

# Musical from page 1B

count about 70 children, and a boy of royal slaves and priests around him. He appears to know all and demands total obedience. According to the king, Siam is the center of the world, if not the universe. By today's standards, he is the ultimate chauvinist.

Secretly, the king isn't sure he knows everything. So he hires an English widow, Anna Leonowens, portrayed by Katie Beltran, to teach his people Western ideas. Subject to his approval, of course. He treats Anna like a servant. Anna, a liberated Western woman, rebels, but is charmed by his innate goodness. She attempts to change the king's misguided ways.

However, one thing leads to another, and she threatens to leave — telling him — "Your vanity was hurt, and not your heart. You've never loved any one."

The king is crushed and falls into a coma. Does she follow through on her threat? Does the king recover? You'll have to see the show to discover the outcome. You will find Katie Beltran is

wonderful as the strong-willed, widow school teacher, Anna. She does a nice job with the show's popular songs, "Hello, Young Lovers," and "Getting to Know You."

Dan Gavurin's accent makes it difficult to understand him at times, but he is believable as the bombastic king, especially as he succumbs to Anna's pleading grace.

Jeanette Soman's astringent voice is a treat in her role as the wise Lady Thiang. Kamryn Wolf, as Tuptim, and Dean Wooliver, as Lun Tha, are very good as star-crossed lovers.

Director, Adam Carey, musical director/conductor, Cheryl Huber and choreographer, Ivory McKay, all deserve a special bow for shaping this large and diverse cast of nearly 50 performers into an outstanding production of "The King and I."

Bob Weibel of Westland is a freelance writer, who has spent more than 25 years in community theater as a director, designer and performer.

# Marquee from page 1B

piece Latin jazz orchestra. On Thursdays an exciting new quartet formation includes the presence of internationally acclaimed saxist/drummer Roy Brooks. Kurt Krahnke performs on bass. Schoolcraft College will present "The Big Event" dinner dance with entertainment by the Johnny Trudell Orchestra, 7 p.m. Sat. April 8 in the Waterman Center on campus, 18600 Haggerty Road, Livonia. Hors d'oeuvres will be served at 6:30 p.m. with dinner immediately following. A cash bar will be available. Tickets \$35 per person; tables just eight. All proceeds will fund athletic scholarships. To order tickets, call (313) 462-4417.

The Rotunda Bar, 16th Floor, Hyatt Regency-Dearborn in the Fairlane Town Center, north of Michigan, west of Southfield at Ford, live jazz 6:30-8:30 p.m. Thursdays. No cover charge. For details, call (313) 593-1234.

Mel Torme and his All-Star Jazz Quintet are appearing at Orchestra Hall in Detroit, 8 p.m. Sun, March 12. This concert is part of the "Americas Just Jazz" series which features classic jazz artists at Orchestra Hall. Other upcoming jazz events at Orches-

tra Hall include Milt Jackson (April 8) and Paquito D'Rivers (May 12). Tickets for the Mel Torme concert are \$50, \$32, \$31, \$26 and \$11. Call (313) 833-8700 or Ticketmaster, (810) 648-6666.

Michael Vale, known to millions as Dunkin' Donuts' "Fred the Baker," will be visiting metro Detroit on March 7. Dick Purtan will be interviewing him at 8 a.m. You can tune in on WKQI. "Fred the Baker" will also be on the air 7-7:30 a.m. on WYCD Southfield.

Tiger fans — The Detroit Tigers will be introducing a new mascot this summer and are looking for someone to fit the role. Participants must be 18 years or older, and between 5-foot-7 and 6-foot-1. Mascot and theater experience are preferable. Send resume by March 13, to Tiger Stadium, Mascot Audition: Kayla French, 2121 Trumbull, Detroit, MI 48216.

# Symphonies from page 1B

"She's remarkable. She's 8 years old. She's just a tremendous performer, and she's a doll," Grix said.

With orchestra accompaniment, she will play Bernstein's "Gypsy Airs," which Grix described as a lively and romantic piece that should nicely highlight Takeuchi's talents.

"I think our soloist is someone children should know about and see," Grix added.

Another guest on the program is Chris Fiedler, the host of "The Listening Room," a classical music program that airs Sunday mornings on WDET-FM. Fiedler will narrate "Peter and the Wolf," with music by Prokofiev.

PSO principal cellist, Derek Snyder will also take center stage as soloist on the first movement on Albert's "Concerto for Cello."

The orchestra will also play popular movie themes and Disney movie themes in particular. The Livonia Symphony's "Winds of March" will begin with Mozart's "Overture to the Magic Flute," followed by Strauss' composition, "Serenade for Thirteen Winds," which be performed by the wind section.

Elsewhere on the program is the "Berceuse" and "Finale" from Stravinsky's "Firebird," a score written for a ballet. It's a big, heavy piece.

Francisco Diblasi, "It's extremely complicated, and the orchestra didn't like when they first played it but it's very listenable."

The concert includes some Western-themed music by Harold Farberman, whom Diblasi described as "a modern composer in a classic vein." The Western-themed piece is called "The Great American Cowboy," and was originally a film score, Diblasi said.

The concert will end with musical highlights from the popular Broadway show. "Miss Saigon." The orchestra will be accompanied by five members of the South Lyon-based Michigan Ballet Theatre, led by Michelle Wolfe.

## LSO, PSO concert ticket outlets

- Here are some more places to buy Livonia and Plymouth Symphony Orchestra tickets. Tickets for LSO concerts are available by calling the 24-hour information line (313) 421-1111, and at these locations:
- Madonne University, 36600 Schoolcraft (at Levan), Livonia.
  - Hammell Music on Middlebelt north of Five Mile Road.
  - Livonia Civic Center Library, Five Mile Road east of Farmington Road.
  - Kelsey Advertising, southwest corner of Newburgh and Schoolcraft.
  - Jacobson's, Laurel Park Place, Livonia.
  - Evola Music Center, 215 Ann Arbor Road, near Lilley, Plymouth.
  - Dearborn Music, 42679 Ford Road at Lilley, Canton.
  - The Giftfinder, 302 E. Main St., Northville.
- Tickets for PSO concerts are available by calling (313) 421-2112, and at these locations:
- Belzner Jewelry, 904 W. Ann Arbor Trail, Plymouth.
  - Evola Music Center.
  - Novi Civic Center, 45175 10 Mile Road, Novi.
  - Giftfinder.
  - Bookstall on the Main, 101 N. Center, Northville.
  - Dearborn Music.
- Tickets for both orchestras are also available at the door, 30 minutes before the performance.

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