

Shawnee Playhouse Is Celebrating Its Forty-fifth Season

By Samantha Cameron

Shawnee on Delaware, PA – The Shawnee Playhouse is celebrating its forty-fifth season, and will be holding auditions for their 2024 Summer Headline and Children’s Musicals on Saturday, March 16th, from 2pm until 5pm, and Sunday, March 17th, from 4pm until 7pm, at the Shawnee Inn & Golf Resort. This summer’s headline musicals include *My Fair Lady* (with performances running from June 15th thru July 7th) and *Chicago* (with performances running from July 19th thru August 11th). The children’s musicals will be *Kids! A Year With Frog and Toad* (with performances running from June 21st thru July 6th) and *Legally Blonde Junior* (with performances running from July 26th thru August 10th).

Set in early twentieth century London, *My Fair Lady* illuminates the unconventional and ultimately endearing relationship that develops between a colloquial, cockney flower seller (Eliza Doolittle) and an entitled English professor and phonetician, who is determined to disguise his pupil as an elegant lady in high society, on the whimsy of a bet, only to discover that Eliza has been a lady all the while, and that he is the one who has actually been transformed. This comical, charming show will feature classical musical theatre singing and dancing, and a cast that is well versed in the different dialects of England.

Set in the roaring twenties, *Chicago* revolves around the rivalry of a crafty chorus girl (Roxy Hart) and a cunning, former stage sensation (Velma Kelly), both sexy female criminals, vying for an acquittal and the role of a lifetime, vaudeville villain, that can only be achieved through the unscrupulous, calculating maneuvers of a crooked attorney (Billy Finn), who has never lost a case. Jam packed with provocative Fosse dance numbers, scandalous scenes, and “All That Jazz,” this high energy musical will keep the audience on the edge of their seats.

Kids! A Year With Frog and Toad is a whimsical children’s musical that centers around the endearing friendship between happy-go-lucky, Frog, and his cantankerous buddy, Toad. Join them and the eclectic creatures that they meet along the way, as they hop, skip, jump, and dance through their hilarious journey through the four seasons together, while they learn the true meaning of friendship, comradery, and true benevolence.

Legally Blonde Junior is the hilarious and entertaining story of Elle Woods, as she evolves from blonde, boy crazy, sorority-sister, and fashionista into a capable, independent, intelligent, socially conscientious free-thinker and a true force to be reckoned with. Heartbroken by her recent breakup with Harvard-bound Warner Huntington III, Elle applies to and gets accepted to that same ivy league university, and breaks down all barriers and stereotypes along the way. Her college journey leads her to the true meaning of sisterhood, the importance of ethical responsibility, and an unexpected, newfound love and friendship with Emmett Forrest. This entertaining musical is chock full of upbeat and li

All lead and ensemble roles are being cast, and no roles have been precast. Please bring a performance resume and an eight-by-ten inch headshot on the day of the audition. Auditioners for *My Fair Lady* should prepare thirty-two bars of a classical musical theatre song, in the style of the musical, and should be at least eleven years of age and up. Auditioners for *Chicago* should prepare thirty-two bars of a contemporary musical theatre song, in the style of the musical, including belting pieces for the female roles, and must be at least sixteen years of age and up. Any performers cast in *Chicago* that are under the age of eighteen must have signed parental consent to perform. It is strongly recommended that auditioners have a second musical theatre piece, in the style of the show prepared. It is also recommended that a one minute monologue be prep

Kids! A Year with Frog and Toad will be limited to children between the ages of seven to twelve years old. Please come prepared to sing sixteen to thirty-two bars of a song from a standard musical theatre show. *Legally Blonde Junior* will be restricted to children between the ages thirteen to eighteen years old. If auditioning for this production, please come prepared to sing sixteen to thirty-two bars of a contemporary musical theater song.

Please visit www.shawneeplayhouse.org for a list of all show dates and times. Every person who is cast must be available for all of the performances listed, and for tech week (the week before the specific show opens). Please bring a list of any and all rehearsal and scheduling conflicts. Please visit our website for additional information and resources, including links to a parent letter with more information, auditioning tips, and casting information.



The Allentown Rescue Mission’s Workforce December Employee of the Month

By Stephanie Appell

(ALLENTOWN, PA) – The Allentown Rescue Mission’s Clean Team Workforce congratulates its Employee of the Month for December, John S. John came to the Allentown Rescue Mission after he developed medical problems. He worked as a traffic controller until he began having seizures.

As a result of the seizures, John lost the privilege of driving and then lost his job. Unable to pay his rent and support his family, John entered the Mission with the hope of finding a new path for himself and his family. John graduated from the eight-week Transformation Program in December 2023, and has been working for the Clean Team Workforce since then.

He has performed different types of work, including estate cleanouts and, most recently, windowpane installation. John enjoys the hard work and the comradery he has developed with his coworkers, making him an important part of the team. With time to reflect on how to help his family and with the guidance from Mission staff, John has decided to enroll in forklift training through the Mission’s scholarship program. He worked in a warehouse driving a forklift in the past but realized that he would have more opportunities with a forklift certification.

John is hoping to reunite with his family in Stroudsburg, but knows he needs to find secure, long-term employment first. He is currently saving money working for the Clean Team Workforce during the day and is taking forklift classes in the evening.

