

Theater Coming to Vanport Square

Featuring comedy entertainment

Curious Comedy Productions, a non-profit comedy theater and film production company based in northeast Portland, has announced the grand opening of its new home in Vanport Square at 5225 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.

Opening weekend will be from Friday, Oct. 10 through Sunday, Oct. 12.

Entirely devoted to the art of comedy, Curious Comedy Theater may very well be the first facility of its kind in Portland. A five production schedule this fall

involves a cast and crew of over 40 artists donating their time and talents to the mission of the company - to improve the lives of kids, adults, and seniors through the art of comedy.

The brainchild of Stacey Hallal, alumnus of All Jane No Dick (Portland) and Second City (Chicago), Curious Comedy Productions is an incredible labor of love involving long hours, hard work and public support.

Curious works with local Boys and Girls Clubs and plans to partner with schools and other non-profits to reach more kids and

seniors with their outreach programming.

According to Hallal, President and Artistic Director of Curious Comedy Productions, "We love having our location at Vanport Square. It's directly in the heart of a vibrant, exciting community that seems ready for what we have to offer."

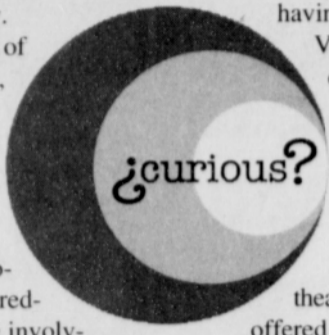
Educational and theatrical programs are offered to three different generations of Portlanders: Curious Kids, Curious Comedy Mainstage and Curious Seniors.

The first program is designed to boost literacy, life skills, and self-esteem with children, the sec-

ond is focused upon longform improvisation and satirical sketch comedy directed at adults, and the third provides entertainment and validation to the elderly through performances at retirement communities.

"The theater will improve our community as a whole through comedy classes, performances, and film screenings. It will serve as a positive force for the local economy as we expect people to come from both inside and outside of the area to see the shows and to take classes. We hope to contribute to the city's goal of having the most vibrant MLK in the country," said Hallal.

For more details and schedules of classes and performances, visit curiouscomedy.org.



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Church Girls, a musical about teen-age church girls who go through the same universal issues other girls go through, exploring who they are and want to be and the standards they choose to or not to live by, opens Thursday, Oct. 9 and continues through Oct. 24 at the Interstate Firehouse Cultural Theater on North Interstate Avenue just down from Killingsworth Street.

Performances are at 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and Sunday at 3 p.m.

The production is produced by World Stage Theatre, founded by Shalanda Sims and formed in April 2006 in response to the under-representation of African-American youth, culture and heritage in the theater community.

The theater company's mission is to encourage youth and young adults to approach life with discipline, curiosity, courage and confidence.

World Cultures -- Globetrotters on a budget can travel the world without leaving Portland during the Oregon Zoo's 10th annual World Animal Festival, through Sunday Oct. 5. The event celebrates the many ways animals influence cultures, beliefs and customs around the globe.

OMSI After Dark -- OMSI After Dark is a night at the museum for the 21 and over crowd filled with food, drink and science fun. \$10 fee. For more information call 503-797-4000 or visit omsi.edu.



Connected and divided -- "Dos Pueblos" is a cantankerous reflection of the relationships between the overlapping cultural histories of Mexico and the United States. The original, bilingual play continues through Saturday, Oct. 4 at Milagro Theatre, 525 S.E. Stark St.

Bungalow Rose Pumpkin Patch -- Saturday, Oct. 18 through Thursday, Oct. 30, Bungalow Rose, 7545 N.E. Sandy Blvd., invites everyone to join the family-friendly pumpkin patch featuring: music, games, refreshments and lots of fun.

Blues Showcase -- Wednesday, Oct. 1 at 8 p.m., enjoy the Norman Sylvester Band live at Tillicum's in Beaverton and at 6 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 2, at the Kennedy School; for more information call 503-281-5989.

ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

Forest Center Senior Day -- The World Forestry Center presents its first annual Senior Day on Tuesday, Oct. 7 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. with a discounted admission price of \$3.50. Seniors can explore the hands-on, interactive museum and learn about the forests of the Pacific Northeast and around the world.

Poetry at Miracles -- Local and national artists and musicians share an evening of spoken word and music at the Miracles Club, 4069 N.E. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, each Wednesday's, between 7:30 p.m. and 9:30 p.m.

Living Green Expo -- Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 11-12, at OMSI, the Living Green Expo features more than 30 community partners offering information, ideas, resources and motivation to live green and maintain a more sustainable lifestyle. For more information visit omsi.edu.

Hoedown and Auction -- Friday, Oct. 10, from 6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m., at the Portland Art Museum, Kridel Ballroom, 1219 S W Park Ave. Sponsored by Sisters of the Road, this annual fundraiser is to assist people experiencing homelessness. For more information and tickets, call 503-222-5694 extension 19.

Tour of Untimely Departures at Lone Fir Cemetery -- Friday, Oct. 31, guests will experience the history of the cemetery and the unfortunate end of some residents. Guests will 'depart' at the Southeast 26th Avenue and Stark Street entrance: \$5 fee. For more information, call 503-224-9200.

Diversity Film Festival -- The first diversity film festival at the Vancouver campus of Washington State University, 14204 N.E. Salmon Creek Ave., takes place through Oct. 14 at various afternoon and evening

times in the college's administration building, room 110. All films are free and open to the public.

Sunday Night Jazz -- Jazz enthusiasts can enjoy listening to the cool sounds of Mel Brown, in the Rogue River Room at Chinook Winds Casino Resort in Lincoln City. No cover charge.

Live Jazz -- Every Friday and Saturday from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m., the Third Degrees Lounge at the RiverPlace Hotel, 1510 S.W. Harbor Way, will host the ongoing weekend series featuring Portland's rich jazz scene with no cover or minimum purchase. For more information, visit pdxjazz.com.

Open Mic Night -- Every Wednesday night at 7 p.m., Proper Eats Market and Café, 8638 N. Lombard St., host open mic night.

Sliders Grill -- Sliders Grill, 3011 N. Lombard, features an eclectic assortment of performers on the main stage, accompanied by delicious food. Call 503-459-4488 for more information.

Free First Friday Nights -- The Portland Children's MuZoo Buck Tuesdays -- On the 2nd Tuesday of every month, the zoo hosts 2-Buck Tuesdays when guests can tour the zoo during regular zoo hours for the discounted price of \$2 per person!

OMSI \$2 Days -- The first Sunday of every month can spark your passion for science at the OMSI when admission is just \$2. For more information, visit OMSI.edu.

First Thursday Art Gallery Opening -- Every first Thursday in the Pearl, meet the artists and join the street party for gallery receptions and openings introducing the works of many artists; this is a free event.

Music Millennium Free Shows -- The Music Millennium, 3158 E Burnside, host many in-house live performances. Enjoy free music and the opportunity to meet local artists. Call 503-231-8926 for a schedule

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