

Puppet show



Puppeteer: Marilyn O'Connor Miller of Birmingham will perform for artStart, a Wayne State University program dedicated to introducing children to the arts, 11 a.m. Saturday, March 12, at the Community Arts Building on campus. Tickets are \$2 children, \$3 adults. Call (313) 577-5448. Miller brings a full range of artistic experiences to storytelling including puppets, masks, mime and music.

Introduce your kids to 'Tuby' at LSO concerts

Livonia Symphony Orchestra continues its 20th anniversary season with concerts on March 11 and 12 in the auditorium of the Livonia Civic Center Library, 32777 Five Mile Road, east of Farmington Road. Tickets are \$12, seniors age 62 and older, \$8, students 12 and older with valid ID, \$6, children under 12, \$3. Call 421-1111 or 464-2741. Tickets will be available at the door, or in advance at Civic Center Library, Hammill Music, and Madonna University.

The symphony's chamber orchestra will perform 8 p.m. Friday, March 11. On the program are two works by Beethoven —

"The Overture to Prometheus," and his septet for Winds and Strings. There will also be two arrangements by the Canadian Brass as played by the LSO brass section.

There will be short demonstrations of various instruments featured in this concert, and a question and answer period. George Kleinsingers' "Tuby the Tuba," will be performed with Rob Mason narrating. Lanny Robins solo tubist the LSO will be playing the solo tuba part with the chamber orchestra.

Bring your children to the concert — "Tell A Story" 2 p.m. Saturday, March 12.

Musical showcases local talent

PREVIEW

The adventures of Hucklerry Finn come to life on stage in Dearborn Community Theatre's presentation of the musical "Big River" opening 8 p.m. Friday, March 4 at the Mackenzie Fine Arts Atrium Auditorium on the campus of Henry Ford Community College in Dearborn. Shows 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays through March 12, 8 p.m. Thursday, March 10 and 3 p.m. Sunday, March 13.

Henry Ford Community College is at 6101 Evergreen, south of Ford Road. Tickets \$10 adults, \$8 students and senior citizens. Tickets available at the door or call (313) 943-2354.

In "Big River," Huck and Jim set out in search of their destinies along the mighty Mississippi River. Full of laughter and warmth, "Big River" features such memorable characters as the Widow Douglas, Miss Watson, Pap Finn, Tom Sawyer, and a pair of scheming con men known as the Duke

and the King.

The cast includes Canton residents Corinne Fine (Widow Douglas), Kerry Plague (Silas Phelps), Laura Cindy Plague (ensemble), and Parker Plague (ensemble). Donald Boettcher of Farmington Hills wears two hats — Pap Finn and Sheriff Ball.

Debra Greka of Redford portrays Sally Phelps and Sergio Mautone, also of Redford juggles the roles of Mark Twain/Doctor, and Harvey Wilkes.

Four Westland residents have roles in "Big River" — Thomas Downey (King), Rob Pacione (Ben, Andy, and Young Fool), Walter Krause Jr. (Tom Sawyer) and Christine Sullivan (ensemble).

One of the musicians is from Canton, Dwight Kish who plays bass guitar.



Rehearsing: Brian Townsend of Redford (left) and Perry Brown rehearse a scene from "Big River." Townsend portrays Hucklerry Finn, and Brown is Jim.

Entertaining events to benefit arts

Two events, a mystery dinner theater and presentation by the Michigan Opera Theatre offer an evening of fine entertainment to benefit the arts.

Plymouth Community Arts Council is sponsoring a Mystery Dinner Theater Saturday, March 5 at Laurel Manor Banquet and Conference Center, 39000 School-

craft, Livonia. Cocktails will be served at 7:15 p.m., dinner at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$40 per person, and are available at the PCAC office, 332 S. Main St. in Plymouth, 9 a.m. to noon Monday through Friday. Or call the office, 455-5260 or Randy Lee, 459-5572 for ticket information. Proceeds will benefit the arts council.

Broadway and the Michigan Opera Theatre are coming to Canton 8 p.m. Saturday, March 12. "An Evening of Broadway Music" will feature selections by Andrew Lloyd Webber and Leonard Bernstein at the Canton Little Theatre in Plymouth-Canton High School. The event sponsor is Canton Project Arts.

Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at Dearborn Music in Canton, Alvin Williams Music in Canton and at the Canton Township administration building, or by calling 455-9009 or 459-4971.

"The show will be a cabaret-

style concert. We'll do medleys from 'Evita,' 'Cats,' 'Phantom of the Opera' 'West Side Story,' and many more popular tunes," said Mark Vondrak of the community programs department for the Michigan Opera Theatre and a member of the cast. "Canton Project Arts has selected a lively program which is always well received in communities we visit."

Other members of the cast will include soprano Maria Cimarelli, mezzo-soprano Betsy Bronson, tenor Karl Schmidt and pianist Kevin Bylsma. Vondrak is a baritone.

CLASSICAL MUSIC

Classical music lists upcoming classical music concerts. Send items to be considered for publication to: Keely Wygonik, Entertainment editor, the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150. Our fax number is 591-7279.

COLLEGE

SCHOOLCRAFT COLLEGE
Concert featuring classical pianist Anton Nel noon to 1 p.m. Wednesday, March 16 in the Forum Building Recital Hall, F 530 on campus, 18600 Haggerty Road,

Livonia. Concert is free and open to the public. Reception follows concert. Call 462-4400 for information.

COMMUNITY

DETROIT SYMPHONY
Jean-Pierre Rampal and his golden flute 8 p.m. Thursday, March 3 and 10:45 a.m. Friday, March 4. Classical Roots performance series will showcase works by African-American composers, 8:30 p.m. Saturday, March 5 and 3:30 p.m. Sunday, March 6 in the Orchestra Hall in Detroit. Call 833-3700 for tickets.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL: **661-0940**