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It makes sense on paper and in person: A cadre of community actors performing a succession of 10-minute plays varying greatly in approach, tone, genre, and more. If a weighty drama isn't your thing, good news, there's a comedy coming up next if you can cool your jets for 10 minutes.

Local talent on stage and behind the scenes are staples of community theater, but most Main Stage shows tend to be written by the Ken Ludwigs and Neil Simons of the theater world.

This one's a little different in that it gives local playwrights a chance to see their creations performed, and involves more actors and directors than a single, full-length production tends to demand.

"It's the only event, I think, in the theatrical space where we give local Central Oregon talent an avenue to display their writing and their directing and their acting," said Desi Thrower, producer of this year's Cascades 10.

Just as Cascades 10 has been popular with audiences, the opportunity it affords inspires plenty of scribes to sit down and write.

"I know a few years ago, they got over 100 submissions," Thrower said. "This year, we received about 30 — I think it's because people were just getting back into life. We chose nine plays out of the 30."

Emily Cady
in "Enjoy the Show," one of nine 10-minute plays in the 2022 iteration of Cascades 10, in performance this weekend only at Cascades Theatre in Bend.

Courtesy CTC/
Submitted photo



It also provides opportunities for people such as Vreyah Palmantier — a performer who's appeared in shows including "Into

the Woods" at Theater in the Park — to step into new roles. Palmantier is directing "Who Gets Harvey?" by playwright Sara Freedman.

"Who Gets Harvey?" explores the story of three siblings, the setting being their father's house, where two of them are going through his belongings after their father's death. When a deer head that holds some familial importance goes missing, "they assume that the younger brother stole it," Palmantier said.

This leads to a discussion of the meaning the deer head held for each of them, how the two older siblings treated their younger sibling, the nature of who their father was, "and how they can change now that he's gone," Palmantier explained.

"It's comical, but it's very heartfelt, and it's just a beautiful story," Palmantier said.

Sets are kept simple to facilitate quick set changes, and casts of each play are generally small given they're one-act plays. "Who Gets Harvey?" for example, has a cast of only three: Jared McVay, Mary Kilpatrick and Jennifer Ryker.

If you've read this far and are still wondering why the show is called Cascades 10 when there are "only" nine plays, producer Thrower can help with that.

"People kind of get the '10' part a little mixed up," she said.

"Cascades 10' refers to the length of the one-act play, which should be about 10 minutes. But we are trying to get to the point where we also have 10 plays every year. We got close this year."

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If You Go

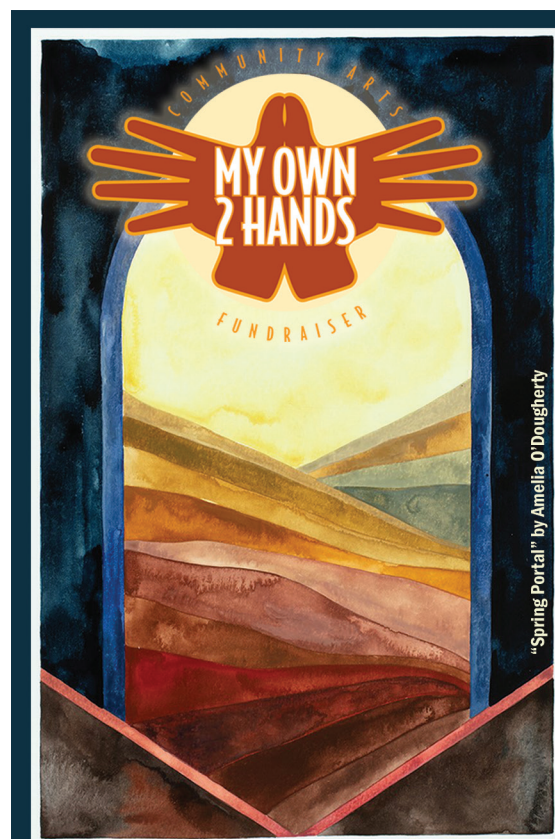
What: Cascades 10

When: 7:30 p.m. Friday-Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday

Where: Cascades Theatre, 148 NW Greenwood Ave., Bend

Cost: \$20 adults, \$18 students

Contact: cascades-theatrical.org or 541-389-0803.



"Spring Portal" by Amelia O'Dougherty

Friday, April 22
FOURTH FRIDAY ART STROLL

Downtown Businesses in Sisters, Oregon
4:00-7:00 PM

View the 84 donated works of art up for auction. Online auction bidding starts

Friday, April 29
COMMUNITY ARTS CELEBRATION

Sisters Art Works
FREE • 5:00 - 8:00 PM
Live Music by True Loves
Family Art Activities
Public Art Unveiling
Student Performances
Eats by Oliver Lemon's

Saturday, April 30
ART AUCTION & PARTY
SISTERS ART WORKS VENUE
6:00 PM • \$90
Dinner • Live Music • Games
Online Art Auction ends at 8:30 PM*



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Julian Riker, left, and Peetie McCook in a scene from "Bad Habits," written by Patrick Blute and directed by Nick Kaufman.