



SPOTLIGHT

401 North 6th Street

March 18, 2017

www.fslt.org

Dates: Opening Night Gala of FSLT's production of *Things My Mother Taught Me* will be March 30. Regular evening performances will be March 31, April 1 and 5-8. A Sunday matinee will be offered on April 2.

Times: All evening performances begin at **7:30 p.m.** Patrons may be seated after 6:45 p.m. The matinees begin at **2:00 p.m.** Patrons may be seated after 1:15 p.m.

Box Office Hours: The box office is open from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 5 to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday, and on Saturdays from 5 to 7 p.m. during the production run.

Reservations: Reservations can be made by calling 479-783-2966. Calls will be returned in the order they are received. Reservations will be held until 15 minutes before each performance. Gala Tickets \$27. All other shows \$12.

Season Ticket Holders: Regular season ticket patrons are encouraged to call **March 18-22 for preferred seating.** They can also reserve a General Admission seat for every Season Ticket they have. General Admission reservations will not be filled until March 23.

Reminder: When you call to make a reservation, Dial #2.

Things My Mother Taught Me

"My mother taught me about the power of inspiration and courage, and she did it with a strength and a passion that I wish could be bottled." ~ Carly Fiorina

Fort Smith Little Theatre audiences will be able to relive important lessons passed on by their parents when watching the uplifting romantic comedy *Things My Mother Taught Me*, which opens later this month.

The new play, written by Katherine DiSavino and directed by Ian Miller, follows the lives of young Gabe and Olivia — played by Cameron Law and Jaimie Lambdin — who are moving into their first apartment together. The two have just packed up their lives and moved half-way across the country to Chicago, planning on starting a brilliant adventure together.

Imagine their surprise when moving day turns into a complicated affair with both sets of parents — played by Michael Relland with Susan Hickam, and Duff Taylor with Lora Rice — showing up to offer help and advice. Building superintendent Max Max Mirowski, played by John Hall, brings an added dose of humor to the charming story that will pull at the heartstrings of even the most reluctant romantic.

See *Things My Mother Taught Me* on page 3





ROLAND

Show Sponsor Applauded

We are pleased to recognize our show sponsor, **Cherokee Casino & Hotel, Roland**. Their generosity helps us maintain affordable ticket prices.

Just minutes from Fort Smith, Cherokee Casino offers thrills and excitement 24 hours a day in their 170,000 square-foot casino and 120-room hotel tower. From electronic games to table games and poker, it's an exciting place to test your luck as well as enjoy delicious food at 'The Buffet' or at the 'Grab-n-Go'.

When you head to Cherokee Casino to get in on all the winning action, be sure to thank them for their support of FSLT.



Director's Letter

I am so thrilled to finally get the opportunity to direct a full-length production down here at FSLT. I was so excited when the board voted on my show to be on this season's production list. I had read many plays but when I came across this show, I just instantly fell in love with the storyline. It has everything you could ever want in a play and more. It has comedy, drama, love, sadness, and a happy ending! The play is about a younger couple that decides to move from New York to Chicago with the action of the play on moving day. Gabe, the younger male, has a surprise for his girlfriend, Olivia. He invites both sets of parents to their move-in day event without telling Olivia, and thus the hilarity ensues. In this play you will see relationships that we all know and love, between father & son, mother & daughter, boyfriend & girlfriend, and even husband & wife. This show is one that you will NOT want to miss; I promise you, it will leave a nice warm feeling in your heart at the very end!

- Ian Miller, *Director*



***Things My Mother Taught Me* opens March 30**

Can a two bedroom apartment contain all of the love, laughs, worry and wisdom that's about to happen?

"Audiences can expect to laugh a lot and to see a play about relationships for different generations, and how they differ," said Miller, who chose this script as his first main season play to solo direct, "because it is something everyone can and will enjoy."

The play, which might lean a little towards PG-13, will have lots of help behind the scenes from Melissa Vitale, producer; Paula Sharum, technical advisor; Victoria Walden, stage

manager; Cassie Mikel, costumes; Tina Dale, props; Jennie Mathews, lighting design; Jacob Hiatt, sound design; Chuck Howard, sound operator; and Mike Tickler, lights operator.

Gala opening night performance will be 7:30 p.m. March 30. Evening shows are scheduled for 7:30 p.m. March 31, April 1 and April 5-8. An afternoon matinee will be at 2 p.m. on April 2.

For information or reservations, call 479-783-2966.



Comedy Scheduled as Off-Season Production

I am not what you would call an expert on William Shakespeare. Were I to attempt to direct a typical play of his, I would most likely do more harm than good to the good name of the revered Bard. Luckily for me (and you) however, that fact actually marries perfectly with *Shakespeare Abridged*, because it is not a typical Shakespeare play.

I saw this show while I was in college, and instantly fell in love with it, and knew that if I was ever to direct a show, this would be at or near the top of the list. Despite what the stiff and stodgy title may lead you to believe, this is 97 glorious minutes of comedy as our three actors attempt to perform all of Shakespeare's plays for you in that span of time. I'm hoping you can see already that things are not going to go well. And I am so beyond thrilled with the cast (seasoned FSLT greats all), who are doing a marvelous job during the rehearsal process.

Enjoy a night of the highest-brow low-brow humor you can ever hope to experience, and be prepared – you may never know if YOU might be pulled up onstage to be part of the fun!

Performances will begin at 7:30 p.m. (doors will open at 6:45 p.m.). Tickets are \$5 per person at the door (open seating). As this is an off-season production, no reservations will be accepted, and admission is not provided by your season ticket.

Support FSLT April 6: Arkansas Gives Day

FSLT will be participating in ARKANSAS GIVES, a 12-hour online giving event sponsored by the Arkansas Community Foundation (ARCF). Here's how you can lend your support: Go to ArkansasGives.org to make a gift between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. on April 6. Select FSLT in the list of participating nonprofits, make your online contribution, and we will receive your donation as well as additional bonus dollars provided by ARCF. Your support will be greatly appreciated!

Season Ticket Patrons – Take Note

Please keep your Season Ticket Pass in your wallet, and bring it with you to each and every performance.

Requesting a Reservation

Gala Opening Night patrons:

Because your same seats are automatically reserved for all Galas, you only need to call box office if you wish to cancel your Gala seat and/or request a regular performance reservation.

Regular Season Ticket patrons:

After you receive your Spotlight newsletter, decide which performance date you want to attend, then call 479-783-2966 (dial 2) to request your reservation. Calls will be returned in the order they are received. Your reservation requests will be accepted beginning **Saturday** (12 days before each show opens) and not earlier.

Fort Smith Little Theatre
SPOTLIGHT

P.O. Box 3752, Fort Smith, AR 72913

www.fslt.org

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From the Top...

Andy Warhol once talked about the fifteen minutes of fame that some people experience in their lifetime. FSLT provides opportunities for many of us to experience far more than our fifteen minutes. The various character roles onstage and the support roles backstage provide our casts and crews with attention from the patrons that go far beyond fifteen minutes.

Last week I was at the VA Clinic in Fayetteville and a guy passed me in a corridor, turned around, and asked me if my name was Mike Richardson. I told him yes it was and as I did so I realized that he looked very familiar. He proceeded to tell me how much he and his wife enjoyed the Fort Smith Little Theatre. His wife had bought him a Season Ticket fifteen years ago and they had been coming ever since. He recalled several plays that he had seen me in, and of course I was flattered at his generous remarks. He even mentioned how much he loved seeing “that Carole Rogers” onstage and “the lady with the British accent” (Angela Covey). He then went on to talk about the terrific value of our tickets, and stated several times that we had brought so much joy into their lives.

The ‘fame and applause’ under the lights are just fine, but I think it is much more important that so many of our patrons appreciate us as ongoing parts of their lives. I’m glad that we are all ‘famous’ in our community for more than just the fifteen minutes.

- Michael Richardson, *President*

Next Up

Auditions for *Eurydice* by Sarah Ruhl will be held at 7 p.m. on Monday, April 24 at the theatre. Callbacks will be held on Tuesday, April 25. Summer Ferguson will be directing. Production dates are June 1-10. The cast calls for 3-5 males and 2-5 females between the ages of 20 to 45. Males auditioning for the role of Orpheus will need to prepare a 30-second acapella piece of their choosing. They can accompany themselves with an acoustic guitar if desired. For more information, go to fslt.org.

Season Ticket holders are urged to call before March 23 for reservations.