

HOURS: M-TH 10-6, FRI 10-7, SA 10-5 SUN 12-4 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20

Holiday Open House

Saturday, December 2 10:00 AM-5:00 PM and

Special Portfolio Showing of



Wine and Cheese Reception Saturday, December 2 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Meadowbrook Art Center 41200 Ten Mile Road, Novi (810) 477-6620

& 48 of 48 of

THEATER

JET's 'Diary of Anne Frank' powerful

"The Diary of Anne Frank," Aaron DeRoy Theatre, Jewish Community Center, 6600 West Maple, West Bloomfield, through Dec. 17. Call (310) 788-2900 or (810) 645-6666 for tickets, show

times. By Cathie Breidenbach Spicia White

times.

The Jewish Ensemble Theatre's powerful and vibrant production of "The Diary of Anne Frank," revives her story after several drades in the theatreia attic. The drama, adapted from the diaries of 13-year-old Anne Frank, depicts the life of eight Jewis in hiding for over two years in a cramped Amsterdam attic during World War II.

During daylight hours, they whispered, walked in stocking feet, couldn't flush the toilet, and froze in fear every time they heard the errie wail of sirens or the sound of soldiers marching in the street — until the day the soldiers came for them. After the war, Anne's father, Otto Frank, the only survivor of the eight who shared the attic, discovered Anne's diary and published it.

Critics acclaimed the touching human face it brought to the history of the holocaust. Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett adapted "The Diary of Anne Frank" for the Broadway stage where it enjoyed a long, successful run.

The Jewish Ensemble Theatre

where it enjoyed a long, successful ran.

Lewish Ensemble Thester production of the Goodrich and Hackett play, directed by Pat Ansuini, brims with tensions, bickering, laughter, and mundane frustrations intensified by captivity and fear. Julie Van Dusen portrays Anne not as a soulful marry of the holocaust, but as an irrepressible and sometimes obnoxious adolescent. Anne puts a wet mop in Mr. Dussel's bed to get

REVIEW back at him for his fuss-budget bachelor ways. She talks con-stantly and much too loud, argues with her mother (Maureen Dorr-ington), chafes at her sister's (Cassandra McCarthy) calm goodness so unlike her own mer-curial intensity, and adores her father.

curial intensity, and adores her father.
Otto Frank centers and calms the collection of personalities forced into hiding. They're all dependent on the brave loyalty of Miep (Chris Ann Voudookis) and Kraler (Joe Bailey) to bring contraband food, supplies, and news to them in their attic hiding place.

Robert Starko as Otto Frank commands respect as a man of dignily and decency. He could not turn out Mr. Dussel (Marty Bufalini) a dentist with no place to hide or the family of his business associate Mr. Van Daan to the Nati dragnet. The Jewis Ensemble Theatre's own artistic director, Everyn Ortach, plays Mrs. Van Daan as a materialist who clings to the fur coat her father gave her and flitra plitfully with Otto Frank. She squabbles incresantly with her husband (Robert Grossman) and they both harp at their son, Peter, played by Danick Kahn whose portrayal rings authentic from his reclusive moodiness to his unruly shock of dark ness to his unruly shock of dark

Those in hiding may sometimes have squabbled like greedy kids at camp when dividing method from the process of the man and an extended to moment of fearful hopelessness. Perfect they were not, but they were. Although their likes were. Although their likes were. Although their likes have been condensed and constrained by fugitive circumstances, their humanity was not diminished, and JET's supersolution excels in bringing that humanity to touching, vibrant life.

Cathie Breidenbach of West Bloomfield teaches college writing classes and works as a freelance writer.

TRAVEL

Feeling lucky? You could win a trip to Las Vegas

Tell us about the luckiest thing that ever happened to you to win an overnight package to Las Vegas for two, Dec. 12-13, cour-tesy of Hamilton, Miller, Hudson & Fayne Travel Corp. in South-field

field.

The lucky winner will choose between the Palace Station or the Aladdin Hotel and Casino. The package includes round-trip airfore, hotel accommodations, and round-trip transfers between the airport and hotel.

Limit your entry to 50 words or less. Include your name, address, and a daytime telephone number. Entries must be received by 5 p.m. Monday, Dec. 4, Send or far critics to Keely Wygonik, Taste/ Entertainment Editor, Observer & Eccentric, 36251 Schooleraft, Livonia, MI 48150. To far your chity, call (313) 591-7279. For more information, call (313) 953-2105.

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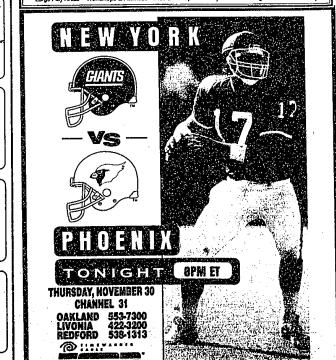




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