



For Immediate Release
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The Civic is ready to go ‘Under the Sea’ for the holidays! And bring two old friends back together in the process!

Look who is splashing onto the Civic stage just in time for the holidays! Disney's *The Little Mermaid* will take the stage on November 17 and the production has already been extended through December 8th. Twenty seven years after the release of Disney's animated film, this love story continues to capture the hearts of young and old alike.

Continuing the Civic tradition of family friendly musicals for the holiday season, Disney's *The Little Mermaid* is a big musical with eye-popping numbers and an award-winning score which includes irresistible calypso tunes and soaring ballads.

Executive Director Stephen Carver will be making his directorial debut as a Civic staff member. Carver last directed Civic productions of *Other People's Money* in 1992 and *Squabbles* in 1996. Disney's *The Little Mermaid* boasts a large cast of 34 volunteers with a huge backstage crew of over 20 volunteers. Backstage volunteers include the floor/fly crew, dressers, spotlight operators, floor managers, spot light operators, play back operator, light board operator, and, unique to this crew is a Human Fly Crew, who will be trained by Flying by Foy, to create the special flying effects. Flying by Foy last worked with the Civic on *Mary Poppins*.

Elizabeth Stone, who played Eliza Doolittle in our recent production of *My Fair Lady* will bring the mermaid Ariel to life, and Josh Peduto who made his Civic debut in last season's *Side Show* will play the human Prince Eric.

Local television host and Carver's Portage Northern High School classmate Lori Moore is also a part of the cast. Moore is thrilled to be playing the villainess Ursula. Carver and Moore last worked together in the late 1970's in a 9th Street Players Production of *Pippin*. Carver *claims* he is younger than Moore, and that he learned a lot about comedy through watching her perform humorous interpretation in competitive Forensics. He is thrilled to be working with her again and states, "Lori is a tremendous talent, and if I know her, she probably has this whole Ursula character figured out. She's gonna be great!"

And what is Lori Moore most looking forward to about this production? "The seething rage, the tentacles and getting to be a Disney villain! And the fact that little kids at the grocery store will say, 'Mommy, that lady looks like Ursula!'" But another huge reason Moore is excited about appearing in Disney's *The Little Mermaid*? The iconic animated film was her daughter's favorite as a child, and she will love doing it for her daughter, even though she is now an adult.

We recently asked Moore who was going to love to hate Ursula more, little boys or little girls. Moore quickly replied, "Oh, I don't think little girls are going to like Ursula messing with their mermaid AT ALL!"

Make plans now to join the fun as the Civic ushers in the holiday season with Disney's *The Little Mermaid*! Ticket prices range from \$15 - \$25 and can be ordered through the Civic Box Office at 269-343-1313 or online at KazooCivic.com.