

(below) Heller Theatres first production "Rabbit Hole."



(above) The owner of a shopping center, who is also a City Council member, gave this sign to the City of Grove. The City Manager gave the space to The Playmakers. It faces south and will be seen by a lot of residents and visitors, especially since it can be seen from a stoplight close by. Vicky King and Linda DuBois, Grove Playmakers, pose nearby to give a bit of perspective to it. We're Moving Up and Moving On!! Also visit our NEW website at www.gcplaymakers.com !!

Pauls Valley Continually Promoting the Performing Arts

New Stages-2 is the after hours drama club sponsored by the Pauls Valley School System for students in the 9-12th grade. Meeting at the Toy and Action Figure Museum in Pauls Valley during the school year, students meet for two hours once a week and complete an agenda that is designed to introduce them to the performing arts, with an emphasis on theatre. Begun during the 2008-2009 school year, (New Stages-1) the students are further encouraged to actively participate in arts projects sponsored by their schools, the Pauls Valley Arts Council, the museum and to attend productions/shows/exhibits at major outside venues. The weekly class schedule has the students working toward Christmas and Spring projects, the latter being a one act production where the students not only perform, but provide all of the support work that is required. A typical Tuesday night agenda has the students discussing their reactions to a performing arts experience they have viewed/participated in over the past week,



Yes, we survived! Did we ever!!! In fact, we had an amazing time! Gosh, we have so many stories to tell.

We spent a week in Germany, staying at Ramstein Air Base in a 4-star hotel. Jim Sohre was an amazing host and arranged for us all to have our own rooms! Also, we had a German driver and a tour bus complete with 12 beds, a kitchen, bar, tables, bathroom, and a queen suite!!

The first day we arrived, we went to the theatre for orientation. All of our props and costumes had made it via US APO. After that, we had 5 days to tour around before the festival. We went to Heidelberg, Cochem and several other quaint towns. We visited several historic castles. We sang on the bus, met soldiers coming and going from the middle east, ate apple strudel, participated in the wine harvest and even met some OU professors in town for a conference!

Morrie Enders was one of the adjudicators at the festival, so it was great to see him again and reconnect. We call him our Lovebug, because we love his adjudications. :) Anyway, the show went really well. I was very proud because it was one of their best performances. They got an immediate standing ovation at the end. The crew there had built our set for us and had all of the instruments we needed. It was magical!

After the festival, a handful of us continued on to Paris, where we toured for three days, meeting wonderful people. Then, it was back to Aushafenberg, Germany for one last night. Tear....

It truly was an amazing experience and one I will always cherish! We are so thankful to all of our supporters in Oklahoma and beyond who un-selfishly made our trip possible. I look forward to sharing more of our journey and pictures with you and others very soon.

Heller Theatre All Moved In			
			
The Staff at Heller	MC Ben Sumner	Harriet Chenault (entertainment)	Liz Masters (entertainment)

28-year-old Heller Theatre had a grand re-opening at Brookside's newly remodeled Henthorne Park community center at 4825 S. Quaker in Tulsa with a grand gala featuring local entertainment and hosted by Ben Sumner from Tulsa CW channel 19 "Up Late with Ben Sumner".

Heller's Artistic and Managing Director Julie Tattershall and Assistant Directors Frank Gallagher and Erin Scarberry operate the City of Tulsa-owned Heller and Clark Theatres.

The last full-scale show at the old Heller location, "Doubt" opened on Oct. 10, 2008 and the first show of the new season, "Rabbit Hole" opened Sept. 18, 2009.

Despite the long hiatus, Tattershall said the staff has not been absent. "While we didn't have a theater (at Henthorne), there was no vacation happening. We still had another theater to run, and then we were dealing with all the contracts and keeping all the classes going and keeping people involved," she said.

The new space at Henthorne, Tattershall said, will allow Heller to present more diverse plays and to expand its educational programs. And it will seat 70 to 75 people.

improvisational acting skill building with an emphasis on dramatic structure, the study/analysis of a major theatre work, either script or video and then winding up the class session with work on the semester projects. This Christmas, it is "A Night At The IMPROValley" where the students will showcase their talents with family and friends. It will be staged as an evening of theatre which reinforces its culture and traditions.

Did you know this about some of OCTA's member theatres??

Lawton Community Theatre:

In 1952 a group of theatre lovers banded together to establish Lawton's first theatre group named "The Vagabond Playhouse." They met, rehearsed, and performed in schools, churches and backyards, wherever space was available. Their first production, "The Night of January 16th", was performed in December of 1952 in the Emerson Elementary School Auditorium. In January of 1953, the group, whose charter membership was now over 90 strong, met and ratified a constitution and a new name, "The Lawton Little Theatre." Also slated was an April production of "The Curious Savage". This was followed in June with "The Women", directed by John Denney, a young actor returning to Lawton after a successful career on the professional stage.

John Denney became the cornerstone of the Little Theatre (later renamed Lawton Community Theatre) directing 58 productions over 18 years and was named Director-Emeritus on the theatre's 25th anniversary. In 1966, LCT found a permanent home at 1316 NW Bell in a building leased from the City of Lawton. That building now bears the name of John Denney.

Subsequent directors, Bob Plumb, Irby Darnell, Tom Kartak, Cliff Justice and our current director, Cynthia Kent, have carried on the traditions laid down by our founders, helping make LCT one of Oklahoma's premier community theatres.

In 1983 LCT's production of "Working" was selected best in the State at the Festival of American Community Theatres. In 1997 "The Duck Variations" swept the awards at the State and Regional festivals and earned honors at the National festival. That same year LCT was honored to receive the Oklahoma Governor's Arts Award. In 1998 LCT represented the American Association of Community Theatre (AACT) at the Liverpool International Theatre Festival in Nova Scotia, Canada, and in 2000 was selected as Oklahoma's Community Theatre of the Year. In 2001 LCT's production of the original script "The Normal Child" was selected as Production of Honor at the State festival. In 2003 LCT's production of "Bus Stop" received the same. In 2005 the Lawton

Heller at Henthorne (the City is keeping the theater's original name for recognition's sake) will, like Heller, be a black box theater, with a 40-foot by 40-foot stage, a rehearsal room, a green room, a separate entrance and separate bathrooms for the actors and an art gallery.

Heller, which was originally supposed to open in January, has been out of operation for more than a year, and Tattershall said she expects that to have some effect on ticket sales.

For the past three years, Heller had made a habit of selling out nearly every show it produced, but Tattershall said she expects it to take about a year for the theater to start selling out shows again.

"People just have to get back into the habit of coming to Heller at the new location," she said.

"The best thing is that now we're on Brookside," said Tattershall. "We're getting to know the Brookside business association and the neighborhood association, and the Tulsa Ballet is only four blocks away. Brookside is already considered a restaurant and bar district, but my hope is that, with us and the ballet, it will begin to be considered as an arts district as well and other arts groups will want to move to Brookside."

Clark Theatre consolidates with Heller.

"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" 2009 will be the last production to be performed at Clark's 11440 E. Admiral location. The City of Tulsa, due to the budget short fall, has decided to consolidate Clark and Heller Theatres into the newly renovated Henthorne building, located at 4825 S. Quaker. Clark Youth Theatre will continue to do plays and classes; they will just be at the Henthorne location starting in January 2010. The Henthorne location has a larger lobby, backstage bathrooms and a scene shop, which we did not have at the east Admiral location! The Clark building will be closed at the end of December and the remaining shows on Clark's 2009-2010 Season will be performed at our new location in Henthorne Park, 4825 S. Quaker.

Make your reservations to see the last show to be performed at the 11440 E. Admiral location, our home for the last 30 years! Reservations for "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" can be made by calling (918) 669-6455.

Clark Theatre is a youth theater program and is part of the city of Tulsa Park and Recreation Department. For more information please call 669-6455 or 746-5065, or visit our website www.clarktheatre.com.

30th ANNUAL USAO ART AND THEATRE TRIP TO NEW YORK CITY

TUESDAY, JUNE 8, THROUGH SUNDAY, JUNE 13

2010 USAO New York Trip for 2009 Prices.

Believe it or Not, we are able to offer our 6 Day, five night New York City Art and Theatre Trip with no cost increase over last year's 2009 prices.

The trip price still has all of the usual things and includes: round-trip airfare, OKC to New York City (other departure cities available); round-trip transportation between the airport and the hotel; accommodations for five nights at the Wellington Hotel, within walking distance of the Theatre District, at 871 7th Avenue; tickets to two major Broadway plays/musicals chosen by the group leader; an introductory seminar about New York which includes tips on what additional shows to see, how to get half-price tickets to plays and art events, and advice as to subways, tipping, and sightseeing, as well as the always useful USAO New York Guidebook with lots of trip specific information. This year we can also offer airfare from DFW as well as a land only price which would not include airfare. The tour is open to all adults (anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult/parent/guardian) who would like to join us

Jackie Knapp, our USAO Art Professor, will again be offering some optional Museum and gallery tours and there will also be three additional theatre options.

We will be staying at the Wellington Hotel this year (www.wellingtonhotel.com). It is a very nice hotel with a great location, close to Central Park, Carnegie Hall, The Museum of Modern Art and only a few short blocks from Times Square. There are several nice restaurants and delis close by and there are two major subway stations within a block of the hotel. The Wellington Hotel offers a variety of conveniences to ensure a pleasant stay.

- * Complimentary safe deposit boxes available at the front desk
- * Piccolo Gift Shop
- * Theater, sightseeing and transportation desk in the gift shop

Community Theatre hosted the AACT SW Region VI Festival. In 2006, LCT's production of "The Three Billy Goats Gruff" was selected as Production of Honor, with a cast of teen-aged actors

Today LCT stands as the oldest performing arts institution in Southwest Oklahoma. Our current membership exceeds 800 Season Subscribers and our 200 volunteers work diligently to continue producing the quality live theatre our patrons have come to expect. Traditions with roots deep into Lawton's history and the unflagging commitment of the Board of Directors, staff and volunteers make the Lawton Community Theatre a part of Oklahoma's cultural future.

ReACT (Tonkawa) :

Regional Actors Community Theatre at Northern Oklahoma College, provides opportunities for everyone in North Central Oklahoma and South Central Kansas to experience the joy of participation in the theatrical arts.

We provide this experience in the following ways:

- Monthly workshops featuring local and national experts in the field
- Travel to other theatres around the region
- Live performances
- Children's Theatre annual show
- on-line news letter
- and much, much more!

ReACT is able to offer all these benefits to the community through our partnership with NOC. It is a wonderful mix of academic theatre meets community theatre, and everyone benefits.

Our mission is to reach all who have an interest in or curiosity about live theatre. The result is a lively, exciting experience we can take back to our own communities and thereby spread the love of theatre even farther.

Red Carpet Community Theatre (Elk City):

From the organizational meeting in the spring of 1966 under the leadership of Dr. L. V. and Pat Baker, Theatre Guild of Elk City, now known as Red Carpet Community Theatre, has weathered the years in an admirable manner with the cooperation of many enthusiastic supporters.

Each season we produce four shows, usually consisting of one dramatic play, one musical, one comedy, and possibly one children's show with six performances of each. Our season runs from March to November. We are also very involved in giving our youth access to the arts by supporting a teen program.

The first production, "The Night of January 16th", was a one-night stand in the high school auditorium. For a number of years, many rehearsals were held in private homes and in the former Catholic school located across the street from the present theatre building. In 1972 the Catholic Church was

- * Christmas Cottage, for the extra special souvenir
- * The award-winning Molyvos Mediterranean Restaurant
- * Park Cafe, a neighborhood favorite, for breakfast, lunch, dinner and after-theatre snacks
- * Hairdresser
- * Room Service (6am - 12midnight)
- * In room video checkout
- * Valet laundry and dry cleaning services
- * High Speed Wireless Internet - \$9.99 plus tax per day
- * 24 Hour Business Center
- * 515 beautifully decorated guest rooms

We again have some options for air travel this year . Since many of our travelers live in Texas we have reserved seats from DFW to New York (Newark) in addition to the seats from OKC to New York (Newark) Both flights are non stop and arrive in Newark with minutes of each other For those of you flying from cities other than OKC or Dallas, we also offer a land only price which does not include airfare.

DEPOSIT A \$300.00 deposit is due by March 1, 2010, with the balance due by April 1, 2010. All deposits become non-refundable after March 1, 2010. Trip cancellation insurance is available. \$100.00 will hold a spot on the tour until March 1, 2010.

We are very excited about this year's trip. The price is much lower than expected, and the 2010 theatre season looks to have some exciting new plays as well as the continuing long runs from previous years. The Galleries and Museums are ever constant and ever changing with new works and the permanent displays.

So check your calendars and make your plans to join us in 2010. Space is limited this year so sign up as soon as you can.

See you in New York,

Roger Drummond
USAO Drama Professor (retired)
Fort Worth Academy of Fine Arts Technical Director
Home - 817-423-5556
Cell - 405-361-2554

NEW YORK ART & THEATRE TRIP Tues., June 8, Through Sun, June 13, 2010

The University of Science and Arts of Oklahoma is sponsoring a 6 day, 5 night ART & THEATRE Tour to New York City from Tuesday, June 8, 2010 through Sunday, June 13, 2010. The tour is open to all adults (anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult/parent/guardian) who would like to join us and includes: round-trip airfare, OKC to New York City (airfare from DFW** and other cities available); round-trip transportation between the airport and the hotel; accommodations for five nights at the Wellington Hotel, within walking distance of the Theatre District, at 871 7th Avenue; tickets to two major Broadway plays/musicals chosen by the group leader; an introductory seminar about New York which includes tips on what additional shows to see, how to get half-price tickets to plays and art events, and advice as to subways, tipping, and sightseeing, as well as a New York Guidebook with lots of trip specific information. Anyone under 18 must be accompanied by an adult, parent, or guardian.

6 Days in New York City for less than \$1,350.00

In addition to the basic tour, there will be a Theatre add on package and an Art/Museum package. With the Theatre package you can add one, two, or three additional plays chosen by the group leader, Roger Drummond. The Art package will consist of visits to the Museum of Modern Art, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, and a gallery tour led by USAO Art Professor, Jacquelyn Knapp. There will be plenty of free time to see more plays and/or museums and for individual shopping, sightseeing, and other adventures. USAO Independent Study credit is available for students, but not required. Costs for the Art and Theatre add on packages will be based on the number and type of plays and/or museums selected.

Tour Costs for 2010*
USAO Student Rate
Quad Rate (four to a room) \$ 1,249.00 each
Non Student Rate
Quad Rate (four to a room) \$ 1,349.00 each
Triple Rate (three to a room) \$ 1,649.00 each
Twin Rate (two to a room) \$ 1,749.00 each
Single Rate (one to a room) \$ 2,124.00 each

* OKC to NYC (Newark) based on current airport fees and fuel surcharges, any significant increases will need to be added.

purchased and remodeled into a theatre with new red-cushioned seats able to accommodate 160 patrons and handicapped accessible. Recently a residence was purchased to house guest professional directors and costume storage.

In 2002 Red Carpet was awarded O.C.T.A. Theatre of the Year. The highest of honors for an Oklahoma community theatre was awarded to Red Carpet Community Theatre in recognition of its continued efforts: 1) to provide quality theatre entertainment in its area of the state since 1966, 2) to encourage and develop theatrical and technical talent in the youth of Elk City and nearby communities through its Jr. Actor's Guild and scholarships to the statewide Youth Conference on Theatre Arts, 3) to be a strong and supportive part of community cultural arts and commerce activities in Elk City, and 4) to offer encouragement and assistance to the theatrical endeavors of small and large theatres throughout the western half of Oklahoma. RCCT joined the ranks of these past recipients: 1992 Shawnee Little Theatre; 1993 Watonga Community Theatre; 1994 Muskogee Little Theatre; 1996 Broken Arrow Community Playhouse and Ponca Playhouse, Ponca City; 1998 Town & Gown Theatre, Stillwater; and 2000 Lawton Community Theatre.

With 41 seasons and over 176 major productions to its credit, Red Carpet Theatre has truly become Western Oklahoma's community theatre. Our audience reaches out to the Texas Panhandle and surrounding small communities. It is quite typical for the cast to represent four to five communities. We actively promote our projects and credit the past assistance of the Oklahoma Arts Council and Oklahoma Community Theatre Association. Local corporate support and patron memberships help make our theatre strive for excellence.

**TAKE A MINUTE
TO VISIT OUR
WEB PAGE AT
WWW.OKTHEATRE.ORG**

There you'll find lots of interesting stuff such as information on membership and programs.

We have also added a slide show of the many pictures from our member theatres. If you have any pictures to add to the slide show, please send them to us at oktheatre@sbcglobal.net. Send them today.

All programs and services of the Oklahoma Community Theatre Association are funded in part through the generosity of the Oklahoma Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts.

To unsubscribe please [click here](#)

**Subtract \$25.00 for airfare from DFW
***Subtract \$375 for land only (no airfare) price.

DEPOSIT A \$300.00 deposit is due by March 1, 2010, with the balance due by April 1, 2010. All deposits become non-refundable after March 1, 2010. Trip cancellation insurance is available. \$100.00 will hold a spot on the tour until March 1, 2010.

TO JOIN THE TOUR, Please Contact:
Roger Drummond Tour Leader (405) 361-2554
(817) 423-5556
email - facdrummond@usao.edu
or
Jacquelyn Knapp Art Dept. (405) 574-1303
email - facknappj@usao.edu

Please make checks out to "USAO 2010 New York Drama/Art Trip"

Send Checks to
Roger Drummond
4264 Barcelona Dr.
Fort Worth, TX 76133

or to
Jacquelyn Knapp, Art Department
1727 W. Alabama Ave.
Chickasha, OK, 73018

To pay with a credit card call Cheryl Deaton in the USAO Business office at 405-574-1211

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT THE USAO WEBSITE

Go to for more information.

We hope you will be able to take advantage of this great opportunity and join us on our next New York trip. Space is limited, so sign up soon.

"WEBSITE STATISTICS"



Fun Fact

www.oktheatre.org had 102,000 hits last month alone (80,149 unique hits). The most popular day of the week was Saturday with 19,600 hits and the busiest times of day were from 2pm to 3pm with 5,100 hits

Busiest pages were:
Calendar= 10,998
Newsletter= 4,500
Library= 4,000
Links=1000

Best Referring Websites were Google, Yahoo, Bing, www.ardmorelittletheater.com, www.thepollard.org, www.hellertheatre.com

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