

Neil Gaiman story, memoir, and Russian folk tale on stage

Evanston Review (IL) - Thursday, March 11, 2010

Author: MYRNA PETLICKI Contributor

A trio of tales will come to life onstage when Piven Theatre Workshop's Performance Project presents, "Witches, Wolves and Puppy Stew -- Whatever Will Our Heroines Do?" 5 p.m. March 15, 16 and 18, and 9:30 a.m. and noon, March 20, at 927 Noyes St., Evanston.

The company of 17 students is directed by Donna Osowski and Joanne Underwood, assisted by Becky McNamara. The two directors adapted stories for the stage with heavy involvement by Performance Project members.

"Vasilisa" is based on a Russian folk tale. "The Wolves in the Walls" by Neil Gaiman "is about this girl who swears she hears things in the walls," Osowski said. "Nobody believes her. Then the wolves come out."

The third selection, "A Girl Named Zippy," is an excerpt from a work by Haven Kimmel. "It's a memoir of a woman growing up in a small town in Indiana," Osowski reported.

"Each student is in one story and then at the end there is time left for improvisational games so it will be a little different at each performance," Osowski said.

Tickets are free.

For details, call (847) 866-8049.

On tap

Your family will learn which sugar maple trees produce the sweetest sap during a Maple Syrup Hike, Saturdays and Sundays through March 20, at Ryerson Woods, Riverwoods Road, south of Half Day Road, Deerfield. The one-hour hikes start every half-hour from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. The cost is \$5 for Lake County residents, \$7 for nonresidents. Registration is required.

For details, call (847) 968-3321 or see www.lcfdp.org.

Band together

Kids will have a chance to be conductors and percussionists during Let's Make Music, 10 a.m. Saturday, March 13, at Nichols Concert Hall, 1490 Chicago Ave., Evanston. Audience members of all ages will learn to find the beat and locate the melody during this free interactive concert by Axiom Brass.

For details, call (847) 905-1500, ext. 108.

Coming out party

Spring is on its way at the Kohl Children's Museum of Greater Chicago, 2100 Patriot Blvd., Glenview, by way of its annual Eggs to Chicks exhibit, which runs from March 16-May 10. Your kids will have a child's-eye view of an egg incubator, hatchery and pen for newborn chicks. More than 200 chicks will emerge this year.

For details, call (847) 832-6600.

A different kid of circus

Surprising things will be happening at "Science Fiction: An Experiment in Circus." Director Larry DiStasi and choreographer Sylvia Hernandez-DiStasi have assembled some of Chicago's finest circus talent for an innovative show at the Actors Gymnasium, Noyes Cultural Arts Center, 927 Noyes St., Evanston. Performances are 7:30 p.m. Fridays, 4:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Saturdays, and 3 p.m. Sundays, March 13-April 18. Tickets are \$10-\$15.

For details, call (800) 838-3006.

Section: *Entertainment*

Record Number: *ev-entertainment-north-famfriendly-031110-s1*

Copyright 2010, Evanston Review, Pioneer Press. All rights reserved. REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED.

To bookmark this article, right-click on the link below, and copy the link location:

[Neil Gaiman story, memoir, and Russian folk tale on stage](#)