

All-of-us Expressions

All-of-us Express
Children's Theatre

20th Season:
A Coming of Age Story

May 2009 Edition

Cast & Crew Assigned for *Alice in Wonderland*

Auditions were held on Thursday and Friday evenings, and Saturday morning with a number of young people turning out, some new, some veterans. All who auditioned did a terrific job!

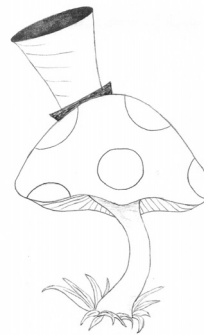
The directorial team, which includes alumni Scott Sorrell and Liz Cooke as co-directors and youth participants Kaitlin DePauw as assistant director and Travis Stouffer as stage manager, worked tirelessly into the evening Saturday in order to cast the show and to assign the crews.

Alice in Wonderland is a mile stone show for All-of-us Express. Not only is it the final show of our 20th Anniversary Season: A Coming of Age Story, it is also the first show officially being headed entirely by youth participants and alumni of the theatre. The youth crew heads are Amelia Rogocka doing makeup, Laurel Domino doing costumes and Boofer Lees doing set construction. Each hold a Master Badge for that crew. Alumni crew heads are Morgan Lees doing tech and Miranda Hartmann doing props.

We are very proud to be able to present this show and hope that everyone will get a chance to come out and see a performance at Hannah Community Center in East Lansing.

Performance Dates:

Fri.	Jul 31 & Aug 7	7:30 pm
Sat.	Aug 1 & 8	2:00 pm



Dates to know:

- May 14,15 & 16:** Auditions for "*Alice in Wonderland*"
- May 16:** SBST performs at the East Lansing Art Festival
- May 22-26:** Theatre Closed
- June 15-25, July 20-30:** Drama Camps at Hannah

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underway!

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Announcing the 21st Season: Spreading Our Wings!!!

Millions of men have lived to fight, build palaces and boundaries, shape destinies and societies; but the compelling force of all times has been the force of originality and creation profoundly affecting the roots of human spirit.

~Ansel Adams

Fall Show: *How Reading Came Back to Nowhere*

December 4, 5 & 11, 12
At Hannah Community Center

Spring Show: *Dragon Song*

April 23-25 & April 30-May 2
At Riverwalk Theatre

Summer Show: *Peter Pan*

July 30, 31 & August 6, 7

SBST (Story Book Story Theatre)

The All-of-us Express summer touring troupe has begun its season of entertaining young people. They were a hit at their first stop, the East Lansing Art Festival on May 16. The audience laughed, applauded and came back for the second performance.

The journey continues at the 4-H Children's Gardens at MSU one Thursday per month this summer. The youth will be performing their original script, "The Villains' Union Meeting" as well as several of the improvisational exercises they have been working to perfect. Check our website for dates and details.



East Lansing is Our Oyster

Members and participants know that for some time we have been looking for a new location for our office and rehearsal space. One of the possibilities we have explored over the years is use of space in the Hannah Community Center in East Lansing.

The first show done by All-of-us Express was staged at then Hannah Middle School in December 1989. We resumed doing shows at Hannah following its conversion into a community center. For the past several years we have done three productions a year, plus various special events, at Hannah.

We are now pursuing the merger of All-of-us Express Children's Theatre into the City of East Lansing's Department of Parks, Recreation & Arts.

What this would mean is that our theater program—shows, troupes, camps, and classes—would become an East Lansing program, and Miranda would become an East Lansing employee. Instructors and crew heads would also be working for the City.

All-of-us Express Children's Theater would continue to exist as a separate 501(c)(3) organization to do fundraising and outreach, and would have a Board of Trustees, but it would not be directly involved in the operation of the theater program.

This is a major change from the way we have done things for the past twenty years, but we believe this is in the best interest of all concerned.

We moved to Logan Square in the fall of 2001. Since then we have been looking without success for a permanent home. With the decrease in participation and the changes in the economy, we have had to cut back on operations and lay off one of our two employees.

We must do something at this point to be able to survive, and to continue providing our theater program to Greater Lansing Area youth. We firmly believe this merger is a viable means of being able to continue to fulfill our mission, and are excited by the possibilities this merger would make possible in the future.

We hope to reach a final agreement on the merger in July and begin operating in a new way by the beginning of September.

If you want to know more, or you wish to make your feelings known, please speak with me, Miranda, or any member of the Board of Trustees. The latest information will appear on the web site.

I, Miranda, and members of the Board will be in the Logan Square space from 6:00 - 7:00 pm on Thursday, May 28 to discuss details of the proposed merger, and provide information on how you can help with downsizing and with moving.

Lisa Lees, President
All-of-us Express Children's Theatre

Youth Creating Quality Theater



All-of-us Express Children's Theatre is a non-profit corporation founded in 1989 by Evelyn Weymouth.

It is the mission of All-of-us Express Children's Theatre to offer young people of all backgrounds, cultures, and lifestyles the opportunity to produce professional quality plays, study many aspects of the dramatic arts, and develop valuable life skills while providing outstanding entertainment to the community.

STAFF
Artistic Director: Miranda Sue Hartmann
PR/Marketing Intern: Rachel Santorelli

We're on the web:
www.allofusexpress.org

**All-of-us Express
Children's Theatre**

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