

What's new

Daily Herald (Arlington Heights, IL) - Friday, July 30, 2010

* A 19_year_old living in a sleepy, mostly crime_free town decides to become a private detective in "The Irrelevant Adventures of Jarvis McFadden." American Demigods Theatre presents the premiere of the play first produced at the University of Illinois. It opens Friday, July 30, at the Conservatory Theatre, 4210 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago. See americandemigods.com for information.

* Performances begin Friday, July 30, for ensemble113's production of the cult show, "Reefer Madness: The Musical." Inspired by the film of the same name, the show is about innocent young people who tumble into a den of iniquity after one puff of weed. It runs at the Athenaeum Theater, 2946 N. Southport Ave., Chicago. (800) 982_2787.

* "Leaving Timmy," Paul Barile's drama about a couple coping with the death of their young son, begins previews Friday, July 30, at Prop Thtr, 3502 Elston Ave., Chicago. The production marks the debut of a new company that calls itself The Sweet Life. Call (708) 557_0717 for more information.

* Actor, writer, clown and mime artist Dean Evans remounts his one_man, dark comedy "Magical Exploding Boy" at the Prop Thtr, 3504 N. Elston Ave., Chicago, for a brief run before he heads off to New York City's Fringe Festival. The show runs Fridays and Saturdays, July 30 and 31 and Aug. 6 and 7. (773) 387_8766 or magicalexplodingboy.com.

* Emerald City Theatre presents free performances of its family_friendly show, "The True Story of the 3 Little Pigs," at noon, Sundays, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29 in Millennium Park, Columbus Drive and Randolph Street, Chicago. (312) 742_1168 or millenniumpark.org.

* Stage Left Theatre salutes the year's worst playettes as part of DrekFest: Worstatment 2010. Semifinal readings take place on Mondays, Aug. 2 and 9, at ComedySportz Theatre, 929 W. Belmont Ave., Chicago. Audience votes determines which two compete for the worst of 2010 on Aug. 16. All eight semifinalists receive cash prizes. (773) 883_8830 or stagelefttheatre.com.

* Caffeine Theatre reprises its production of Dylan Thomas' "Under Milk Wood," adapted from the radio play about the hopes and dreams of the residents of a fictional Welsh town, as part of the Chicago Park District's Theater on the Lake. The show opens Wednesday, Aug. 4, and runs through Sunday, Aug. 8, at the theater at Fullerton Avenue and Lake Shore Drive in Chicago. (312) 742_7994.

* Eta Creative Arts Foundation hosts the Chicago Association of Black Storytellers' Storytelling Night from 7 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 4, at 7558 S. South Chicago Ave., Chicago. See aseblackstorytellers.org for information.

* The Neo_Futurists' Film Fest IX showcasing staged readings of the worst screenplays ever, concludes Thursday, Aug. 5, at 5153 N. Ashland Ave., Chicago, with the 2006 film "My Little Pony" about a magical land threatened by ugly witches. (773) 275_5255 or neofuturists.org.

* First Folio Theatre presents an abbreviated version of Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream," at 4 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 1, at 1717 W. 31st St., Oak Brook. (630) 986_8067 or firstfolio.org.

* Circle Theatre announced it will relocate to the Oak Park River Forest Performing Arts Center at 1010 Madison St., Oak Park, at the end of October 2010. The new venue will serve as a temporary home while the company continues its efforts to secure a permanent

facility. The first production in Oak Park will be the musical "The Wedding Singer," beginning performances Sept. 17.

* Lookingglass Theatre Company has extended the remount of its 2005 signature production, "Lookingglass Alice," adapted and created by ensemble member David Catlin and produced in association with The Actors Gymnasium, through Aug. 29 at Water Tower Water Works, 821 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago. (312) 337_0665 or lookingglasstheatre.org.

* Gov. Pat Quinn recently appointed Henry Godinez, a Goodman Theatre resident artistic associate, to a four_year term on the Illinois Arts Council. Godinez and the other 20 members who make up the council will help determine the state's public art policy and promote artistic diversity.

— Barbara Vitello

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