

Gotta Sing! Gotta Dance! - Mask & Mirror Community Theatre Announces the 1st Tualatin Community Musical: "Singin' in the Rain"

SUBMITTED BY: GARY ROMANS

Mask & Mirror Community Theatre will be bringing song and dance to the City of Tualatin this summer by presenting the 1st Tualatin Community Musical: "Singin' in the Rain" in the Auditorium at Tualatin High School. The musical is adapted from the hit MGM movie by the original writers and includes all the favorite songs and characters. The cast of over 25 local singers and dancers will be augmented by a corps of children dancers – "The Raindrops" – who will entertain before the show and during intermission.



Mask & Mirror has been staging comedies and dramas on their rented stage at Calvin Church in Tigard for the past 4 years and has been looking for the opportunity to use the musical talents of their membership in a fully staged musical. The theatre group has close ties to Tualatin, holding Play Readings at the Tualatin Library; managing the Crawdad Stage entertainment at the Crawfish Festival; and holding concerts and performances at the Tualatin Heritage Center – so when the opportunity came to rent the Tualatin High School facility, they decided the time was right to take the plunge.

"Singin' in the Rain" will be directed by Sandy Libonati, who says, "I fell in love with the magic of Musical Theatre in High School, and discovered my love for directing nine years ago. Since then, I have directed many middle school and community theatre musicals - including two originals I helped create along with my husband, his brother and dad." She has been a Charter Member of Mask & Mirror since their first meeting and now serves as their

current President.

Sandy will be assisted by Linda Talluto as Producer. Linda acted in college and community theatre for 10 years in California, before moving to Oregon, where she taught drama for 18 years and directed plays and musicals for 31 years at Twality Middle School. She is currently on the Mask & Mirror Executive Board, and directed "The Curious Savage" for Mask & Mirror this spring.

"We are a true non-profit COMMUNITY theatre," says Mask & Mirror Founder and Past President Gary Romans, who insists on the bold type and underline for COMMUNITY! "No one

ever takes any salary or stipend for work with Mask & Mirror. All actors, crew, musicians and administrators who are involved in our productions are volunteers dedicated to providing high quality, low cost entertainment for the community."

Mask & Mirror also believes in sharing their success and giving back to their community. Any profits over and above the production costs for "Singin' in the Rain" will be split 50/50 with The Foundation for Tigard Tualatin Schools. Ticket prices will be kept low and affordable (\$15 or less), but all ticket purchasers will be encouraged to "add a little extra for the theatre and the schools." Both Mask & Mirror and The Foundation are 501(c)3 tax-deductible non-profits.

Margie Greene, Executive Director of The Foundation for Tigard Tualatin Schools says, "We are excited about our partnership with Mask & Mirror. The Foundation is a

big supporter of the arts, and fully embraces the impact it has on education. The arts are important, and we need to keep them as robust as possible in our schools, and in our community. We appreciate Mask & Mirrors bringing this classical musical to life in Tualatin."

There will be 6 performances of "Singin' in the Rain" on August 14,15,21,22 at 7:30pm with matinees on August 16 and 23 at 2pm. Tickets will be available starting in late May with information available on www.MaskandMirror.com.

All actors, singers and dancers in "Singin' in the Rain" will be volunteers from the local community. Auditions are being held on May 19, 20 and 21 at Tualatin High School. Appointments are necessary and all information, including application forms and description of requirements and roles in the production, is available on www.MaskandMirror.com/auditions.

Mask & Mirror Community Theatre is always looking for new participants. In addition to the singers and dancers on stage it will take a massive number of community volunteers backstage and offstage to make "Singin' in the Rain" a success. Libonati says, "This is a perfect chance for residents of Tualatin to get involved with a great organization and participate in the first of what we hope will be a continuing series of Tualatin Community Musicals. Mask & Mirror Community Theatre is a wonderful activity. You can meet some talented and entertaining people, and help out your community and schools at the same time!" If you are interested



The 2014-2015 Mask & Mirror Executive Board: (l to r) Pat Romans; Sandy Libonati; Gary Romans; Sue Hjort; Sarah Ominski; Linda Talluto; Vicki Giampietro; Cindy Green; John Bartholomew. Photo by Al Stewart, Tualatin.

in volunteering please contact Gary Romans at Info@MaskandMirror.com.

Mask & Mirror Community Theatre is now in its 4th season of presenting high quality and affordable (no tickets are more than \$15) live theatre to the citizens of Tigard and Tualatin – using all-volunteer actors, stage crew and administrators.

Participation and membership is open to all. We welcome experienced performers and theatre "wannabes" – we'll train you!



Gary Romans at info@maskandmirror.com. Mask & Mirror Community Theatre is a 501(c)3 non-profit performing company. We are starting a donation drive to fund the full-time rental of a theatre space in Tigard or Tualatin and (tax deductible) donations would be gratefully appreciated. Additional information can be obtained by visiting www.MaskAndMirror.com or contact