

All-of-us Expressions

DISNEY ITEMS NEEDED

All-of-us Express is putting together a Disney themed tree to be auctioned off at the Festival Trees three-day event held at the Lansing Center on November 20, 21 and 22, 2009. If you have any Disney items that you would be willing to part with or donate to our tree just drop them off at the front desk at Hannah Community Center by November 10th. Some ideas include: McDonald Disney figurines/toys, snow globes, Disney Barbie Dolls, books, games, puzzles, dolls, DVDs, computer games, stuffed animals, coloring books, stickers, tents, blankets, toys, etc. If you don't have anything Disney laying around and you would like to contribute; some inexpensive stores such as Dollar Tree, Family Dollar, and Walgreens, have great Disney items. The tree will be covered with Disney items and have Disney gifts underneath. The more gifts underneath, the more money we will raise.

In addition, we will be selling raffle tickets for \$20 per ticket for a chance to win: 1st prize is a tree with \$10,000 in merchandise; 2nd prize is \$5,000 in scratch off lottery tickets; and 3rd is \$4,000 in gift cards. All-of-us Express gets to keep \$10 for each ticket sold. Just contact Sandra Sigworth at (517) 749-9571 to purchase them or to help sell them. Also, she is the costumer for *How Reading Came Back to Nowhere* and will be at Rehearsals.

Please join us at the event to see the wonderful tree we have created and maybe place some bids of your own! Some of our youth will also be participating as costumed characters for the event. (Note: Any youth who want to participate as a costumed character please contact us for details). Saturday 11/22 is kid's day with lots of activities for the children. All benefits from the auctions go to non-profit organizations like ours.

**"We do not need magic to change the world.
We carry all the power we need inside ourselves already:
we have the power to imagine better."
~J.K. Rowling**

All-of-us Express
Children's Theatre

21st Season:
Spreading Our Wings

October 2009 Edition

Dates to know:

- November 14:** *Improvisation Intro Workshop*
- November 20, 21 & 22:** *Festival of Trees Fundraiser*
- December 4 & 5, 11 & 12:** **Performances:** *How Reading Came Back to Nowhere*

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Board Members Elected and Appointed

We are pleased to announce that the All-of-us Express Board elected new members and appointed new officers to its Board at the Annual Meeting in September. Your current Board Members and Officers are listed below:

- Sandra Sigworth, President
- Missy Foran, Vice-President
- Pedro Pozo, Treasurer
- Morgan Lees, Secretary
- Melissa Kaplan, Board Member
- Gina Golden, Board Member
- Lisa Lees, Board Member
- Chris VanZwoll, Board Member
- Corinne Pratt, Board Member (Youth)
- Austin Homant, Board Member (Youth)
- Amelia Rogocka, Board Member (Youth)
- Andrea Hibbs, Board Member (Youth)



All-of-us Express formed two major committees which is open to all to join: Fundraising Committee and Outreach Committee. Therefore, if anyone would like to help on one of those committees, please let us know as your support would be greatly appreciated. You don't have to be a member to serve on committees.

Editor Needed

All-of-us Express is looking for an editor for the Expressions newsletter. This individual would compile, with the Artistic Director and Board assistance, articles to include in the newsletter each month and then prepare the newsletter to send to the Board President.



REMINDER!!!

Our 21st Season has begun. Which means, it is time to renew those memberships!!!
 Consider getting a Lifetime Membership for just \$400.00, payable in four easy installments of \$100.00 each throughout a single season.

Additional Fundraisers for the Year

In order to continue to offer our programs at low cost to our community's youth, All-of-us Express Children's Theatre strives to raise additional funds to cover the theaters expenses to bring professional quality education in the area dramatic arts. Additional fundraisers for this year include:

2nd Annual *All-of-you Review*

We will also be hosting our 2nd Annual *All-of-you Review*, on May 8, 2010 from 6-9 PM at Hannah Community Center's Banquet Room which consists of dinner, entertainment and a silent auction. This fundraiser consists of several of our youth parodying local celebrities. Last year, this event was truly remarkable and had everyone who attended laughing all night long. This year we will be adding more acts by the youth. Kathy Dunbar, Lansing City Councilwoman, is this year's emcee. So be on the look out for more information regarding this event.

Advertising in Show Programs:

Advertisements in our show programs generate revenue for All-of-us Express. If you know of businesses that might be willing to advertise in our show programs, please inquire about our advertising packet.

Ink Recycling Program:

All-of-us Express in conjunction with Cartridge World can help save the Earth while earning extra dollars towards its programs. One ink cartridge can be recycled for \$2.00. If you work in a location that doesn't currently recycle their ink cartridges, please see Sandi Sigworth to obtain a recycling container that can be put at your location. Please consider recycling your personal use ink cartridges as well by dropping them in the recycling bin at Hannah Community Center; just inquire at the front desk.

Outreach Goals for the Year

- Increase participation in All-of-us programs
- Increase awareness – let other people know about the theatre
- Provide service to youth who may not become full-fledged theatre participants
- Get youth excited about theatre!
- Increase attendance at All-of-us productions

How are we doing?

All-of-us Express is interested in your feedback of our programs. You can log onto www.allofusexpress.org to download and fill out a survey. You can drop off the survey at the front desk of Hannah. We sincerely appreciate your time to let us know how we are doing.

“The great thing in the world is not so much where we stand, as in what direction we are moving.”

~Oliver Wendall Holmes

21st Season News

As we are “Spreading Our Wings” this season, please remember that the new faces you see at Hannah including staff at the front desk are all new to All-of-us Express and need your patience and understanding as we work through the transition. Hannah uses different databases and software than our other location so everything has to be manually put into a new system. This might create some technical bumps in the road so please bear with us.



All-of-us Express is now part of the City of East Lansing’s Department of Parks, Recreation & Arts. Some new faces and names you might see or hear mentioned are Tim McCaffrey and Kathleen Miller. Tim McCaffrey is the Director of the City of East Lansing’s Parks, Recreation & Arts Department, and Kathleen Miller is the Recreation/Youth Program Coordinator. They will be overseeing the production side of things at All-of-us Express Children’s Theatre, with Miranda Hartmann as Artistic Director. Her new phone number is: 333-2580, ext. 32, email: mhartma@cityofeastlansing.com. You can visit www.cityofeastlansing.com/allofus for information about the programs and productions All-of-us Express offers. You can also visit www.allofusedexpress.org for information about the 501(c)(3) and membership.

How Reading Came Back to Nowhere is well underway. There is still room on some running and guild crews for those who are interested in getting a crew point or participating in the Guild Program. Please contact Miranda ASAP to sign up. The crewheads are: Director, Miranda Hartmann; Assistant Directors, Dan Domino and Cami Sigworth; Props, Miranda; Co-Costumers, Sandi Sigworth and Laurel Domino; Make-up, Morgan Lees; Tech, Chris VanZwoll; and Set Construction, Boofer Lees.

All-of-us Express is collaborating with the Capital Area Literacy Coalition during this production. There will be a book drop at the productions for you to drop new or gently used books suitable for children pre K through eighth grade. To learn more about CALC, you can visit them on the web at <http://www.thereadingpeople.org>. A collaboration with Capital Area District Libraries is in the works. Look for details in November’s *Expressions*.

Important Change to Note

All-of-us Express is recognizing its youth participants, volunteers, donors and sponsors at an annual Awards Ceremony which will be held in August each year at Hannah Community Center. In the past, certificates and badges were handed out after each performance at a party following the final show of productions. It was felt that this did not allow sufficient recognition of the dedication our youth participants display all year. Further, this will allow All-of-us Express to formally recognize its volunteers, donors and sponsors. Please join us on August 18, 2010 for the 2nd Annual Awards Ceremony for recognition and refreshments. There will still be cast parties following the last performance of each production.

Think Green

Consider going paperless with the newsletter. Contact us at theatre@allofusexpress.org if you would like your newsletter delivered via email.

Is this your last newsletter?

Don't let this be your last newsletter. If you haven't renewed your membership, now is the time to do so!

***“Success means having
the courage, the determination,
and the will to become the person
you believe you were meant to be.”
~George Sheehan***

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

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

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

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