

Local 'Guys and Dolls' star in musical at Upstage Theater

BY KEELY WYONIK
STAFF WRITER
kwyonik@oe.homecomm.net

Negativism, Ralph Rosati believes, is a self-fulfilling prophecy.

"The only thing to fear is fear itself," said Rosati, quoting President Franklin D. Roosevelt as he talked about directing and choreographing *Guys and Dolls*, the first musical comedy ever to be presented by the Rosedale Community Players.

Some people said "we're not a musical group," but Rosati who has been involved with the Rosedale Players since 1973 encouraged them to do the show.

Rosati describes *Guys and Dolls*, which takes place in the 1950s as "a great ensemble show." The show opens Friday at the Upstage Theater and continues weekends through Sunday, May 13. Some shows are sold out, so call ahead for ticket information.

"Most people are having a great time," said Rosati about the rehearsals. "They've gotten

Guys and Dolls
What: Musical presented by Rosedale Community Players
When: 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, April 28-29; 2 p.m. Sunday, April 30 and May 7; 8 p.m. Saturday, May 6; 8 p.m. Friday-Saturday, May 12-13.
Where: Upstage Theater, 21728 Grand River, one-half block east of Lahser in the Old Redford area of Northwest Detroit. Theater is not handicap accessible.
Tickets: \$13, reserved, call (313) 537-7716 or (313) 532-4010. Discounts available for large groups, senior citizens and students.

over their fear and trepidation. I think it will lead to the group doing other musicals."

Over the past 43 years, Rosati, who lives in Wixom, says he's covered a lot of territory performing in, and directing shows for the Rosedale Community Players, Plymouth Community Theater, SRO Players in Southfield, and Farmington Players.

He recently directed PTG's production of *Oliver!* which also featured his son, Marc, as Fagan.

Marc, a resident of Walled Lake, stars as Nathan Detroit in *Guys and Dolls*, with Judy Hill of Southfield who is Adelaide.

Dennis Day of Livonia portrays Rusty Charlie.

"There's some really good talent in this show," said Day. "Ralph is a very good director. If you've never seen *Guys and Dolls*, this is something good to catch. It could be a life memory. Some people can't get to New York to see a Broadway play and this production is very good."

Guys and Dolls, The Broadway hit musical by Jo Swerling and Abe Burrows with words and music by Frank Loesser, is about two gamblers, a woman at the Save Our Souls Mission, and showgirl.



Cast: The cast of "Guys and Dolls" takes a break from rehearsal for a group photograph.

Frank Sinatra starred as Nathan Detroit in the movie version, and even if you're not

familiar with the show, you've probably heard some of the songs — Luck Be A Lady, Sit

Down, You're Rocking the Boat, and I've Never Been in Love Before.

Drama at Meadow Brook tells of family love and destruction

Years before Hollywood put the box-office star power of Jessica Lange, Sam Shepard and Diane Keaton behind *Crimes of the Heart*, the story appeared on the Broadway stage, where it received the Pulitzer Prize for best drama in 1981.

While the movie introduced a wider audience to the quirky and bizarre world of playwright Beth Henley, the play remains one of the best examples of the indescribable love that holds together most dysfunctional families.

Crimes of the Heart runs through May 14 at Meadow Brook Theatre on the Oakland University campus.

The play represents the final presentation in Meadow Brook's season.

With a story filled with the gothic and grotesque — including a horse struck by lightning, a woman who commits suicide by first hanging her cat, then her-

Crimes of the Heart
When: Continues through Sunday, May 14, performance times vary.
Where: Meadow Brook Theatre, Oakland University campus, Rochester Hills.
Tickets: \$19.50-\$35
Call (248) 377-3300, or (248) 645-6666

self — *Crimes of the Heart* presents itself as a tale of three rather "ordinary" sisters living in the south.

The story, however, is anything but ordinary.

The off-center McGrath sisters of Mississippi are as complicated as figuring out the relationships at a down-home family reunion. One sister is destined to become an old maid, another sister has returned home after a failed attempt at a singing career, and the youngest sister has recently shot her husband after he found her with a 16-year old boy.

After they sort through their emotional — and legal — entanglements, the McGrath sisters stumble upon the truth of their lives: Life isn't too painful as long as they have each other's company.

It's a lesson delivered with plenty of off-beat humor.

Crimes of the Heart features several local actors, including Christopher Howe and Angel Maclean of Rochester Hills; Kate Willinger Manfredi of Auburn Hills and Denise McCauley of Bloomfield Hills.

Meadow Brook recently

announced the lineup of plays for its 2000-2001 season.

Next season's schedule includes:

- *Dancing at Lughnasa* — Sept. 13-Oct. 8
- *The Diary of Anne Frank* —

- Oct. 18-Nov. 12
- *A Christmas Carol* — Nov. 25-Dec. 24
- *The Lion in Winter* — Jan. 10-Feb. 4
- *Killing Time* — Feb. 14-March 11

- *The Crucible* — March 21-April 6
- *Little Shop of Horrors* — April 25-May 20

— Frank Proenzano
Staff Writer

PLYMOUTH STAMP SHOW
Michigan's Largest Stamp Show
April 20 - 30, 2000
Sat. 10 am-8 pm • Sun. 10 am-4 pm

- ◆ APS National Accredited Show
- ◆ 2800 Pages of Stamp Exhibits
- ◆ 40 Dealers from U.S. & Canada
- ◆ Seminars & Society Meetings
- ◆ Junior Program (free stamps)
- ◆ U.S. and U.N. Post Offices
- ◆ Cachet Covers & Show Canel
- ◆ Free Admission & Parking

At
Plymouth Central Middle School
Church Street at Main Street
Downtown Plymouth

Chamber Music Society of Detroit
Presents the
Kalichstein-Laredo-Robinson Trio
SATURDAY, MAY 20, 2000, 8 P.M.
DETROIT COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL
SELIGMAN PERFORMING ARTS CENTER

Ludwig van Beethoven: Trio in G Major, Op. 1, No. 2
Richard Danielpour: A Child's Reliquary
Johannes Brahms: Trio in B Major, Op. 8

"One of the best-blended, most sensitive and intelligent piano trios in the world today. Above all, there is a vitality that stems from knowledge and love of the music."
—Boston Herald

Ticket prices from \$18 to \$65, students \$15.
Tickets are available at all **ticketmaster** ticket centers, including Hudson's and Harmony House stores.
To charge tickets by phone, call (248) 645-6666.
For additional information, call the Chamber Music Society of Detroit at (248) 737-3980 or visit www.CMSofDetroit.org.

Wedding dreams fulfilled.

Hilton Inn Southfield
26000 American Dr.
Southfield, MI 48034
248-357-1100

It's easy to take care of out-of-town friends and family when they stay with us. Each guest will enjoy a spacious, wonderfully-renovated guest room with coffee maker and free HBO,* freshly-baked cookies in our lobby at night, and use of our heated indoor pool, sauna, and whirlpool. Our banquet space is ideal for rehearsal dinners and receptions for up to 120 guests. Ask about our special group rates. **Book ten or more rooms per night and get one FREE.*** For reservations, call the Hilton Inn Southfield at 248-357-1100.

It happens at the Hilton.

Hilton Inn Southfield
26000 American Dr.
Southfield, MI 48034
248-357-1100

It's easy to take care of out-of-town friends and family when they stay with us. Each guest will enjoy a spacious, wonderfully-renovated guest room with coffee maker and free HBO,* freshly-baked cookies in our lobby at night, and use of our heated indoor pool, sauna, and whirlpool. Our banquet space is ideal for rehearsal dinners and receptions for up to 120 guests. Ask about our special group rates. **Book ten or more rooms per night and get one FREE.*** For reservations, call the Hilton Inn Southfield at 248-357-1100.

AT ANY TIME

ON ANY MACHINE

WITH ANY COIN

OR ANY CREDIT

ON ANY PLAY

You Can Win

A MILLION BUCKS

It Pays To Play At MotorCity Casino.

Did you know that you are

- one play away from winning
- a million dollars?
- MotorCity Millionaires is
- the promotion that randomly
- selects one lucky slot player
- to win a million dollars.
- You don't have to play
- with a special coin or play
- on a special machine -- all you
- have to do to win is play.
- It's just that simple.

MotorCity Millionaires
All you have to do to win is play!

MOTORCITY casino

For more information, visit us at www.motorcitycasino.com or call 1-877-777-0711.

*million dollars paid out over twenty years.
MotorCity Casino and the MotorCity Casino logo are trademarks of Detroit Entertainment, L.L.C. ©1999 Detroit Entertainment, L.L.C. All rights reserved.