'Pinocchio' comes to Youtheatre stage

PREVIEW

His nose is as famous as Cyrano's and he lived in a whale's tummy like Jonah. He was born in the 1880's as a serial story character in an Italian periodical, published as a book in numerous languages and animated in a classic Disney film.

The latest incarnation: "Pinocchio" becomes a joyous Holiday musical live on the Youtheatre stage at Music Hall Center Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 17 and 18.

Performances are 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 17, and 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 18.

Tickets are $7 each (group rates on request) and available by mail or credit card phone order. Call the Music Hall Ticket Office at (313) 963-2366 or write to Youtheatre at Music Hall Center, 350 Madison at Brush, Detroit, MI 48226.

New York's Prince Street Players have taken Carlo Collodi's little wooden puppet, who desperately wishes to become "a real boy," and heightened his magical adventures with original music, lyrics, costumes and sets — including the interior of the whale.

Despite the best efforts of Geppetto and the Blue Fairy, Pinocchio lurches from one piece of mischief to another but he learns from his mistakes and becomes "real," by the final curtain.

"Pinocchio" is a Youtheatre "Wiggle Club" presentation, recommended for youngsters three years and older (no children under three are admitted).

Musical: *Prince Street Players in a scene from "Pinocchio" to be presented at the Youtheatre, Dec. 17-18.*

'Inspecting Carol' pokes fun at classic

The Attic Theatre is presenting "Inspecting Carol," at the New Center Theatre in Detroit through Jan. 8. Call (313) 875-5284 for tickets and show times.

There will be a "Toys-for-Tots" benefit 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 15. Admission is one new, unwrapped toy.

"Inspecting Carol," created by Daniel Sullivan and the Seattle Repertory, Co., is a satire about a small Midwest theater company trying to get through its annual production of "A Christmas Carol."

Already struggling to make ends meet, they find out that their grant from the National Endowment for the Arts has been "tabled" until an inspector can determine the artistic integrity of the company.

Entries sought for cake, gingerbread house contest

Enter your gingerbread house or decorated cake in contests sponsored by the 13th Annual Plymouth International Ice Sculpture Spectacular, Jan. 11-16 in downtown Plymouth.

Call (313) 455-0052 for information about the gingerbread house contest. Call (313) 261-3680 or (313) 459-0969 for details about the cake contest.

The gingerbread houses will be on display in the Westchester Square Mall on Forst Ave. throughout the Plymouth International Ice Sculpture Spectacular.

Target sponsors concerts

Target returns five percent of their pre-tax profits to the communities they serve. Target sponsored two performances of the "Nutcracker" ballet presented the Livonia Symphony Orchestra with Rose Marie Floyd's Contemporary Civic Ballet Company, Dec. 2 and 3 at the James P. Carll Auditorium in Churchill High School, Livonia.

On Dec. 11 Target sponsored the Farmington Area Philharmonic's holiday & pops concert titled, "The Nutcracker & Other Sweets." That concert was held at the Farmington Hills Activities Center.

On Feb. 12, the Farmington Area Philharmonic will host their Winter Fantasies family concert. Call (810) 478-2075 for ticket information.

Livonia Symphony is offering a familyh concert on Feb. 4. Call (313) 421-1111 for tickets.

Nutcracker sponsor: *Target representative Herb Vanderploeg, (center) presents a check to Ken Kelsey, president of the Livonia Symphony.*

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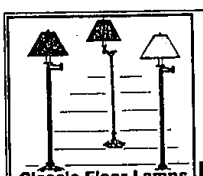

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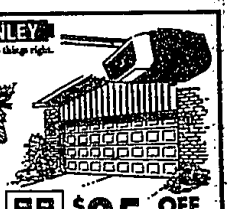

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