



Laugh Until Your Heart Hurts!

MILFORD - Almost, Maine, the clever and poignant comedy written by John Cariani, will be staged by Milford Area Players for two weekends, March 18-27; with shows on Fridays and Saturdays at 8 pm and Sundays at 2 pm. All 11 scenes and 19 characters will be performed by 4 talented actors: Jason Crowell, Peter Josephson, Pat Lawrence, and Judi Mitchell. The show is directed by NHTA award-winner, Deborah Shaw.

On a cold, clear, moonless night in the middle of winter, all is not quite what it seems in the remote, mythical town of Almost, Maine. As the northern lights hover in the star-filled sky above, Almost's residents find themselves falling in and out of love in unexpected and often hilarious ways. Knees are bruised. Hearts

are broken. But the bruises heal, and the hearts mend—almost—in this delightful midwinter night's dream. Almost, Maine inventively explores the mysteries of the human heart, touching audiences with laughter, heartbreak and hope.

Almost, Maine will be staged at the Amato Performing Arts Center, 56 Mont Vernon St, Milford. The theatre is wheelchair accessible.

General admission tickets are \$12 for adults, \$7 for seniors (60+) and students. Advance tickets are available at Toadstool Bookshop and online at www.MilfordAreaPlayers.org. Tickets are also available at the door.

Visit www.MilfordAreaPlayers.org, www.almostmaine.com, or call Deborah Shaw at 321-0973.

Andy's Summer Playhouse Announces 41st Season, Auditions

WILTON - Andy's Summer Playhouse, a non-profit children's theater that has been providing youth ages 8-18 the chance to work with professional artists to create energetic and innovate productions for the past 40 years, has just announced their season lineup for this coming summer. Andy's will be holding auditions on March 13th at the Temple Elementary School in Temple, and on March 19th at the Boys and Girls Club's Amato Theater in Milford.

This season, as always, Andy's will be producing three completely original productions written specially for Andy's. These will include a new interpretation of "King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table," a modern re-imagining of the famous tale by Arthur Conan Doyle, "The Lost World," and finally a musical multi-genre rock and roll romp through the 1960's and 1970's beach party movies entitled "Kung Fu Beach Party." Each show is sure to be wildly entertaining as well as thought provoking and one-of-a-

kind. We also have our Conservatory program available for those kids who want to learn the basics of theater in a fun and supportive environment. This program runs for three weeks in July. Additionally we also offer our John C. Russell Playwriting Lab which allows aspiring writers of any age to write their own short play and have it performed on the Andy's stage by real Andy's actors! Please contact us for any more information that you need.

Auditions at Andy's will be held on March 13th between 10:00am and 4:30pm at the Temple Elementary School in Temple and March 19th between 9:30am and 4:00pm at the Boys and Girls Club's Amato Theater in Milford, and on. One-hour-slots are available, just email info@andyssummerplayhouse.org or call 654-2613 to reserve a spot.

Auditions at Andy's are low-stress and fun. Andy's tries to find a place for everyone, and participants can expect a summer filled with community-building, artistic expression, education, and excitement!

Carroll House Galleries at Keene State College Announce Exhibition "Friends and Family"

KEENE - Friends and Family is the second exhibition in the inaugural season of exhibits at the new Keene State College Carroll House Art Gallery. The exhibit continues through Saturday, March 19. Gallery hours are Wednesday - Saturday noon- 5 pm.

In the coldest of seasons comes the bright works of 10 regional artists with affiliations past and present to the Art Department at Keene State College who have been invited

to exhibit their artworks. Taken together the works represent the colorful range of contemporary abstraction and thoughtful visual intentions, and even some humor, being executed in the Keene area today. KSC Art Department alumni Molly Fletcher ('07), Brian Jenkins ('90), Jim Murphy ('80), Mike Reilly ('90) will show their work alongside current and past adjunct Art faculty Craig Stockwell, Stephanie Nichols, and Bruce Blanchette, artists Carmela Azzaro, Deborah Lloyd Kaufman, and Robert Askey have exhibited their works at the college or have taken Art courses as non-traditional students. The Art Department recognizes these artists as friends and part of a family in a wider association of artistic community.

The artworks exhibited explore a variety of themes with some commonality pertaining to themes articulated from the previous exhibiting artist, Jarod Charzerski: color and landscape in the works of Molly Fletcher, Jim Murphy, Carmela Azzaro, and Robert Askey. A fractured balance of old in new, alluding to recent events in Cairo are suggested in the improvisational layout of painter Craig Stockwell. Artist Brian Jenkins has been diligently



"Pacific Tides" by Carmela Azzaro



Original art by faculty member, Craig Stockwell

producing a painting a week in his studio for the last 4 years- he chronicles a year's worth of his interests and obsessions. The collages of Michael Reilly revisit the eternal theme of still-life with playful exuberance. The works of Bruce Blanchette and Stephanie Nichols investigate the potentialities in mass, volume, and the weight of 3 D materials in relief painting and sculptural installation. Nichol's sense of delicate light is echoed in the gestural paintings of Deborah Lloyd Kaufman.

Part of the mission of the gallery is to partner students with professionals and to provide a forum for contemporary art, artists, students, and the community students working in the gallery will have had the opportunity to work along side the 10 artists as they curate and hang, and professionally light their works at the gallery.

The Dana Center, Saint Anselm College Presents Solas

MANCHESTER - The Dana Center, regional performing arts center at Saint Anselm College continues its tradition of hosting the most authentic Saint Patrick's Day celebration in New Hampshire by presenting the acclaimed Irish superband Solas, for one performance only on Friday, March 18 at 7:30 pm. The group returns to the Dana Center for a quintessential Celtic fest of fiddles, flutes, banjos, mandolins, bodhran, whistles, keyboard and guitar, firing up a true St. Patrick's Day concert for all those who love real Irish music to experience. The band varies the mix of fire-tested tradition and contemporary sensibility, creating a blend of traditional folk country melodies, blues and jazz-inspired improvisations and global rhythms that have forged new territory for Celtic music. Since coming together as a band over ten years ago, Solas has been widely acclaimed as the most popular, influential and excit-

ing band to ever emerge from their homeland of Ireland - and the reviews have only gotten better with time. The Denver Post calls them "...a band at the top of its game" and the Los Angeles Times says "Solas offers a compellingly original, strikingly contemporary view of traditional Celtic sounds." The Solas sound is anchored by founders Seamus Egan and Winifred Horan, who are unquestionably two of the most respected as well as imitated musicians anywhere in acoustic music. The band has also built a fan base that includes the likes of Bela Fleck, Emmylou Harris and the much sought after rap producer Timbaland who actually sampled the band on his radio hit "All Yall!" The band's latest release is a live CD and DVD called "Reunion" which celebrates the closely knit band's anniversary. For more information about Solas, visit the Dana Center website at www.anselm.edu/dana. Reserved Seating: \$29.50, Senior Citizens,

\$25.50, youth 18 and under and NH College/University Students, \$12.50 (with I.D.) The Dana Center is open to the public and welcomes citizens from all over New Hampshire to enjoy world class performing arts.

The Box Office is open Monday-Friday from 10:00 AM to 4:30 PM. For tickets and information, call 641-7700 or now conveniently buy online 24 hours a day at www.anselm.edu/dana



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