

Auction articles sought

Channel 56 Auction Go-Getters are combing Greater Detroit to round up donations for the 13th annual Auction. Official Host Dick Puritan (KXL radio) said, "They need much more merchandise to make the April 3-11 sellation a success."

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THE BRONX" (R)

ABBEY 3
"ALTERED
STATES" (R)

ABBEY 4
Stars Film
"LOVERS & LIARS" (R)
Sat & Sun Mat.
"HOW FUNNY
CAN SEX BE?" (R)

Sat & Sun Mat.
"TOM THUMB" (G)

FAIRLANE 1
Ford Rd. at Telegraph
551-7200
Richard Pryor
& Gene Wilder
"STIR CRAZY" (R)

FAIRLANE 2
Lily Tomlin
"THE INCREDIBLE
SHRINKING
WOMAN" (PG)
Sat & Sun Mat.
"TOM THUMB" (G)

MAPLE 1
Maple Rd. at Forest
adjacent to Bloomfield Plaza
855-9000
"KAGENUSHA" (R)

MAPLE 2
Last Day
"MIRROR
CRACK'D" (PG)
Stars Film
"GREAT SANTINI" (PG)

MAPLE 3
Mary Tyler Moore
Doris Dwyer
& Academy Award
Nominations
"ORDINARY PEOPLE" (R)

NORTHLAND 1
J.L. Hudson Dr. at Northland
Center
559-3366
"ALTERED
STATES" (R)

NORTHLAND 2
Last Day
Academy Award Nomination
"INSIDE MOVES"
(PG)
"EYEWITNESS" (R)

OLD ORCHARD 1
On Orchard Lake Road
North of 12 Mile 553-2210
Paul Newman
Ed Asner
"FOR APACHE,
THE BRONX" (R)

OLD ORCHARD 2
"LOVERS & LIARS" (R)
"HOW FUNNY
CAN SEX BE?" (R)
Sat & Sun Mat.
"TOM THUMB" (G)

OLD ORCHARD 3
Academy Award
Nominations
"ELEPHANT MAN"
(PG)

TERRACE 1
30400 Plymouth Road
Westland 327-1717
Last Day
Robert DeNiro
"THE RAGING BULL" (R)
Stars Film
"APOCALYPSE NOW"
& Gene Wilder
"TOM THUMB" (G)

TERRACE 2
Stars Film
"GREAT SANTINI" (PG)

TOWNE 1
Greenfield Rd. at 107th
965-8700
Gene Hackman
"LOVERS & LIARS" (R)
"HOW FUNNY
CAN SEX BE?" (R)

TOWNE 2
Stars Film
"RAGING BULL" (R)

'Guys and Dolls' needs more pep

By JODY A. CUMMINGS

"Guys and Dolls." Frank Loesser's musical about the muddled love lives of two street gamblers, has the potential to be either very good or very bad. There is not much room for mediocrity. Well done, the play is light and amusing, happily carrying the audience from New York to Havana and back again. Poorly done, it is a dull, tedious show that does little more than bore the audience.

It is unfortunate that the Troy Players' production of this play flows more along the latter vein.

The show continues its run Friday-Saturday, March 13-14, at the Troy Community Center.

"Guys and Dolls" revolves around Sky Masterson and Nathan Detroit, two underground gamblers who waver between their love for dice and their love for two women, one a Salvation Army worker and the other a chorus girl.

OF THE FOUR leads, there is not one who is really better than another. None of them are poor at either singing or acting — far from it. But at the same time, none of them seem sure enough of their characters to be able to have fun and keep the pace.

Rod Crawford as Nathan Detroit and Linda Ball as Adelaide, his chorus-girl fiancée of 14 years, are good when they are together and able to play off one another, but Ball wavers toward whiny when she is by herself.

They are also the only two cast members who use accents, but instead of coming off as lower-class New Yorkers, they often sound almost foreign.

As Sky Masterson, Bob Oleinski is certainly a competent actor and singer, but he lacks the sparkle necessary to mold Masterson into the colorful, appealing hero that he should be.

Playing opposite Oleinski is Ciel Wehman as Sarah Brown, Sky's prim,

review

reluctant girlfriend. In her own right, Wehman could carry the part quite well, but she doesn't appear too at ease with Oleinski. The "chemistry" — as Sky calls it — just isn't there.

ALTHOUGH NO ONE is glaringly inept, there is only one cast member who brightens the stage with his presence. He is Jim Moskal as Nicely John. Moskal is able to understate his character and still be as funny as any of the others, and his singing voice is distinctive and quite pleasant.

The show continues its run Friday-Saturday, March 13-14, at the Troy Community Center.

He alone seems comfortable enough in his role. It is too bad he doesn't have more speaking lines.

Just when this play is supposed to take place is a little confusing. Costume chairman Kathy Goldenbogan has outfitted the cast in some outlandish clothes from several different eras, from the Depression to today.

The script calls for some bizarre costumes, particularly for the gamblers, but they should still be from the same time period. Ms. Goldenbogan has the prim Sarah in too-sexy skirts that twirl up around her thighs during some of the dance routines.

There is also one scene where Nathan is using a very modern Touch-tone telephone while he is dressed in 1950s garb.

These irregularities are as much director Marge Weiss' fault as they are anyone else's. Ms. Weiss should have decided on one year or decade and seen to it that her backstage crews followed her plans in designing the sets and costumes.

Overall, this is a plodding, slow-moving production that takes more out of an audience than it gives.

Master class critiqued by Broadway producer



WOODIE KING JR.

Area actors will have an opportunity to perform and receive a critique from Broadway producer and director Woodie King Jr. in April.

The chance will arise when the Will-O-Way Apprentice Theatre in Bloomfield Township sponsors a master acting class 1-6 p.m. Sunday, April 5.

King's adjudication will climax three weeks of intensive rehearsals by the 24 actors accepted for Will-O-Way's master class.

Actors must audition before a panel of judges to earn a place in the master class. Tryouts were held Monday and continue 2-6 p.m. Sunday. A \$5 audition fee, applicable toward the registration fee of those accepted, will be charged to all actors new to Will-O-Way.

Actors should prepare two three-minute scenes for the audition — one from classical theater, literature, the other from a contemporary work. Audition scenes from operas and musicals are being invited, if the actor provides an accompanist.

THE AUDITION will take place at the Will-O-Way Repertory Theatre, 775 W. Long Lake Road, between Telegraph and Lahser in Bloomfield Township. Actors should bring their resumes.

Once chosen, actors will be coached by Mrs. Turner for the scenes to be performed for King. "We are going to give them as much rehearsal time as they need," said Celia Merrill Turner, director of the acting school and artistic director of the Will-O-Way Repertory Theatre.

"Let's give them every opportunity to learn from this."

She said the master class will endeavor to showcase Detroit's top student talent. "Master classes give real goals and new energy to the student's hard studies. Will-O-Way has used the master class for more than 20 years to give developing actors an opportunity

Will-O-Way in the 1950s.

And in the early 1960s, King participated in a Will-O-Way master class under director Harold Clurman. Other masters who taught at Will-O-Way include Vincent Price, Basil Rathbone, Claudia McNeil and Guthrie McClintic.

In the Will-O-Way master class, actors will work closely with Mrs. Turner, who has coached natural performers from Will-O-Way actors for more than 40 years.

Among her students who have gained professional acclaim are King, comedienne Lily Tomlin and Gene Reynolds, executive producer of the "MASH" and "Lou Grant" television series.

Martha Henry, first lady of Ontario's Stratford Festival, spoke her first lines of Shakespeare at Will-O-Way.

In "Word of Honor," the Alex Karras film made in Detroit, Will-O-Way student Lorraine Poirier won a major supporting role. Martin Shakar, the Broadway menace who appeared in "Saturday Night Fever," trained at Will-O-Way.

Tuition for Will-O-Way's master acting class is \$62. A \$20 registration fee will be charged for all actors not registered at Will-O-Way. For more information on the master class, call 644-4418.

Playhouse readies auditions for shows

The Fourth Street Playhouse in stoyal Oak will hold auditions for "The Wall" by Tom Markland and "Beyond Marmalade" by George F. Walker 7:00-1:00 p.m. Sunday and 6-11 p.m. Monday. Auditions are by appointment only. For further information call the playhouse at 543-3666.

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