



The story behind "MILTON," a play about five towns and the constellation they create, will be presented June 16-19 in Milton-Freewater.

By TAMMY MARGESINI East Oregonian

A handful of towns with the same names are featured in a project called "MILTON," which also includes Milton-Freewater.

"It's quite a far-reaching idea," said Jean Ann Mitchell, organizer of Arts Portal Gallery in Milton-Freewater.

Known for their large-scale projects, PearlDamour, an award-winning interdisciplinary theater company, was looking to do a smaller production.

In April 2013, PearlDamour sent an email to Jan Sample of the Milton-Freewater Garden Club, asking if they could meet.

"For over a year, they would come to town and they would stay at my place,"

MILTON-FREEWATER

Five towns, one name

Sample said. "And, now we're going to have the whole crew of them."

The May 2013 visit was the first of many trips to Milton-Freewater for the two women. Pearl, who lives in New York, and D'Amour in New Orleans, traveled across the country, not only to Milton-Freewater but to four other towns named Milton.

The duo, known for their performances mixing theater and installation, set out to discover the "story" of each town.

Performers of different ages and races will speak and sing. In addition, the production features video of the day and night skies of Milton-Freewater.

"Often it feels like being in a planetarium. Sometimes it's like being at the opera. It can even feel like being at a family birthday barbecue, under a big sky," Pearl said.

After taking root, "MILTON" ended up being PearlDamour's biggest project to date. Structuring the concept around communities of the same name — chosen from a random Google search of common city names — Pearl and D'Amour then sought to find communities that were as different as possible.

The towns range in population from 27,000 in Milton, Massachusetts, to North Carolina's Milton with only 164 people.

Mitchell and Sample said having the performance presented with English and Spanish is important. Recognizing and embracing the area's cultural diversity helps in bridging the community together.

"We're more accepting. I think it's going to be a celebration of our cultures and our small town," Mitchell said.

Area residents are invited to attend a community barbecue in celebration of "MILTON" Saturday, June 18 at 5 p.m. at McLoughlin High School.

"MILTON: A Bilingual Play About 4 Towns Named Milton and 1 Named Milton-Freewater" NIGHTLY: June 16-19; 7 p.m.; MATINEE: June 18-19; 2 p.m.; WHERE: McLoughlin High School, 120 Main St., Milton-Freewater; COST: Free for residents; suggested donation of \$5-15 for others; RSVP: 888-854-5698

BRIEFLY

New exhibit features Jenny Hegdal

MILTON-FREEWATER — The work of Central Middle School teacher Jenny Hegdal is featured in the upcoming exhibit at Arts Portal Gallery.

Managed by the Milton-Freewater Downtown Alliance, regular gallery hours are Saturdays and Sundays from noon to 5 p.m.

Western history comes alive with two-day festival

WALLA WALLA — A family festival that celebrates the Walla Walla Valley's regional heritage features historic re-enactors, live demonstrations, music, dancing and children's pioneer games.

Museum admission, which includes participation in Fort Walla Walla Days, is \$8 for adults, \$7 for seniors and students, \$3 for ages 6-12 and free for children 5 and under.

For more information, contact 509-525-7703, info@fwwm.org or visit www.fwwm.org.

Exhibit highlights circuit chautauquas

DAYTON, Washington — An exhibit exploring the history of circuit chautauquas — traveling shows and assemblies popular in the late 19th and early 20th century — will open this month at the Dayton Historic Depot.

Teddy Roosevelt called chautauquas "the most American thing in America." An extremely popular form of entertainment, they featured musicians, comedians, actors, politicians and scholars.

For more information, contact 509-382-2026, info@daytonhistoricdepot.org or visit www.daytonhistoricdepot.org.

Winery announces August concerts

PATERSON — Tickets are now on sale for The Buckinghams and Crystal Gayle at Columbia Crest Winery.

Festivals

Old Iron Show •Friday, June 3, Saturday, June 4; 8 a.m.-dusk

Pioneer Days •Friday, June 3, Saturday, June 4 •Weston Memorial Hall, Elliott Park

Fort Walla Walla Days •Saturday, June 11, Sunday, June 12; 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

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"Central Dreams" •Saturdays/Sundays; noon-5 p.m.

Nika Blasser •Tuesday-Fridays; 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

"Book Sort" •Monday-Thursdays; 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

All-Campus Juried Student Exhibition •Saturday, June 11; 6 p.m.

WHAT TO DO

Monday-Fridays; noon-4 p.m. •Nightingale Gallery, Loso Hall •Eastern Oregon University, La Grande

"Real People" •Saturday, June 11; 2-4 p.m.

"Circuit Chautauquas: Educating Dayton and America" •Tuesday, June 14; 6 p.m.

"Temperance Creek: A Memoir" •Thursday, June 16; 7 p.m.

"Young at Heart" •Saturday, June 11; 6 p.m.

www.oregoneastsymphony.org •\$25/general, \$45/premium, \$75/concert, dinner and auction ticket.

Bram Brata •Sunday, June 12; 5-7 p.m.

Dallin Puzey •Monday, June 13; 7 p.m.

Big Bad Beat •Friday, June 17; Saturday, June 18; 8 p.m.

98% Angels •Monday, June 20; 7 p.m.

Thursday Night Comedy •Thursdays; 8 p.m.

Digital Karaoke •Thursdays and Fridays; 8 p.m.

Wine tasting •Fridays; 4-8 p.m.

Open Mic •First/Third Friday each month, 8 p.m.-midnight

Karaoke •Fridays 8 p.m. (9 p.m. if game on)

DJ and dancing •Fridays, 8 p.m.

Open Mic Night •Friday, June 17; 8 p.m.

Theater & film

"The Angry Birds Movie" •June 4-5 & June 7; 7:30 p.m.

"The Little Mermaid" •Monday, June 6, Tuesday, June 7; 6 p.m.

"MILTON" •June 16-19; 7 p.m.

Hot tickets

"Vanilla Ice and Morris Day & The Time" July 30 at Wildhorse Resort & Casino.

"Hunter Hayes" Aug. 26, Benton-Franklin Fair, Pasco.

"KISS" July 10, Toyota Center, Kennewick.

"Umatilla County Fair Main Stage entertainment" A Thousand Horses (Aug. 9).

"Want to get your event listed in our calendar? Send information to tmalgesini@eastoregonian.com, or c/o Tammy Malgesini, 333 E. Main Street, Hermiston, OR, 97838.

Music

Music on the Lawn-Yosi Mesbah •Saturday, June 4, 6 p.m.

Decade X •Saturday, June 4; 8 p.m.

Brass Fire •Saturday, June 4; 7-10 p.m.

Troublemaker •Saturday, June 4; 9 p.m.

Sisters in Song •Sunday, June 5; 4 p.m.

Jilt •Friday, June 10; Saturday, June 11; 8 p.m.

Night life

DJ music •Saturdays, 8 p.m.

Whiskey Wednesday Game Night •Wednesdays; 3-7 p.m.

Thursday Night Comedy •Thursdays; 8 p.m.

Wine tasting •Fridays; 4-8 p.m.

Open Mic •First/Third Friday each month, 8 p.m.-midnight

Karaoke •Fridays 8 p.m. (9 p.m. if game on)

MOVIE REVIEW

'Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles' sequel is a cartoon on steroids

By LINDSEY BAHR AP Film Writer

"Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Out of the Shadows" is a Saturday morning cartoon on Michael Bay steroids.

truly for kids. They're the one audience who will just let the nonsense wash over them.

escaping the Turtles' nunchuck-wielding, manhole cover-launching garbage truck/war machine.

this is just a more expensive, high-definition version of the thing you used to watch in your pajamas while eating a bowl of cereal.