

Community, college shows go before footlights

The fall theater season is underway, with diverse offerings from community and college groups to tempt the avid theatergoer.

It's a big year for Dracula. Three productions of the lustful count's misadventures are slated, by the Birmingham Village Players, the Student Enterprise Theatre at Oakland University and the Southfield Civic Theatre.

THE BIRMINGHAM VILLAGE PLAYERS holds the record for longevity among community theater groups in the area. The players will begin a 56th season Friday with "Lovers and Other Strangers."

Rosemary Schneider is directing the show, a series of five comedies written by Renee Taylor and Joseph Bologna. Performances of "Lovers and Other Strangers" will continue through Saturday and the following weekend, Friday-Saturday, Oct. 13-14. Curtain time is 8 p.m.

The rest of the season's playbill includes: "Wait Until Dark," a mystery by Frederick Knott, Nov. 24-26 and Dec. 1, 2.

"Carnival," the New York Critics Circle Musical of the Year award winner with music and lyrics by Bob Merrill, Jan. 26-28 and Feb. 2, 3, 9, and 10.

Theater

"The Lion in Winter," James Goldman's classic historical drama, March 23-25 and 30-31.

"Count Dracula," the new Ted Tiller version based on Bram Stoker's classic novel "Dracula," at 9 p.m. (8 p.m. Sundays) May 11-13 and 16-18.

For ticket information call 644-2075; season ticket information is available by calling 642-5016.

ST. DUNSTON'S GUILD of Cranbrook in Bloomfield Hills will open its season with three plays and one musical by top American playwrights.

Nell Simon's comedy "Barfoot in the Park" will be presented Oct. 20-21, 22-23. Vincent Hayes is directing.

Other productions during the season will be Tennessee Williams' famous drama "Sweet Bird of Youth," Feb. 9, 10, 16 and 17; "Bus Stop," Feb. 9, 10, 16 and 17; "The Importance of Being Earnest," March 30, 31 and April 6, 7; the musical "Carousel," written by Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein,

scheduled for the Greek Theatre, June 13 and 7-9.

For season tickets and further information, phone 647-4928.

THE FAMILY PLAYERS (previously Farmington Family Players) has announced its fifth season:

"See How They Run," an English farce, Oct. 19-21 and 27-29 at Seaholm High School Little Theatre, Birmingham. Curtain time is 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday and 7 p.m. Sunday.

"How the Penguin Got His Tuxedo," the first prize winner in the CFAM play writing contest for 1977, an hour-long children's play, Saturdays, Dec. 2 and 9, at Groves Little Theatre, Birmingham. Curtain time is 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

"Cinders," an English musical reworking of the famed "Cinderella," April 20-22 and 27-29 at Seaholm Little Theatre. Curtain time is 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 7 p.m. Sunday.

Ticket information is available by calling 625-1653, 651-1597 or 682-8822.

THE FARMINGTON PLAYERS will open its new season with "A Streetcar Named Desire," Nov. 3-5, 9-13 and 16-18; "The Importance of Being Earnest," Feb. 15-18, 22-25 and March 1-

3; "Philadelphia Story," May 4-6, 10-13 and 17-19. Call the box office at 477-1066 for more information.

THE THEATRE ARTS PROGRAM at Oakland University, Rochester, will present two shows at the Studio Theatre in Varner Hall. "Equus," spellbinding psychological drama, is slated for Oct. 19-22, 26-29 at 8:30 p.m. and Oct. 22 and 29 at 2:30 p.m.

THE STUDENT ENTERPRISE THEATRE, with performances in the Barn Theatre on the OU campus, opened its season in early September with a new musical "Aggie."

Upcoming shows are "Dracula," one of the great standard mystery thrillers, Oct. 31, Nov. 1-5, 10-12, 17-19, with matinees Nov. 12 and 19; "Jesus Christ Superstar," a stunning choral presentation, March 16-18, 23-25, 30-31 and April 1, with matinees March 25 and April 1.

Also, "Detectable Creatures & Weird Fascinations," the Mime Ensemble, April 5-8, plus a matinee April 8; and "The Phantom," a new musical based on "Phantom of the Opera," June 1-3, 8-10, 15-17 with matinees June 10 and 17.

For more information on the

Theatre Arts Program and the Student Enterprise Theatre productions, phone 377-2000.

WILL-O-WAY APPRENTICE THEATRE in Bloomfield Hills continues "The King and I," Rodgers and Hammerstein musical, Fridays and Saturdays through Oct. 7. Curtain time is 8:30 p.m.

Other announced productions for the new fall season include "Spider's Web" by Agatha Christie, Oct. 27-Nov. 18, and "The Skin of Our Teeth" by Thornton Wilder, Dec. 8-13.

For reservations and information call 644-4118.

THE SOUTHFIELD CIVIC THEATRE will present the play

"Count Dracula" by Ted Tiller Thursday-Sunday, Oct. 26-28, at the Southfield Parks and Recreation Building. Performances are at 8 p.m., with a special midnight performance Saturday, Oct. 28.

The season also will offer "The Glass Menagerie" drama by Tennessee Williams, Feb. 1-4, and the musical "The Apple Tree" May 10-13 and 17-20.

Ticket information is available at 364-9608.

AVON PLAYERS in Rochester is doing the musical "Gypsy" as the season's opener. Performance dates are Oct. 12-15, 19-22, 26-28; also a matinee Oct. 22. For ticket information, phone 683-7410.

Photo exhibit accents TV2

Three decades of history are graphically depicted by more than 500 photographs in a month-long exhibit in conjunction with WJBK-TV2's 30th anniversary celebration.

The traveling exhibit will be unveiled to the public this morning at the Renaissance Center in downtown

Detroit following videotape cutting ceremonies by Mayor Coleman Young.

The exhibit will remain on view at the Renaissance Center through Sunday. Other week-long stops are scheduled including one at Somerset Mall in Troy starting Monday, Oct. 17.

Every Monday Evening at Seven The Pastie Wind Quintet in Concert 7 to 9 p.m. somerset mall 816 Beaver Road at Goodger, Troy

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