Former Managing Director Jim Carver Returns to Direct ‘Sister Act’!

It’s been nine years since Jim Carver last shared his directing talents with the Civic in our 2008 production of The Foursome. Jim, the Civic’s retired Managing Director, returns to the Civic to direct our closing musical Sister Act, an uplifting and joyful musical sure to have audiences ready to dance along with a chorus of nuns!

Jim spent 38 years with the Civic and in 1974 was named Managing Director. Under his guidance the Civic grew to be one of the largest community theatres in the country, presenting twenty-two productions a year with a staff of seventeen and over eight hundred volunteers. Jim has directed hundreds of plays and acted in almost that many roles. He has also developed an international reputation as a director, with two of his Civic productions (Fools and Dancing at Lughnasa) being chosen in national competition to represent the United States in international festivals, including the prestigious World Amateur Theatre Festival in Monaco.

For those not familiar with the Sister Act story - when Deloris Van Cartier witnesses a murder, she is put into protective custody in a struggling church and convent. Disguised as a nun, she finds herself at odds with both the rigid lifestyle and an uptight Mother Superior. Using her disco moves to inspire the choir, Deloris breathes new life into the church, but in doing so blows her cover!

When Jim was asked what makes Sister Act different from the countless other musicals he has directed, he answered in one word - “Energy!” He added that there is an extremely high energy level required for this show from the entire cast, and there are very few scenes where the audience (or cast!) will actually be able to catch their breath! Jim always enters any production with two intentions - to produce a piece of art on the stage, and to make sure everyone has a great time doing it. There are many new volunteers making their Civic debuts in Sister Act, and Jim welcomes the opportunity to

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Teach acting and work with everyone, from the newcomer to the stage veteran, to improve their craft. Getting a show rehearsed and ready to open is always an “amazing process” and Jim wants all involved to enjoy their time spent in the theatre.

Now retired and living in Colorado, Jim is in demand as a director, with three more projects lined up for 2017. A proud father, Jim is thrilled that his son, Stephen Carver was named Executive Director for the Kalamazoo Civic Theatre a year ago. Jim went on to say, “Kalamazoo audiences don’t know this yet, but Steve is a terrific director. He’s a better director than I am!”

At the first rehearsal of Sister Act, Jim Carver posed the question to the cast, “What do you think Sister Act is about?” And everyone in the room promptly answered “Love!” We think audiences are going to love this Sister Act!

For tickets visit www.KazooCivic.com or call the Box Office at 269-343-1313.

Additional audition information will be posted on the website as soon as it becomes available.

To register visit KazooCivic.com or call 269-343-2280 x1013.
THE SHAKESPEARE OUTSIDE PROGRAM

is a program for youth ages 13-19 to produce, rehearse and perform a 60 minute version of a Shakespeare play in parks within the greater Kalamazoo area with a focus on the city parks of Kalamazoo that may not have programming in the summer.

AUDITION DATES
Sunday, June 11th at 4:00pm
Monday, June 12th at 4:00pm

REQUIREMENTS
For Youth ages 13-19 (Including high school graduates!)
No need to prepare anything—we will provide everything you need.

FREE AUDITION PREP
INSIDE THE CIVIC AUDITION WORKSHOP
Saturday, June 3rd (10:00am-Noon)
At The Carver Center

REHEARSAL DATES
Monday-Friday, June 19-July 7 (9:00am-11:00am)
TECH/OUTDOOR REHEARSAL DATES
Monday & Tuesday, July 10-11 (9:00am-Noon)

TENTATIVE PERFORMANCES
(Parks & times are subject to change.)
LaCrone Park Performance . . . . Wednesday, July 12th at 11:00am
Upjohn Park Performance . . . . Thursday, July 13th at 2:00pm
Bronson Park Performance . . . . Friday, July 14th at 2:00pm
Frays Park Performances . . . . . . . Saturday, July 15th at 11:00am
Saturday, July 15th at 1:00pm
Hays Park Performances . . . . . . . Sunday, July 16th at 2:00pm

We have classes for all ages starting from 3 all the way to adults. Acting, technical theatre, singing…you name it, we have it! The Academy can provide youth a creative outlet whether they have dreams of working in theatre or are hoping to become a medical professional someday and need to learn to develop empathy. Adults can come together in our tap class to get exercise and learn a new skill! No matter what your reason for seeking out arts education, you will gain self-confidence and find your unique voice in the world!

Easy Online Registration! Enroll today at KazooCivic.com
If you experience any difficulty enrolling online, please contact Nicki Poer, Director of Education & Outreach
at 269-343-2280 or email Education@KazooCivic.com

Registration is easy! Enroll online today at www.KazooCivic.com or call 269-343-2280.
Wrapping Up Another Great Season of Theatre!

Our 88th season is coming to a close with our May production of Sister Act in the Auditorium, and our Civic Youth Theatre production of The Borrowers in the Parish Theatre.

And while this season is coming to a close, we are excitedly planning our dazzling 89th season! We have had an awesome time this year, and as I have mentioned before, we have a bigger, bolder season in store for you. This may be the year you definitely want to renew or if you haven’t subscribed in the past, consider a season subscription! Our subscriptions are flexible and let you reserve your tickets to any show in the season at any time! Plus, a subscription means your admissions are up to 40% off regular ticket prices AND subscribers will receive FREE admissions to our new Carver Center Studio Series.

Check your mailbox the first week of May for your season brochure that has full details of all of our productions as well as a handy pull out calendar with all performance dates, audition dates and more! Season subscriptions are now on sale and if you would like more information about next season’s line-up or how easy it is to become a subscriber please visit our website at KazooCivic.com or give the box office a call at 343-1313.

And finally, another reminder that as we close out our 88th Season, we would love for you to join us at our popular Volunteer Celebration on Saturday, June 3 at 7:00pm. We will celebrate this season’s successes, honor our volunteers and staff and take a look ahead to a bigger, bolder #89!

Thank you for your interest, your patronage and your enthusiasm for the Civic.

Stephen Carver
Executive Director
It’s a Wrap on our 88th Season and now YOU could own a piece of it!

During the run of Sister Act - we will be holding a silent auction of items from productions this season as well as a walk-on role for one night in The New Mel Brooks Musical Young Frankenstein next fall!

SILENT AUCTION ITEMS THAT WILL BE ON DISPLAY FOR BIDDING:

**Oklahoma!**
- Throw pillows made from curtains / costumes

**A Christmas Story, The Musical**
- One leg lamp
- Randy’s giant snow suit
- The family car

**Side Show**
- “Siamese Twins” show poster

**Sylvia**
- Sylvia’s Dog Collar

**Disney’s Beauty and the Beast JR.**
- Original stained glass piece of art featuring the Beast by local artist David Noyes

**Sister Act**
- Signed show poster

**The New Mel Brooks Musical Young Frankenstein**
- A walk-on role for one night during the run of the production!

The highest bidder will be notified after the final weekend of Sister Act on Tuesday, May 29.* Winners will be contacted by phone and email. They will have one week to contact the Civic with payment.

*In the event of a tie for highest bid, the auction winner will be chosen by random drawing.

Wishing a Very Fond Farewell After 23 Years of Service!

Congratulations to our Box Office Manager Lyn Albert on her upcoming retirement! Lyn joined the box office staff in 1994 and has spent the last 20 years as our Box Office Manager.

Lyn’s dedication and service to the Civic will be greatly missed by staff and patrons alike!

Merceantile Bank’s Giving Together program was a way for Mercantile to give back to the communities they serve. The Kalamazoo Civic Theatre won third place in the online contest which featured nonprofit finalists from all over the state. The money will be designated for the new ‘Shakespeare Outside’ program coming to a park near you this summer!

THANK YOU!

SAVE THE DATE

2016-2017 Volunteer Celebration will be held on SATURDAY, June 3rd, 2017

MUSICAL NUMBERS • AWARDS • FRIENDS • FOOD & FUN

This event is free to everyone and begins at 7:00pm in the Civic Auditorium with a reception and dancing immediately following in the Carver Center Studio and the Muzzi Dance Studio.

ADVANCE REGISTRATION IS REQUESTED

To RSVP email Volunteer@Kazoocivic.com or call 269.343.2280 x1013.

Box Office CLOSED July 1 - July 16

Academy of Theatre Arts SUMMER SESSION BEGINS July 10

Academy of Theatre Arts CAMP FINANCIAL AID DEADLINE July 21 at 5:00pm

2017-2018 Subscription REDEMPTION BEGINS August 1 at 10:00am

Inside the Civic FREE AUDITION WORKSHOPS August 12
PERFORMANCE DATES:

- Friday, May 19th: 7:30pm
- Saturday, May 20th: 1:00pm
- Saturday, May 20th: 4:00pm
- Sunday, May 21st: 2:00pm
- Wednesday, May 24th: 9:30am
- Wednesday, May 24th: Noon
- Thursday, May 25th: 9:30am
- Thursday, May 25th: Noon
- Friday, May 26th: 7:30pm
- Saturday, May 27th: 1:00pm
- Saturday, May 27th: 4:00pm

[ASL Interpreted performance]

Under the floor boards, as cozy as you please, Arriety Clock and her parents, Homily and Pod, live a quiet little life. They just borrow whatever they may need, like a teacup from the dollhouse that is just the right size for them. Arriety, a typical teen yearning to experience the grown-up world, longs to go upstairs, helping her father with the borrowing, but after what happened to her cousin Eggletina (an incident with a cat that no one speaks of) it is forbidden.

By Mary Norton
Adapted for the stage by Charles Way

May 19 – May 27

THE PARISH THEATRE • CIVIC YOUTH THEATRE PLAY