

Grounds at Cranbrook offer variety to public

By Jacqueline Powell
special writer

"For us, the Cranbrook Masque was the beginning of a new life for the Greek Theatre," said Susan Bodary, director of product and facilities marketing for the Cranbrook Educational Community in Bloomfield Hills.

"We are anxious for people to come and experience the many wonderful things we have to offer."

"One of the exciting things about the restoration of the Greek Theatre is that it gives people another option for a place to hold business events. Then, too, we already have three weddings scheduled at the Greek Theatre for the coming spring and summer."

"We are making an extra effort to reach the public to let everyone know we are here for their use and enjoyment. Cranbrook's founders, George and Ellen Booth, had a vision of sharing. It is our responsibility to continue the sharing of our educational, artistic and cultural resources."

CRANBROOK HOUSE has an interesting relationship between the private and public parts of the community, Bodary said.

"Our public institutions — Cranbrook Academy of Art and Cranbrook Institute of Science — are here for everyone to enjoy. We are striving to expose more of our national treasures, which are readily accessible to the public."

The magnificent art treasures, along with the architecture, make each event at the Cranbrook Educational Community an enriching experience.

CRANBROOK HOUSE and Gardens Auxiliary takes care of the plants covering all 40 acres of the gardens.

Masque honors tradition

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Restoration of Cranbrook's Greek Theatre was completed in time to celebrate its 75th anniversary. The Cranbrook Masque was performed in September to mark the occasion.

Originally written for the dedication of the Greek Theatre in 1916 by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Sidney Coe Howard, the script was revised by Edgar Guest III.

"Four years ago, Cranbrook Educational Community president Dr. Lillian Bauder and I were talking about the upcoming 75th anniversary of the dedication and we spoke of the Cranbrook Masque being performed. Lillian thought it a good idea," said Mark Coir, executive producer.

"WHAT PROMPTED us to move forward was the generosity of an anonymous donor with funding through the state of Michigan and the Cranbrook Educational Community."

"The lion's share of the credit for the performance goes to Edgar Guest. Our producer, writer, assistants and talented vocal group — Musickes Pleasure — plus Harriet Berg, our choreographer, were exceptional."

"The combined talents of St. Dunstan's Guild,

Christ Church Cranbrook, the Harriet Berg Dancers, and members of the Cranbrook Educational Community made it happen. We had the best of the best."

A POSTER commemorating the occasion was designed by Kathy McCoy, using a sample from the original production. Some posters are still available with a limited supply signed by McCoy. Cost for the unsigned poster is \$20 plus \$2 postage.

Coir, as director of Cranbrook Archives, was interested in making available a video history of the Greek Theatre.

"Cranbrook's Greek Theatre is one of only six in the United States. We now have a professionally written and narrated video titled 'The Greek Theatre at Cranbrook.'"

"It tells not only of the Greek Theatre but also about Cranbrook's history and that of its founders, George and Ellen Booth."

Cost for the video is \$25, plus \$3 postage and handling. The video can be picked up in person. Call 645-3581.

To have the poster or video mailed, send a check, with a notation if the address is different from that on the check, to Cranbrook Archives, P.O. Box 801, Bloomfield Hills 48303-0801. Allow three to four weeks for delivery.

of the Distinguished Service to the Arts Award from the Farmington Arts Commission.

SHE RECEIVED her bachelor's, master's and specialist of music degrees from the University of Michigan, graduating magna cum laude in 1989.

Nixon has studied conducting at the Tanglewood Music Center in Boston, Salzburg Music Festival (Fulbright Scholarship) in Austria and Pierre Monteux Memorial School for advanced conductors in Maine.

As conductor, she replaces Jacob Chl, who took a position at Southern Colorado University as artist in residence and conductor for the Pueblo Symphony.

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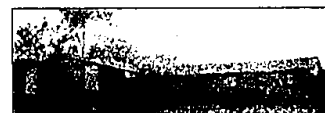
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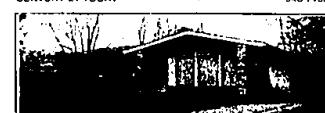
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