

By KANE COUNTY CHRONICLE

Noble Fool to change name to Fox Valley Repertory

Noble Fool Theatricals in St. Charles recently announced a new direction for its nonprofit organization. Beginning the calendar-year season in January 2011, Noble Fool Theatricals will become Fox Valley Repertory – a name that represents the community the theater group has grown its mission, vision, patron base and academy students around.

"I assure you that you can still count on outstanding productions because we are not a new organization," Artistic Director John Gawlik said in a recent news release. "Our staff is the same dedicated team. But after several years of growth, we simply wanted our name to represent the strong bond we have created with our patrons and community. We know this will help our patrons connect with our stories and begin referencing us as 'our theater' even more."

As the nonprofit theater company in residence at Pheasant Run Resort for the seventh year, "we are focused on creating an engaging theater experience by producing shows that inspire our community to laugh, reflect and reconnect to moments in one's life," Gawlik added in the release.

A major portion of its commitment is to arts education. With an extensive offering of academy programs, the group hopes to continue to inspire youth to explore their own lives through the performing arts.

Fox Valley Repertory's expanding vision will include a planned three-week "Summer Arts Festival" to be held each summer starting in 2011. The festival will aim to give local artists and fellow arts organizations the opportunity to perform in several different venues in St. Charles. This will also include the area's first "New Works Project," where a nationwide search will take place to premier staged readings.

Fox Valley Repertory's 2011 Subscription Series

"To celebrate our new vision and name, we are offering the best subscription rates and benefits in the area," Gawlik said. "Our four-show packages are heavily discounted at \$65 and \$80 per person. We're hoping the Fox Valley area will join us with this great introductory price. Our number of subscribers has grown tremendously in the last two years, and we hope this continues."

- "Leaving Iowa": A comedy about family vacations. Show will run at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and at 2 p.m. Sundays, Jan. 20-March 13.
- "Always, Patsy Cline": A musical tribute to the late country singer. Show will run at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and at 2 p.m. Sundays, March 24 and 31, April 7 and 21 and May 12.
- "Around the World in 80 Days": A classic adventure comedy. Show will run at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and at 2 p.m. Sundays June 9-July 31. Show will also run at 8 p.m. June 9 and 16. Also, the July 16 show will be at 4 p.m., and the July 15 and 29 shows will be at 7:30 p.m.
- "They're Playing Our Song": A Broadway comedy musical. Show will run at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays Aug. 18-Oct. 9. Show will also run at 2 p.m. Aug. 18 and 25, Sept. 1, 15 and Oct. 6.

Fox Valley Repertory's Summer Arts Festival

Fox Valley Repertory will host the inaugural Summer Arts Festival, which will showcase theater and the visual arts at Pheasant Run Resort and throughout the city of St. Charles. Details are still in the works, but these FVR performances are set. More information will be available at www.foxvalleyartsfestival.org.

- "Around the World in 80 Days": A classic adventure comedy July 15-31.
- "Bad Dates": A woman's quest for love and the perfect pair of shoes. Show will run July 7-Aug. 7.

Collider 2011: New play project

Collider 2011 is a new play program partnering local scientists and Fox Valley Repertory in developing new works that help people better understand the universe and people, while illuminating and celebrating the worlds of art, science and technology.

Other Fox Valley Repertory Productions

- “The Woman in Black”: A scary tale. Show will run at 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, and 2 p.m. Sundays, Oct. 14-30. It will also show at 2 p.m. Oct. 27.
- “It’s A Wonderful Life”: A live radio play. Show will run at 8 p.m. Thursdays and Friday, 4:30 and 8 p.m. Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays, Nov. 10-Dec. 24, with select 8 p.m. Wednesday performances, also.

Pheasant Run Resort is located at 4051 E. Main St. in St. Charles. Season subscriptions start at \$65 for show-only tickets (discounted dinner-show subscriptions also available) and are currently available by calling call the box office at 630-584-6342. Full-priced single tickets for each production will go on sale at a later date. Additional information on the 2011 season and Noble Fool Theatricals soon-to-be Fox Valley Repertory are available at www.noblefool.org or www.foxvalleyrep.org.

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