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ADVERTISEMENTS

4 Soloists Will Be Featured In 'Messiah'

DETROIT The traditional Christmas favorite, Handel's "Messiah," will be presented by the Detroit Symphony Orchestra Sunday, Dec. 19, at 3:30 p.m. in Ford Auditorium.

Performing with the orchestra, conducted by Maynard Klein, will be four distinguished soloists: Soprano Elizabeth Mosher Kraus; mezzo-soprano Muriel Greenspon; tenor Willie Anderson; and bass Willie Patterson.

The performance will be one of the symphony's Kresge Concerts, presented in conjunction with a grant from the Kresge Foundation.

Tickets are available at Ford Auditorium box office and all Hudson's and Grinnell's.

Casting Call

The Wayne Civic Players will hold tryouts for the comedy "Never Too Late" on Monday, Dec. 13, and Tuesday, Dec. 14, at 8 p.m., in their rehearsal buildings, 1330-40 S. Harvey, Westland. The play is scheduled for production Feb. 18, 19 and 20.

Open auditions for two plays will be held in The Theatre, Marygrove College, McNichols at Wyoming roads, Detroit, at 7:30 p.m., Monday and Tuesday, Dec. 13 and 14.

The first play will be "The Tempest" by William Shakespeare. There are speaking parts for 14 men and one woman, although women may also read for Ariel. The roles of Prospero and Caliban have been taken.

The second play will be "Child's Play" by Robert Marasco, with parts for four men and eight boys, between the ages of 13 and 17. In this, the roles of Joe Dobbs and Jerome Malley have been filled.

Dr. James W. Rodgers will direct both plays. A prepared selection from each play is suggested. Rehearsals for "The Tempest" begin Jan. 3, and for "Child's Play," Feb. 6.

This marks the first season of the new Marygrove College-University of Detroit Performing Arts Centre.

Auditions for "Play It Again, Sam" will be held at 7:30 p.m., Dec. 12, 13 and 14, by the Southgate Community Players. Sunday's auditions will be in the Southgate Recreation Center, 14390 Dix-Toledo Road, Southgate.

Monday and Tuesday tryouts will be in Davidson High School, Trenton Road at Leroy, Southgate.

The three-act Woody Allen comedy requires three male and nine female parts.



IN REHEARSAL for a concert Sunday evening at Madonna College are four members of the College-Alumnae Chorus. From left, the singers are Debra Harris of Livonia, Patrice Hauck of Fremont, Ohio, Anne Marie Sacha of Warren and William Scruggs of Livonia. The latter is one of 16 guest male singers. At the

piano is Sister M. Paulette, director of the concert which begins at 8 p.m. in the Residence Building. It will feature familiar Christmas songs and carols by the chorus and a string ensemble and dances by students from the Rosedale School of the Dance. (Observer photo by Bob Woodring)

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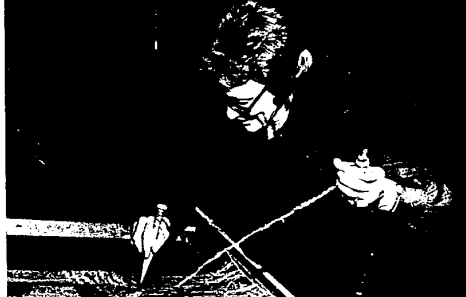
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Benefit Auction

The West Suburban Stamp Club will hold a benefit auction and Christmas party at 7:30 p.m., Friday, Dec. 17, in the Knights of Columbus Hall, 150 Fair, Plymouth.

A benefit auction is planned.



WORKING AT a frame loom, Mrs. Barbara Wolff of Farmington is creating woven wall hangings. Her work is being displayed at Eastern Michigan University next week. (Evert photo)

Farmington Artist Has Her Thesis On Exhibit

By BETTY MASSON

Unlike many a graduate student whose thesis is swallowed up in the academic maw never to see the light of day, Mrs. Barbara Wolff's will be seen by a lot of people. Mrs. Wolff is a resident of Farmington.

Here is "written" on looms and will be on display from Dec. 10 to 17 in the Eastern Michigan University Library Building. This month she receives a master of arts degree from EMU.

Her field is art and her specialty is weaving, both on the frame loom and the more familiar harness loom. It wasn't always so.

When she received her BFA from Wayne State University, drawing and painting were her chief interests. But then she "married an artist who was much more talented at drawing and painting than I am." Her husband is Richard Wolff, who has used his artistic talents in architectural and city planning. He still paints as a hobby.

The Wolffs have four lovely daughters, ranging in age from college to fourth grade, and it wasn't until recently that Mrs. Wolff decided to get actively back into the art world.

AFTER GOING to EMU to earn certification as an art teacher, she taught for two years. Then she decided to work on her graduate degree. She has done some substitute teaching as well during this time.

She has specialized in weaving because she enjoys it. "There's a certain way of thinking when you're weaving that appeals to me."

Mrs. Wolff obviously enjoys the feeling of the different materials she uses for her

textured tapestries, as well as the challenge of putting together colors and designs to create different feelings and moods.

Two of her wall hangings are easily identifiable as a water scene and a woods scene; others are interesting, and sometimes intricate, designs.

SHE HAS a sketchbook and usually can work directly from a sketch. On bigger pieces, though, a pattern or cartoon is necessary.

And the results are indicative of the new status the craftsman is being given as an artist, and the interest in the use of wall hangings in this area, although they have been popular in the southwest and in the Arab regions for many years.

As one of her traditionally-minded neighbors commented, "Woven wall hangings certainly make the room look very warm."

Another friend found they were a reminder of home, yet easily packable, when she moved to Korea.

While Mrs. Wolff's chief interest is in "doing," she also feels that teaching is important.

"I am very sorry to see Farmington cut down on the elementary art program," she commented. "You should learn to look and observe when you're young, and art is learning to see. Our society should stress learning to see and feel more."

Even adults find their awareness of what's around them has been increased by art lessons, she says.

With studies at EMU completed, Mrs. Wolff looks forward to being able to do even more creating and teaching. She may even find the "practical," the

amusements

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