy's Summer Playhouse springs to life. This, their thirty-ninth consecutive season, is proving to be one of their strongest yet, with a variety of theatrical offerings for all ages performed by youth ages eight to eighteen.

This ambitious season, with three separate productions, focuses on reinventing classic works of fiction, from various mediums and genres. "We wanted to take stories that people were familiar with, and make them new and interesting for a modern audience," says artistic director and Wilton native DJ Potter.

Currently Andy's' second production of the season, War of the Worlds, is underway. Based on Orson Welles' infamous radio broadcast from 1938, this original one-act play uses the fictional radio-play as a means of opening questions regarding our society's relationship to the media, especially in times of crises. It is a provocative piece that is sure to make you laugh and think.

Andy's will round out its season with a musical, a completely new version of Phantom of the Opera, based on the original 1925 silent film.

Andy's Summer Playhouse, which for thirty-nine years has been providing original theatrical entertainment for families of southern New Hampshire, seems to be outdoing themselves this season by reinventing famous fiction. Bravo!

War of the Worlds running July 29th at 2pm, July 30th and 31st at 7:30pm.

Phantom of the Opera running August 13th - 22nd (17th and 18th off). Shows at 7:30pm except for our matinee on August 19th, at 2pm. Call 654 - 2613 for more information and to order tickets!

Peterborough Players' Little Shop of Horrors High Energy Fun for the Whole Family



PHOTOS BY DEB PORTER-HAYES, COURTESY OF PETERBOROUGH PLAYERS.
Jaygee Macapugay, Nicolette Robinson, Claire D. Philippe (Urchins) and Kraig Swartz and Pamela Bob (Seymour and Audrey)

PETERBOROUGH – Little Shop of Horrors, a musical comedy with book and lyrics by Howard Ash-

man, music by Alan Menken, opens at the Peterborough Players professional theatre on July 29th. The

show, which runs through August 16th, is a zany spoof of 1950s sci-fi movies. An engaging, foot-tapping, rock-and-roll musical score is coupled with an outrageous plot to create a night of pure summer fun.

Little Shop, which was the third-longest running musical in Off-Broadway history, has a good time satirizing everything from science fiction, 'B' movies, and even musical comedy itself. The talented cast -

starring Kraig Swartz, Pamela Bob, Michael Page, and Joshua Finkel - promises to keep audiences laughing from start to finish. Directed by Peggy Hickey with Musical Director/Pianist Michael Sebastian, the Peterborough Players is delighted to bring Little Shop to its historic theatre for the first time.

Little Shop of Horrors
July 29-August 16,
Tuesday-Saturday at 8 p.m., Sundays at 4 p.m.
Tickets: \$40-\$45
Family Special: children and students through college (with valid ID) \$22
Box Office at (603) 924-7585 or online at: www.peterboroughplayers.org



Michael Page and Kraig Swartz (Mushnik and Seymour)

The Peterborough Players is a fully air-conditioned theatre that is handicapped accessible. Getaway Easy discount package deals with local inns/restaurants available: <http://peterboroughplayers.org/plan-your-visit/packages> for more information.

GREASE!



Ethan Underhill, Ben Levine, Sam Durant Hunter, Tom Whalen, John Victor

NASHUA – Peacock Players, New Hampshire's premiere award-winning youth theatre, is proud to present the smash-hit Broadway musical GREASE at the 14 Court Street Theatre, in Nashua for five performances in August.

GREASE is the all-American family-favorite flashback musical, based on the sub-cultures of high school life in the late 1950's. The story takes place at the hyperactive

Rydell High School, where Danny Zuko fronts his gang – the raucous T-Birds – who romance their sassy female equivalents – the Pink Ladies. When "good girl" Sandy Dumbrowski arrives in town, the Pink Ladies take her under their collective wing. The Peacock Players are performing Grease August 7th, 8th and 9th. Box office phone: 886-7000. Tickets are available online at: www.peacockplayers.org

Outdoor Concert Series

NASHUA – The 2009 Summer Concerts on the Plaza series at the Nashua Public Library opens on Thursday, July 9, with Rocco and the Stompers.

The Boston-based octet merges the traditional 1930's Swing Era sound with contemporary arrangements and compositions. Covers from the swing era range from hits like Benny Goodman's "Sing Me A Swing Song" to hidden gems like Duke Ellington and Johnny Hodges' "Rendezvous With Rhythm." Along with flawless transcriptions, the Stompers play original arrangements of modern tunes, arranged in the style of great writers like Duke Ellington, Fletcher Henderson, and Artie Shaw, as well as original compositions.

Under the direction of Danny Rocco Fratina, the jazz is brought to life by top New England musicians: John Replogle (trumpet), Mark Zaleski (alto sax, clarinet), Chris Gagne (trombone), Ben Whiting (bari sax), Juan Andres Ospina (piano), Katie Thiroux (bass, vocals), and Matt Witek (drums), who have played with the likes of Kendrick Oliver and the New Life Jazz Orchestra, Dave Brubeck, Slide Hampton, Christian McBride, Michel Camillo, Joe Lovano, Jethro Tull, Bennie Maupin, Chick Corea, and George

Russell. Future concerts in the library's outdoor series include

July 30--Back Bay Guitar Trio
August 6--Ben Geyer Jazz Sextet
August 13--Colonial Brass

All performances are held on Thursdays at 7 p.m. and are free and open to the public. The Summer Concerts on the Plaza are part of the city's SummerFun program.

Music-lovers of all ages are welcome. Bring a blanket or lawn chair and a picnic. In the event of rain, the concerts are held indoors in the library's Music, Art, and Media Wing. The library is located at 2 Court Street. For more information, call Carol at 589-4610 or visit www.nashualibrary.org.

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