



# Spotlight

## Leaving Iowa

### Family-Friendly Comedy Opens Oct. 30



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#### Did You Know?

- *Leaving Iowa* was written by Tim Clue and Spike Manton
- The 2008 debut performance was presented at Jeff Daniel's Purple Rose Theater in Chelsea, MI
- Based on that performance, the Detroit Free Press nominated it best new play in the country.

*Leaving Iowa* is a touching and hilarious show about family trips, family dynamics and family memories. The story centers around Don Browning, a writer from Boston who has come home to Winterset, Iowa to celebrate his young nephew's birthday and ends up on a road trip to scatter his late father's ashes.

It is a memory play that shifts between past and present as Don recalls family vacations from his childhood while he drives around the state searching for the proper resting place for his father. Comedy comes in the form of sibling rivalry in the back seat of the family car, Mom and Dad steering the adventures from the front seat and a host of interesting characters they meet along the way.

We have a great cast of newcomers and veterans in this moving production. There are both fresh faces to meet and faces you've come to love on our Rogers City Community stage, making this a very special production. Three high school students are joining us and bringing with them youthful enthusiasm.

The show features the Browning family, with the part of Dad tackled by stage veteran Karl W. Heidemann and the role of Mom played

by Charlotte Heidemann. Salena Heidemann plays Sis and newcomer Nolan Ryan, takes the role of the young Don Browning. Zack Weber, another one of our new faces, brings the lead role of the older Don to life.

The cast of zany characters met by the Brownings includes Julie Riddle, Lawrence Anderson, Bob Starnes III, Baylee Lijewski and Robert Starnes IV.

Crewing the show are co-director Mike Marx on sound, Donna Klein on lights, Karen Maher as stage manager, Val Schalk with costumes and Mary Parsons as prop mistress. The set construction crew includes Karl W. Heidemann, Salena Heidemann, Bradley Heidemann and Lawrence Anderson.

Before the show's done, everyone will recognize themselves, their parents or their children. We've all been in that car driving long stretches of road. We've all been to that less-than-promised roadside attraction, and we've all asked the question, "Are we there yet?" So plan on joining the Browning family on a classic summer road trip where you come for the laughter and stay for the emotion.

-Riconda Lamb



#### Performance Schedule

##### Evening Shows:

Fridays,

Oct. 30 & Nov. 6

Saturdays,

Oct. 31 & Nov. 7

Shows start at 7:30

(doors open at 7:00)

##### Matinees:

Sundays:

November 1 and 8

Show starts at 2:00

(doors open at 1:30)

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## President's Corner by Mike Marx



It's been a great season so far; three fabulous productions completed, and a great final show in the wings to finish off the year in style. The fall production, *Leaving Iowa*, will feature some veterans of our stage along with some fresh new faces. If you are not familiar with this show, our Director, Riconda Lamb, has written an article (see front page) that will surely give you incentive to come see this funny, heart-warming, family friendly comedy.

Well, the news is out on the 2016 season show titles! It is a wonderful lineup, not to be missed. The season begins with *The Game's*

*Afoot (or Holmes for the Holiday)*, a comic murder mystery running January 29 to February 7. Then comes the legendary musical *My Fair Lady*, scheduled for May 13 to 22. The kids take the stage again next summer with *Dear Edwina*, from August 25 through the 28th. Then we finish off the season by returning up north to *A County Fair in Da U.P. Ya, Sure*, October 28 to November 6.

Considering these top notch shows enlivening our 2016 season, it would be a great idea to invest in season tickets. A \$35 season ticket includes one ticket for each of the four shows, a savings

of \$13 off the price of four individual tickets at \$12 each. Season tickets will be available at the box office during *Leaving Iowa's* run, or contact a RCCT board member and we will be happy to see that you get them. And as always, "six pack" tickets are available at \$50, a whopping savings of \$22 from the price of six individual tickets.

With all these money-saving options, a night out at the show is even more affordable. Remember, season tickets and six packs make great Christmas gifts! So we hope to see your whole gang at the show.

## Oh, it Will be Lovely! by James DeDecker

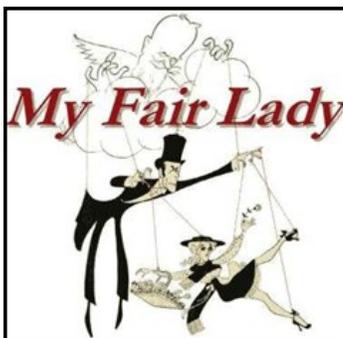
*My Fair Lady*, Lerner and Loewe's 1956 musical adaptation of George Bernard Shaw's *Pygmalion*, is coming to RCCT in 2016! This beloved story of a cockney flower girl, Eliza Doolittle, seeking to advance her station in life under direction of the contradictory Professor Henry Higgins, has been on RCCT's shortlist for some time. This summer, rights for amateur productions of *My Fair Lady* became available for the first time in three years, allowing us to select the 1956 classic as our upcoming spring musical.

*My Fair Lady* will open May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at RCCT and run for two weekends, May 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>. The

play will be directed by James DeDecker with Donna Klein as Music Director. Open auditions are scheduled for February 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm at the Rogers City Theater. Four principal male roles that will be available include Prof. Henry Higgins, a self-absorbed yet charming phonetics expert; Colonel Pickering, a colonial linguist and comrade to Higgins; Alfred P. Doolittle, a street-wise dustman also Eliza's father; and Freddy Eynsford-Hill, a high class young man who falls for Eliza.

Four principal female roles to be cast include Eliza Doolittle, a peasant flower girl whose dream of being a

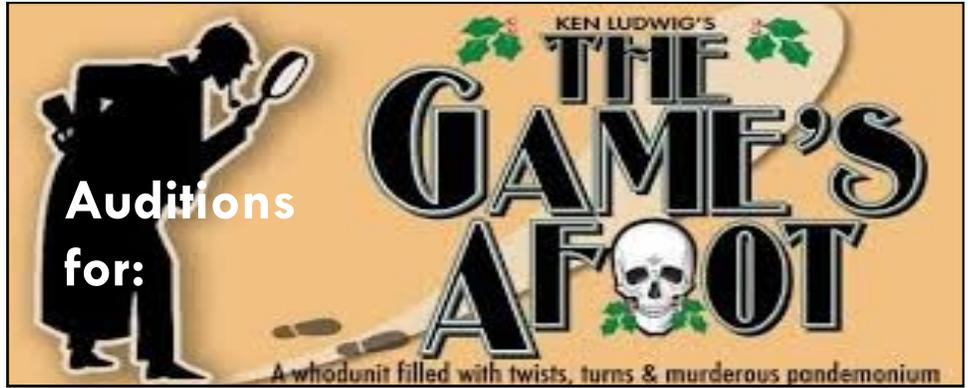
lady becomes the focus of a bet between Higgins and Pickering; Mrs. Higgins, Henry's long-suffering mother; Mrs. Eynsford-Hill, Freddy's mother and friend of Mrs. Higgins; and Mrs. Pearce, Higgins's dutiful yet watchful housekeeper. *My Fair Lady* also calls for a large company of as many as eight men and eight women to act as secondary characters and ensemble. Cast members will have an opportunity to share their singing and dancing talents in ensemble pieces such as "Little Bit O' Luck" sung by the Cockney Quartet and large group numbers like my personal favorite, the "Ascot Gavotte". The RCCT Board of Directors is excited to be coordinating with (story continued on page 3)



## Loverly (cont'd from p. 2)

historic garment makers, Recollections of Hawks, MI to create costumes for the Edwardian romance. The extra element of style that professionally tailored costumes will bring to this 1912 period piece is exciting! *My Fair Lady* promises to be another lovely RCCT production!

For more information on how to get involved with RCCT's production of *My Fair Lady*, contact James DeDecker at (989) 225-3221 or [dedecj24@gmail.com](mailto:dedecj24@gmail.com), Donna Klein at (989) 306-3951 or [klein.donna.j@gmail.com](mailto:klein.donna.j@gmail.com). Information is also available on the web at <http://rccttheatre.org>.



Rogers City Community Theatre is excited to announce open auditions for the hilarious comedy *The Game's Afoot (or Holmes for the Holiday)* to be directed by Karl W. Heidemann. Four men and four women are needed for this Sherlock Holmes comedy mystery written by Ken Ludwig, the prolific playwright who wrote *Lend Me A Tenor* and other farces. Auditions are open to everyone age 17 or over, and will be held at the Rogers City Theater on Tuesday and Wednesday, November 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Rehearsals will be on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings and Saturday afternoons from November 12<sup>th</sup> thru January 28<sup>th</sup> with generous times off for the holidays. Heidemann says "Just come, read from the script and have fun."

## Order Your Tickets Today

**Ticket Order Form** (Fill out, clip and mail to address below. Tickets will be held for pick up at Box Office)

Please reserve for pick-up the number and type of tickets indicated below:

Number:	Amount:
_____ Season Ticket, one ticket for each of four shows, \$35	_____
_____ Six Pack punch card; mix and match any six admissions for \$50	_____
_____ General Admission to <i>Leaving Iowa</i> @ \$12 each	_____
_____ Senior Admission to <i>Leaving Iowa</i> @ \$10 each	_____
_____ Student Admission to <i>Leaving Iowa</i> @ \$6 each	_____
_____ List me as a footlight sponsor @ \$25 this show	_____
_____ List me as a spotlight sponsor @ \$50 this show	_____
Total:	_____

Information for program listing or ticket pick-up::

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to : Rogers City Community Theatre

Mail completed form to: 257 North Third Street  
Rogers City, MI 49779



### Are You an Angel?

The Rogers City Community Theatre has the lowest live theater ticket price in Northeast Michigan, making donations an important part of our budget. Therefore, the RCCT Board has decided to expand levels of Program Sponsorship to include the following new categories for donations:

- \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 Donor
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$250 Patron
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$500 Angel

All Program Sponsors will be recognized under the appropriate category heading in all 2015 or 2016 show programs. Thanks for your continuing support!

*We have the lowest ticket price in NE Michigan. Help keep it that way with your donations.*

## Rogers City Community Theatre

257 North Third Street  
Rogers City MI 49779



Find us on the web:  
<http://rcctheatre.org>

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### About Our Theatre



#### ROGERS CITY COMMUNITY THEATRE

257 North Third Street  
Rogers City, MI 49779

Theatre Office Phone: (989) 734-7368  
Movie & Show Hotline: (989) 734-3861  
Web: <http://rcctheatre.org>  
Join our group on Facebook!

Newsletter Editor:  
Mary Ann Heidemann



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*See you at the show!*

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The Rogers Theatre was constructed in 1937 as a classic, single screen small town movie palace in the Art Deco style. After a fire in 1947, the theatre was rebuilt and expanded. Serving as a downtown landmark for decades, the theatre was purchased in 2003 by Karl W. Heidemann. The new owner added a stage, theatrical lighting and utility improvements. In 2004, live productions began alternating with first run movies, in a revitalized auditorium. In the summer of 2009, exterior restoration brought back the black and orange tile work of the original theatre façade.

Once the stage was available, an informal group of local theatre fanatics emerged that now constitutes the Rogers City Community Theatre (RCCT). In 2006, a youth summer theatre program began as well. Community cast members have ranged in age from 6 to 94. New theatre volunteers are always welcome, both on stage and behind the scenes.

In 2009, the RCCT incorporated as a Michigan non-profit organization and received IRS approval for federal non-profit status. Contributions are appreciated, and are tax deductible as allowed by law.

During the fall of 2013, a community-based fundraising drive provided support for installation of new theatre seating, sound system improvements, a digital 3-D projector and a new highly reflective screen, putting our theater at the cutting edge of stage and movie technology. All the more reason to come enjoy the show!