

'Sound of Music' set for C'ville

BY SHERRY KAHAN

The auditorium of the Clarendonville High School will be alive with "The Sound of Music" when its drama department brings to the stage this well known musical at 8 p.m. on April 8, 10 and 11.

It is a theatrical venture which asks the question "How do you solve a problem like Maria?"

If you are wise Mother Abbess, you decide that while Maria may not exactly be an asset to the abbey, she might be a dynamite as a governess to the seven children of Baron von Trapp, played here by Har- old Smith.

Her decision made musical history as a cast of 23 Clarendonville students will demonstrate. They will be backed up by a production, technical and directorial staff of 23, with Bob Gregory of Farmington, who is 27 going on 38, as director and musical stage manager.

Rehearsals have been under way 10 weeks with both the technical staff and actors going through their paces. A high light was a sewing bee held in the home economics room under the direction of Mrs. Jan Kite. Both teachers and students piled in to help up the appropriate costumes for the Austrian setting.

Those who remember theatrical productions of an earlier age when scenery was

posted on the wall and the curtain didn't quite close would be interested to see Carolyn Ghini, assistant director and stage manager, during rehearsals.

A student who has acted in previous Clarendonville theatricals, she was perched on a stool just out of sight of the audience. Wearing a headset and microphone, she is the hub of the backstage communication network.

A word from her will snuff the lights, drop a set or chase the curtain to be pulled. To follow the various cues for which she is responsible she follows her script on the dim lights with a flashlight. The pit she wears says, "We can make it."

Above and behind her is a raised cage filled with electric equipment and levers which are moved by the lighting crew to alter the lights. Below them are a collection of ropes, called pinnis, going upward heaven knows where. When Jerry Trapp yanks one of these to raise a set, he looks as though he were hauling up the mainsail on the Flying Cloud.

"Stand by," she warns her crew. "Be ready for right after they kiss."

The kiss refers to the kiss exchanged by Llewellyn Trapp, played by Mary Morrison, who actually is 16 going on 17, and Holl played by Doug Sulphim.

Around the stage manager are cables and a team of silent elves who run out and

place tables, beds and even an entire coffee service on the darkened stage at the proper moment. It is Kevin Gardner's job to see that none of the props is forgotten.

Nancy Parrish, who plays Maria, recalled a moment of merriment over one of these props during the early thunderstorm scene when all the von Trapp children rush to take refuge in Maria's bed.

"With eight of us on the bed, it fell down and broke," she said. "We had to get a new bed."

In her first stage role, Nancy finds the experience fun. "The singing is fun," she added. "But the love scenes are hard. In fact, all the scenes where I have to show emotion are hard."

Several of the girls in the cast who play the parts of nuns are Jewish, and this led to a problem for Leslie Goldman.

"I didn't know how to make the sign of the cross," she explained. "It was confusing it up until a girlfriend put me straight."

Two cast members, it should be noted, are not Clarendonville High School students. Musical director for the production is Carol Horning of Redford Township. Tickets are \$2. The audition is at 20155 Middle Belt Rd. north of Seven Mile in Livonia.

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There is a \$5 entry fee for non-OCC students and all entries must be delivered to the Orchard Ridge Campus by 5 p.m. Friday, May 7.

Prizes will be awarded and the winning films will be shown on campus Friday, June 11 at 8 p.m.

The winning films in each of the nine categories will receive prizes of cash, books and film equipment worth \$150.

Contest categories include best film of show-color and black and white-the Abel Laiz Memorial Prize for the best silent film comedy, drama, documentary, science fiction and best junior filmmaker.

The contest is open to all filmmakers who earn the major portion of their income from cinematography.

Entrants must submit 8mm or 16mm film and either a one-half inch reel to reel videotape or three quarters inch videotape cassettes. In both silent and sound categories, color or black and white will be accepted. Super, standard or regular 8mm or 16mm will be accepted.

The best junior filmmaker category is open to anyone under 17.

Complete rules and entry blanks can be obtained by calling the Orchard Ridge Theater Department at 476-9400 ext. 504 or by writing to the Film Contest, Orchard Ridge Campus, 27855 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills 48031.

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Kindergarten registration set at Botsford

Botsford Elementary School in the Clarendonville district will hold a kindergarten roundup starting at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, April 10.

Parents whose children have been attending the Friday "Sesame Street" program or the daily pre-school program don't have to register again, a school spokesman said.

To be eligible for kindergarten, children must be five years old on or before Dec. 1, 1978. Parents are asked to bring their child's birth certificate to the registration.

Parents unable to make Tuesday's registration may sign up their children at the school at 18015 Leathers, north of Seven Mile, Livonia.

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