

Keeping with The Uwharrie Players

March 2024

THE WORST KIDS OF ALL FIND MISS NELSON

Last year, Wanda Patronski was missing (*The Hundred Dresses*); this year it was Miss Nelson!! No worries though... the wild kids of Room 207 learned to show respect, obedience, and kindness until their beloved teacher returned. The UP's second annual Theatre for Young Audiences (TYA) show was a huge success this February, as over 500 audience members attended the general admission shows. Laughing and clapping along in those audiences were 156 children (aged 13 and under) who received free entry thanks to grant funding from the Stanly County Community Foundation. In collaboration with the Stanly County Arts Council's Cultural Education Program 1,417 SCS first and second -graders received Classroom Connection packets and enjoyed the show during a field trip, seen here.



LET'S CELEBRATE!!

Congratulations to our own Lisa Ewers, UP Board Chair, for being recognized as Stanly County's 2023 Arts Person of the Year. Lisa is a long-time member of The Uwharrie Players and since retiring has dedicated her time to ensuring the arts thrive in our community. In addition to her work within our organization, she also holds leadership roles in the Stanly County Concert Band and Stanly County Choral, and is well-deserving of this award. "Thank you, Lisa! We're so proud of you!"

Lisa will be recognized at the Stanly County Celebration of the Arts, hosted by the Stanly County Arts Council on Saturday, March 23 at 12pm at the Agri-Civic Center.

The free event will last from 9am-2pm. The Players will have booth set up with discounted tickets for *Southern Fried Nuptials*, so come say HI!



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NUTTY NUPTIALS IN OUR MIDST

The UP is deep (fried) in rehearsals for our latest comedy: *Southern Fried Nuptials*. Harlene Frye is going to marry her childhood sweetheart this weekend . . . assuming the typical Frye family hijinks don't derail the wedding! Harlene and Attie's future together is threatened when the bride-to-be's awful ex-flame shows up with info she doesn't want her fiancé finding out. And Harlene's not the only Frye keeping secrets: Sammy Jo refuses to tell her family she's moving even though all her bags are already packed. As if that isn't enough, Dewey can't figure out why people keep on asking him to give his sister away and busybody Ozella Meeks has somehow ended up as the wedding coordinator. Will the Fries be able to get Harlene down the aisle in one piece? Find out in this big-hearted comedy about family—Southern-style.



TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

IT TAKES A VILLAGE...

If you're looking for ways to get involved and help out with our latest production, The UP is having a set load-in day for *Southern Fried Nuptials* on **Monday, March 25** at the Albemarle Neighborhood Theatre. Any able-bodied volunteers who are available, particularly during the morning hours, should reach out to Production Manager, Bradley Eudy, at info@theuwharrieplays.org.

Anyone interested in working a Front of House position for the show can sign up below. Positions include ushering, box office, and concession. Volunteers will need to plan on attending the training the Thursday before opening

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084CA5A822A1F5C16-48415039-southern#/>



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UP SWAG

That's right... what better way to show your support throughout the community than some official spirit wear!!? Don't worry, next year's 50th anniversary will bring it's own collection of commemorative swag. This shirt is comfy and will be great for ushers and working front-of-house or general everyday use.

It is a Heather Charcoal Gildan Soft-style tshirt with The Uwharrie Players logo and "Est. 1975" on the front left pocket area.

You can order your shirts from the link:
<https://www.customink.com/fundraising/up-logo-wear>

You can choose to have your shirt mailed directly to you in late April or picked up at the next membership meeting.



CONGRATS TO THE 2023 SEASON AWARD WINNERS!

Favorite Show - Honky Tonk Angels directed by Ashlyn Keller-Silver; **Best Actor** - Christian Payne as Billy Cane in Bright Star; **Best Actress** - Madeline Medlin as Margo Crawford in Bright Star & Darlene in Honky Tonk Angels; **Best Supporting Actor** - Gary Moran as Daddy Cane in Bright Star; **Best Supporting Actress** - Darby Shaw as Lucy Grant in Bright Star; **Favorite Character (Ensemble) Actor** - Judson Busch as Stanford/Stationmaster/Storyteller in Bright Star; **Favorite Character (Ensemble) Actress** - Marnie Stoker as Millie Bromsley in Down to Earth & Nancy Cottingham as Dr.

Norquist/Storyteller in Bright Star (Tie); **Favorite Male Comic Performance** - Todd Basinger as Pilone in Down to Earth & Zac Baker as Daryl Ames in Bright Star (Tie); **Favorite Female Comic Performance** - Suzanne Holshouser as Sue Ellen in Honky Tonk Angels; **Favorite Newcomer** - Robin Rogers; **People's Choice Awards** - Teresa Crump as Miss Mason in The Hundred Dresses, Herchelle Smith as Diana Clump in Down to Earth, Taylor Parker as Alice Murphy in Bright Star, Suzanne Holshouser as Sue Ellen in Honky Tonk Angels; **Sam Holshouser Award** - Kent Harkey & Edna Lipe-Harkey; **Joan Giglio Award** - Christian Payne



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'PLAY SELECTION' WANTS TO KNOW:

As we head toward our 50th ANNIVERSARY SEASON, the Play Selection Committee is considering producing one or more "past favorites" from previous seasons. We are also working on a revue of songs from past musicals as an "extra" production.

Please look through the lists of musicals and plays that UP has produced over the years, and let us know which ones you might want to see again next season!

Thank you for your help.

<http://www.surveymshare.com/s/AYA64ZD>

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING:

**MAY 7 AT 6:30PM
AT THE UP CLUBHOUSE**

A SPECIAL CALLED MEMBERSHIP MEETING WILL BE HELD ON APRIL 21 AT 3PM TO REVIEW POINTS BEING VOTED ON AT THE MAY MEETING.

UP CLUBHOUSE IS LOCATED AT
546 E. MAIN ST.
IN ALBEMARLE

MORE GREAT LOCAL THEATRE!

Stanly County's youth theatre, The Talent Company, presents their latest production - INTO THE WOODS - runs this weekend, March 22 through March 24! Get you tickets to this fabulous show at <http://thetalentcompany.org/>



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A NEW MUSICAL COMEDY

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