



# SPOTLIGHT

401 North 6th Street

May 21, 2016

[www.fslt.org](http://www.fslt.org)

**Dates:** Opening Night Gala of FSLT's production of *The Lights Are Warm And Coloured* will be June 2. Regular evening performances will be June 3-4 and 8-11. Matinees will be offered Saturday, June 4 and Sunday, June 5.

**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 run of the show.

**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 the show. Gala Tickets \$25. All other shows \$10.

**Season Ticket Holders:** Regular season ticket patrons are encouraged to call May 21-25 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 May 26.

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

## MURDER BY LIZZIE BORDEN COMES TO LIFE

"I always went to my sister because she was older and had the care of me after my mother died"— Lizzie Andrew Borden

Fort Smith Little Theatre patrons get to play jurors in the upcoming production of *The Lights Are Warm And Coloured*, a play by William Norfolk, directed by Melissa Vitale.

Set in 1905, 12 years after Lizzie Borden was tried and acquitted of the murder of her father and stepmother, the play steps in on an evening in the life of Lizzie (Megan Henley) and her older sister, Emma Borden (Micki Voelkel). The sisters live together with their maid, Maggie (Ashleigh Mathews) at Maplecroft House, a home in the same Massachusetts town where they lived at the time of the murders.

On this particular night, Lizzie invites a visiting acting troupe to their home for the evening. The group is comprised of the flamboyant Nance O'Neil (Cassie Mikel); the good-looking Tom Fuller (Ian Miller); ingénue Annie Beale (Jamie Lambdin); and the serious Henry Webb (Michael Relland).

During the course of the evening, the actors, playing various witnesses, prosecutors, and defense attorneys, re-enact what they imagine were the

See *The Lights Are Warm And Coloured* on page 3



## *Donors Step Up For New Steps*

### *Show Sponsors Applauded*

Choctaw Casino Hotel in Pocola, Oklahoma is proud to support our upcoming production, *The Lights Are Warm And Coloured*. Their sponsorship allows us to provide our patrons with affordable ticket prices. Just minutes from Fort Smith, Choctaw Casino Hotel provides the perfect place for a recharging weekend getaway or a rewarding weekday retreat.

Whether you're in the mood for an exciting selection of gaming options ranging from the latest slot machines to blackjack and live Poker, or a show at the CenterStage — **Choctaw Casino Hotel is your place to play.**

Sitting on new concrete steps behind our facility are Pettus Kincannon, Executive Director of the **Fort Smith Area Community Foundation** (FSACF), and Carole Rogers, FSLT President. A grant from FSACF helped us replace the old steps that were unlevel, uneven, and unsafe for patrons and volunteers who regularly park on 5th Street. FSACF is one of 27 local affiliates of the Arkansas Community Foundation ([arcf.org](http://arcf.org)), a state-wide non-profit headquartered in Little Rock.



It is also our privilege to recognize **APAC-Central** (Arkholia) for contributing the concrete for this project. Through the years, both these organizations have been very generous to FSLT, and we are extremely grateful for their most recent show of support.





## The Lights Are Warm And Coloured opens June 2

circumstances of the trial that captivated a nation. Later, the Bordens receive an unexpected visit from a crucial witness, played by Hannah Curlin. Revelations come to light, yet are all the facts clear? Will the sisters' unwavering commitment to each other be broken or just tested? Will audience members learn what really happened that fateful day?

For this production, the stage setting will be minimal, but lighting effects will help the story unfold. The characters will be seen interacting with one another in the house, then through a change in lighting, the audience will see the characters step into a scene where they act out the discovery of the crimes, the arrest, and the trial of Lizzie — as she herself tells the story. "In essence, lighting will help usher the audience from reality to the

characters' imaginations and back to reality again," says Vitale.

Helping bring the show together are key players behind the scenes: Assistant Director, Wayne Mathews; Producer, Eric Wells; Stage Manager, Rikkee Workman-Black; Props, Joe Graham and Caitlin Mathews; Lights and Sound, Jennie Mathews; and Wardrobe, Hannah Curlin.

The Gala Opening Night performance will be at 7:30 p.m. on June 2. Performances are also scheduled for 7:30 p.m. on June 3-4 and 8-11 and at 2 p.m. on June 4 and 5. Come listen, observe, imagine the possibilities, and join your fellow sleuths at FSLT. Make your reservation by calling 479-783-2966.

## 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.



## Matinees in 2016

While deciding when to attend FSLT productions in 2016, keep in mind that for most productions we will be offering a Saturday and a Sunday 2 p.m. matinee. Show dates are listed in each newsletter and online at [fslt.org](http://fslt.org).

Also, if you leave a phone reservation message requesting seats for a Saturday, please be sure to specify whether it is for the evening or matinee performance.

## 2016 ANNUAL FUND CAMPAIGN

The Fort Smith Little Theatre is proud to bring you another winning season, and with support from our Annual Fund Donors, we'll continue doing so for generations to come.

Please consider offering your support of our all volunteer community theatre by making a tax-deductible contribution to our 2016 Annual Fund Campaign at one of the following levels. In recognition of your gift, we will proudly list your name in our programs and on our website, [www.fslt.org](http://www.fslt.org).

- Producers \$2,000 +     Directors \$1,000     Stars \$500     Patron Donors \$250  
 Angel Donors \$100     Supporting Cast \$50     Stage Managers \$25

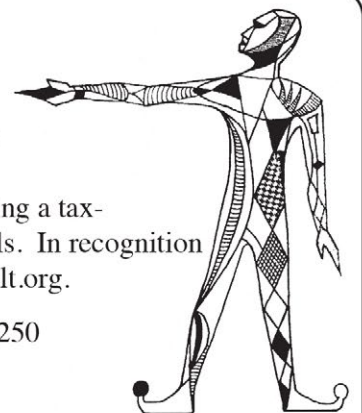
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**Please make tax deductible gifts payable to: Fort Smith Little Theatre, P.O. Box 3752, Fort Smith, AR 72913**



Fort Smith Little Theatre  
**SPOTLIGHT**

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

[www.fslt.org](http://www.fslt.org)

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## From the Top...

As you may know, there is a website and facebook page named Things To Do In Fort Smith ([ttdifs.com](http://ttdifs.com)). It provides information about all the new and exciting events going on in our area. As I was scrolling through the surprisingly long and impressive list of activities, I thought about how much Fort Smith has grown and expanded over the last few years.

There are new businesses, new restaurants, new venues of entertainment — some aimed at teens, some for young adults, and some for more mature audiences. It made me realize what an amazing gift Fort Smith Little Theatre is to the community. This is our 69th year of uninterrupted presentations of quality, affordable, live theatre. When the decision was made to build our current building in the early 80s, the Board chose to be in the Belle Grove Historic District. Today, we contribute to downtown activity and restaurants by drawing more than 9,000 persons to our performances each year. By being all-volunteer, our theatre provides opportunities for people of all ages and backgrounds to get involved and meet new friends both onstage and backstage. Knowing that families battle strained budgets, FSLT has worked hard to increase our donations and operate on a shoestring in order to keep admission fees affordable. Our Board wants everyone to experience live theatre and never be held back by the price of admission.

We all love to try new restaurants and browse in the newest boutique; I'm no exception. I'm excited that we have fresh, new Things To Do In Fort Smith. But let's not forget that FSLT — tried and true, stable, local, affordable entertainment — has always been here, and it's right under our noses. Don't let FSLT be a well-kept secret; tell your friends — or better yet, bring them along to see what community theatre is all about.

On another note, let me say congratulations to everyone involved in *Crimes of the Heart* and the off-season production, *Frankenstein*. Now, looking forward to *The Lights Are Warm And Coloured*, we hope to see you (and your friends) at the theatre!

- Carole Rogers, President

## Next Up

Auditions for our next production, *Singin' In The Rain*, were held May 16, 17 & 18. This classic musical will be performed July 28-August 13.

Auditions for the comedy, *Money Matters*, directed by Carole Rogers, will be held at 7 p.m. on August 15 and 16 at the theatre. The cast calls for 3 females and 3 males, approximately between the ages of 30-60. Production dates are September 22 - October 1. For more information, go to [fslt.org](http://fslt.org).

**Season Ticket holders are urged to call before May 26 for reservations.**