

Cottage Theater ticket holders have until Oct. 1 to hold seats

Cottage Theatre has just announced its 2020 season, which will include both blockbuster titles and new shows, including one West Coast premiere.

“In choosing each year’s programming, we seek to include a wide range of material that will appeal to a broad audience,” said executive director Susan Goes. “Our 2020 season was selected based on director submissions: we had proposals for more than 30 plays from 14 different directors. Finding the six shows that will fit best together is always

a bit like putting together a jigsaw puzzle.”

Cottage Theatre opens its 38th season in January 2020 with Arsenic and Old Lace, a 1939 play by Joseph Kesselring, which still ranks as one of the best-selling Broadway plays of all time. This tale of merry mayhem and murderous aunts runs from Jan. 31 through Feb. 15, 2020, and will be directed by Keith Kessler.

Next in the 2020 season will be the seductively fun musical sensation, Mamma Mia! Told through a collection of ABBA’s greatest hits, this

story of an unforgettable Greek Island wedding (complete with three fathers-of-the bride) will be on stage from April 3-26. This musical will be directed by Tony Rust.

Following on the success of the theatre’s 2018 World Premiere of Treehouse, Cottage Theatre will continue to spotlight new works in 2020 with the West Coast Premiere of Seeking Red by Glenn B. Rust. This new drama about truth and identity is written by a young Chicago playwright who grew up at Cottage Theatre. Seeking Red, directed by Kory Weimer, will run for three weekends from June 5-21, 2020.

Cottage Theatre’s August 2020 production is a perennial audience favorite: You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown! This playful medley of beloved comic characters, with book and music by Clark Gesner, is based on Charles Schulz’s endearing Peanuts comic strip. This family-friendly musical will run Aug. 14-30, directed by Janet Rust.

Next in the 2020 lineup

will be The Hunchback of Notre Dame, based on the Victor Hugo novel and songs from the Disney film, with music by Alan Menken, lyrics by Stephen Schwartz, and book by Peter Parnell. This powerful musical of obsession and redemption is playing Oct. 2-25, 2020, directed by Tony Rust.

For the grand finale to its 2020 season, Cottage Theatre will present Elf — the Musical, based on the New Line Cinema film by David Berenbaum, with book by Thomas Meehan and Bob Martin, music by Matthew Sklar, and lyrics by Chad Beguelin. This holiday jingle is a hilarious fish-out-of-water comedy that follows “Buddy the Elf” in his quest to find his true identity. This holiday production will be directed by Keith Kessler and run for three weekends from December 4-20, 2020.

Season tickets to Cottage Theatre’s 2020 season go on sale Nov. 1, with current season ticket holders having the option to renew their seats

beginning Oct. 1.

Season tickets, which represent a savings of up to 30 percent over individual tickets, range in price from \$126 to \$84 depending upon the package chosen. Single tickets to individual shows go on sale one month prior to each show’s opening night and are \$25 for adults and \$15 for youth (age 6-18).

Meanwhile, Cottage Theatre has two productions remaining in its current 2019 season. The theatre will reopen in October following a brief closure this summer for the first phase of a remodeling project.

“This summer we said goodbye to our old blue seats,” said Goes, “and we’ve just learned that they were even older than we thought. Our new seating manufacturer told us that the company which made those seats went out of business back in 1976.” Cottage Theatre is installing new seats in September, and will eventually expand its auditorium to add 50 additional seats during the second phase of its

remodel.

The next play in the 2019 season is The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged) [Revised], running October 11-27. This zany, side-splitting romp through 37 plays in 97 minutes is a preposterous masterwork that will appeal to both Shakespeare lovers and haters alike.

Tickets go on sale Sept.11.

Closing out the 2019 season will be Lionel Bart’s Oliver!, the endearing classic musical about a lovable orphan. Widely hailed as a theatrical masterpiece, and featuring a large inter-generational cast, Oliver! will be on stage Dec. 6-22. Tickets for this holiday season production are on sale starting Nov. 6.

Once on sale, Cottage Theatre tickets are available for purchase online at www.cottagetheatre.org, by phone at 541-942-8001, or in person at the Cottage Theatre Box Office, 700 Village Drive, Cottage Grove.

All seating is reserved and advance purchase is recommended.



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Axe & Fiddle to host Oregon debut of Scandanavian trio Oct. 16

On Wednesday, Oct. 16, the Axe and Fiddle, located at 657 E. Main St. in Cottage Grove, will be hosting Fru Skagerrak, a Scandinavian fiddle group.

The group will begin playing at 8 p.m. and ad-

mission is \$10 per person. Fru Skagerrak takes audiences on a musical journey through Scandinavia, from lowlands to mountains, from slow airs to roaring polkas — and everything in between. Group members include

Anna Lindblad of Sweden — fiddle, 5-stringed fiddle and song; Elise Wesel Hildrum of Norway — fiddle, recorder and song; Maja Kjær Jacobsen of Denmark — fiddle and song.

These three master mu-

sicians from each of the Scandinavian countries performs, creating an explosion of the sounds that exist in Scandinavian traditional music today.

This performance by Fru Skagerrak is its first in Oregon.

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October Events



Pumpkin Patch Pancakes
Every Saturday 9 - 11

Hay Rides
Sat 10 - 5
Sun 11 - 5
Starts 2nd Weekend in Oct



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Saturday 12th
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Flu Shot Clinic

Saturday, October 5 • 9-11 a.m.
Inside the Community Room

Cottage Grove Community Medical Center is hosting a flu shot clinic for established PeaceHealth patients.

Patients 6 months and older, plus adults are invited to come get their flut shots on a first come, first serve basis.
For more information, call 541-942-6612.



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