



The Wheelbarrow

The Bulletin of the North Stockton Rotary Club

Meeting Tuesday at noon at the Stockton Hilton

2024-2025



Upcoming Speakers

02/18/25	District Speech Contest	Annual Speech competition at our meeting	Stockton Hilton
02/25/25	Potluck at Kendra's House	New! Potluck at Kendra's, bring ???	Stockton Hilton
03/04/25	Kristen Birtwhistle	United Way of San Joaquin	Stockton Hilton

Future Highlights

February 18, Speech Contest "How Does the Magic of Rotary Change the World?"

February 25, Potluck at Kendra's House

February 27, Rotary Read In - **Still looking for Readers,**

Call Jim Dugoni, (209) 607-9661

March 4, Kristin Birtwhistle, United Way of SJ

March 7-9, President Elect Training Seminar

March 11, Nate Knodt, Downtown Comeback Club

March 18, Michael Weis, University of the Pacific

March 25, Whiskey Social hosted by Ray Call, at Diane Correia's House

April 4-7, District Cruise Conference



Call to Read 209-607-9661



Today's Speaker:

Stockton Civis Theater's Artistic Director Dennis Beasley spoke to us today. Here's the History of our local Theater!



Karen Rogers and Dennis Beasley

1853

Live theatre in Stockton. It began with the Gold Rush! First it was the Stockton Theatre for the rough and tumble sailors and miners of 1853.

1911

When folks became more civilized, the great Sarah Bernhardt performed "La Dam Aux Camelias" at Yosemite Theatre.

1923,

the Masonic Music Hall opened a large auditorium on its top floor — all for live theatre! "Another offspring of the drama was born last night at Madison School Auditorium and everyone concerned is 'doing nicely'." — The Stockton Record

1950

It was fall 1950. Frank Jones, librarian, and Clyde Nielsen, banker, led theatre enthusiasts in an enterprise they called Stockton Civic Theatre. Their first show, Thornton Wilder's Our Town, was performed at Madison School Auditorium. They were very successful. By 1952 they had bought the old Zion Lutheran Church at Willow and Monroe and turned it into a 197-seat theatre. In 1954 they incorporated as a California nonprofit corporation. Shows were well received, but unknown problems were brewing.

1962

A judge ordered that the theatre didn't qualify as a tax exempt nonprofit, but on behalf of SCT, a feisty local attorney named Fred Bollinger declared war on the system. Finally, in 1967, the California Supreme Court ruled for the theatre in Stockton Civic Theatre v. Board of Supervisors, setting a precedent that today benefits all community theaters in America.



North Stockton Rotary Club
Chartered: March 11, 1957
District 5220
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1973

John Falls, President of the Board, appointed Donald Lamond as Chief Planner. The building at Willow and Monroe was falling apart, and Dr. Lamond advocated a new home for SCT.

1974

A local developer offered free land with construction at cost in the new Venetian Bridges development, just off March Lane at Venezia and Rosemarie. SCT



President Don Lamond put John Falls in charge of fundraising. The Stockton Record announced the construction of a 300-seat facility to begin June 10, 1980. The beautiful new Rosemarie Lane theatre opened its first Season, 1980, with its 166th main stage production, Chapter Two, directed by Nick Elliott.

1996

Times seem good, but it's never easy. Money is scarce, but persistence pays and strong leadership emerges. In 1996, founder Clyde Nielsen generously donated funds to retire the mortgage, Greg Morales was hired as the first Producing Director, later followed by Paul Bengston. Now, SCT has a staff of five.

Today

Live theatre today? Under Board President Joe Smith and Artistic Director Dennis Beasley, major productions continue to become huge hits! Frank Jones and Clyde Nielsen's Stockton Civic Theatre — alive and well in the 21st Century!



The next shows on tap are "Pretty Little Lies" and "Jesus Christ Superstar." See the next two pages for the exciting shows on tap for the Main Stage and the Pam Kitto Black Box Theater.

The also talked about their Black and Gold Gala to generate funds for the theater. Did you know the royalties take \$14to 15K for a 4 to 5 week run. The Gala introduces the new season schedule and has preview performances. It's a sit down dinner at the Stockton Hilton and will be held March 29th!

The cast are all volunteers from our greater community.

The origin of Musicals!

I've gone to many shows, going back to the old theater, and it's always a great show and very entertaining.

President Evan thanked Dennis for coming, and had him sign a children's book.

He rang the bell at 1:20 pm.

Frosty announced that a memorial service for John McDonald will be held February 28th at Wine & Roses from 1 to 4pm.



Getting' ready to Bang the Gong.



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Stockton Civic Theatre 2024-25 MAIN STAGE SEASON



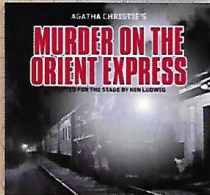
August 29-September 22, 2024- Based on the inspiring true story of Carole King's remarkable journey from a young songwriter, penning hits for the biggest names in music, to becoming a chart-topping solo artist in her own right. The musical chronicles King's rise to fame, her personal and professional challenges, and her eventual triumph as one of the most celebrated singer-songwriters of her generation. Set to the iconic soundtrack of King's greatest hits, including "You've Got a Friend," "Will You Love Me Tomorrow," and "Natural Woman," the musical is a heartfelt tribute to the enduring legacy of a music icon.

Music and Lyrics by Carole King, Gerry Goffin, Barry Mann, & Cynthia Weil
Book by Douglas McGrath | Directed by James Reed



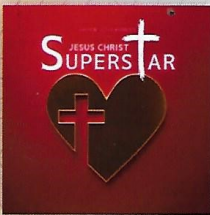
November 21-December 15, 2024- Watch the whimsical world of Dr. Seuss brought to life on stage, weaving together beloved characters and stories from his iconic children's books. The musical follows the adventures of Horton the Elephant, who discovers a speck of dust containing a tiny planet called Who-ville, inhabited by the Whos. As Horton embarks on a quest to protect the Whos and their home, he encounters a colorful cast of characters, including the mischievous Cat in the Hat, the loyal Gertrude McFuzz, and the spirited Mayzie LaBird.

Music, Lyrics, and Book by Lynn Ahrens & Stephen Flaherty | Directed by Rhonda Cummings & Dennis Beasley



January 16-February 2, 2025- A classic murder mystery play based on Agatha Christie's renowned novel. Set aboard the luxurious Orient Express train, renowned detective Hercule Poirot finds himself embroiled in a perplexing case when a wealthy American passenger is found murdered in his compartment. With a limited pool of suspects, including aristocrats, businessmen, and socialites, Poirot must navigate through a web of lies, secrets, and deceit to uncover the truth behind the murder.

Adapted by Ken Ludwig | Directed by Jon Patrick Selover



April 17-May 11, 2025- Jesus Christ Superstar is a timeless work set against the backdrop of an extraordinary and universally-known series of events, but seen through the eyes of Judas Iscariot. The story, told entirely through song, explores the personal relationships and struggles between Jesus, Judas, Mary Magdalene, his disciples, his followers and the Roman Empire. The iconic 1970s rock score contains such well-known numbers as "Superstar," "I Don't Know How to Love Him" and "Gethsemane."

Music by Andrew Lloyd Webber | Lyrics by Tim Rice
Directed by Dennis Beasley



July 10-20, 2025- Set in the early 20th century, we follow the lives of three diverse groups in America: African Americans, represented by Coalhouse Walker Jr., a talented pianist; upper-class suburbanites, including Mother, Father, and their family; and Eastern European immigrants, embodied by Tateh and his daughter. Against the backdrop of social upheaval and cultural transformation, the characters' lives intersect and collide, highlighting themes of racial injustice, immigration, and the pursuit of the American Dream.

Music and Lyrics by Lynn Ahrens & Stephen Flaherty | Book by Terrence McNally
Directed by James Haffner

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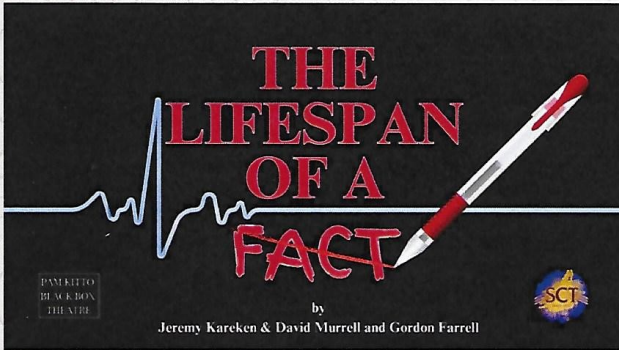


PAM KITTO
BLACK BOX
THEATRE

Stockton Civic Theatre

2024-25 PAM KITTO BLACK BOX SEASON

PAM KITTO
BLACK BOX
THEATRE



October 4-19, 2024

Discover the raw intensity of a compelling story that delves into the struggle between truth and fiction in journalism. Follow the journey of a fact-checker as he challenges an editor over the accuracy of a writer's piece. With gripping dialogue and thought-provoking themes, this play will leave you questioning the boundaries of honesty and storytelling.

February 21-March 8, 2025

Indulge in an evening of intrigue and wit! This captivating comedy unravels the intricacies of family dynamics and the hilarious consequences of keeping secrets. Join us for a rollercoaster ride of laughter and revelations as hidden truths come to light.



May 30-June 8, 2025

A wonderful evening of theatre is in store for this production featuring several ten minute plays, specially curated for the Pam Kitto Black Box Theatre.



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