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MADogram

March 2018

Tickets Now on Sale for MAD's Spring Musical – Weird Romance!

From the composer of “Beauty and the Beast,” “Aladdin,” and “Little Shop of Horrors” comes MAD’s spring musical, “Weird Romance”! The musical is composed of two one-act stories set in the near future, where speculative science fiction is used to explore what drives the emotion of love. “Weird Romance” is playing May 4–19 at Goddard’s Barney & Bea Recreation Center. Tickets are on sale now at madtheater.org. See the attached flyer and the website for more information.

Cast list:

Cathy Barth – Nola
Sara Collins – Delphi, Carol
Betsy Edwards – ensemble
Mary Estacion – P. Burke
Katrina Jackson – Zanth, ensemble
Steve Leete – Johnny Beaumont
Eliot Malumuth – Ruskin, ensemble
Penny Martin – Susan, ensemble
Don Mitchell – Isham, Chuck
Sean Morton – Paul, Daniel
Shawn Perry – Joe, Kevin
Melanie Pino-Elliott – Shannara, Leslie, ensemble
Hope Shapiro – P. Burke, Rebecca, ensemble

Call for MAD Fall Show Director

MAD is seeking director/show package submissions for its 2018 Fall Show. Director candidates may submit any number of shows, with a suggested maximum of five shows. Each show submission will be treated as a separate submission, so each show package may include different proposed artistic and production staff, if desired. Please remember that the fall show is designed to be a large cast musical with a variety of opportunities in acting, music, and dance for a variety of MAD members. With the recent changes in the MAD bylaws, the

production council will be able to decide the number and schedule of performances as well as single casting vs. double casting for any or all parts, not the MAD board.

Your submission for each show should include the show name, any specifics about which version you would like to direct (if there is more than one version); the director's name and resume; any proposed staff for the show, including producer, choreographer, music and/or vocal director, technical director, and any other identified staff; and a brief description of your vision for the show. The description should be 2–4 paragraphs and describe how you would make this show work for the MAD membership and audience. Examples of things to include are: a brief synopsis, show demographics, types of dance, flexibility in casting, general ideas on the set or technical issues, dealing with dated material, or other approaches which you think may be important to the show selection process.

Please submit your packages and/or questions to Eliot Malumuth eliot.m.malumuth@nasa.gov by March 31, 2018.

MAD Spring Show Work Parties: Help Needed

Hello, this is your friendly neighborhood tech coordinator letting everyone know that we are planning a work party for April 7th and/or 14th. We are still finalizing the work to be done, but it will most likely involve some light carpentry, painting, sewing, etc. to build out the stage and props. Another email will be sent out with final details of the date and time along with the necessary work, but I just wanted to give everyone a heads up to ensure the dates are on people's minds. Of course, if you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me. See you all soon!

— Michael Silber

President's Update to the Status of MAD's Storage on Center

I am writing to update the membership regarding our situation with on-Center storage. MAD has operated on-site at GSFC for 48 years, and we historically have used accessible storage facilities that were government-owned trailers. In July 2017, these were demolished, and MAD lost approximately 2,500 square feet of space (a loss of about 70% of our total storage). I know that many of you helped last summer to empty out our lights, costume, and furniture trailers and your work was greatly appreciated. You can see the empty land here where they were once located (left panel, below). Most of our costumes, small props and some furniture are now packed pretty tightly into a storage pod at the Rec Center (right panel, below). MAD is paying \$255 a month for its rental.



We still possess our shed (“outhouse”) and lean-to near the Rec Center, but they are pretty much maxed out in terms of what can be stored there. To replace a fraction of the *lost* storage space, GEWA has offered MAD the use of B92, room 120 at the Rec Center, which contains 479 square feet of space. We currently store our lighting equipment there and the room will need to be reconfigured to use it for costumes and such. However, this will not be enough to store the rest of our property safely with visual access to costumes and props, and so MAD will require another 400 to 500 square feet of space (at a minimum) in order to be able to continue to operate safely.

At this point, our storage situation is critical. We cannot easily access things in the pod and it’s actually not very safe. For now, we will not be able to easily honor requests to borrow costumes or props in the pod. This is a change from decades where we have happily offered our assets in support of other functions on Center and to support other activities of our members, but it is necessary until we find a way forward. If you or someone you know wishes to borrow items, please be aware that it is your responsibility to gain access to the pod and to locate and retrieve the items in question. I personally discourage it unless you can find someone with experience operating within the pod to help you.

It has been seven months since July 2017 with no clear path forward. The MAD Board is working several options to obtain an additional 400 to 500 square feet of space. We are considering either building our own shed or constructing a pre-fab on Center, and we’re looking for folks able to steer this project. If you can help with planning and/or have the skill set to help the MAD Board make solid decisions about what type of shed we need, please contact me at Kimberly.A.Weaver@nasa.gov. We built a lovely and sturdy roof on our outhouse shed a couple of years ago and I know that we have folks who can help make this happen. If you have a “handyman” or “handywoman” skill set and even a little bit of time, The MAD Board needs you now more than ever to help steer the club through this crisis.

–Kim

MAD Board Meeting

The next MAD Board meeting will be held on Thursday, April 19th, at 5:30 PM in Building 3, Room 137. All club members are welcome to attend. We plan to hold our board meetings in 2018 regularly on the third Thursday of the month.

MAD About Town

Coming to Dundalk, Maryland (just East of Baltimore) sometime later this year (TBD): the independent film "All Square," featuring MAD's **David Murray Solomon** as "Snips." The movie is a comedy centered on a down-and-out bookie, and the 12-year-old baseball-playing son of a woman he knows from high school, and the bookie's dad who he is taking care of. Dave describes the movie as "a little league of their own, on a field of dreams." Dave appears in 5 or more scenes in this movie, and gets on-screen name credit at the end; he's listed second under "FEATURING," just below Sparkle the Dog played by CECE THE PUP. (You can't win against kids and puppies.) Dave saw the world premiere of this movie on March 10, 2018 at the SXSW (South By SouthWest) Film Festival, and stuffed the ballot box with his one ballot, helping the movie to win the festival's Audience Award in its Narrative Spotlight category. Wider distribution of the movie is being pursued by the movie's producers; for independent movies such as this one, it takes time for them to get wide availability. Meanwhile, you can see Dave for nearly a second at the 1:12-1:13 time stamp in this online trailer: <https://schedule.sxsw.com/2018/films/119595>; and he also appears in the video in this online Baltimore Sun article: <http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/maryland/bs-md-little-league-movie-20170625-story.html> between the 26 and 36 second marks and between the 52 and 56 second marks. He's also posting screen shots and many related promotional stories on Facebook. Dave will definitely provide updates on future showings of this movie, as they become available.

MAD Condolences

Marie Centa suffered a brain aneurism and passed away February 12. She was very active with MAD for many years before moving out of the area, appearing in *Joseph...*, *Applause*, *State Fair*, and many others. She played the Princess Puffer in *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*. She was also a part of many spring shows over the years. She was a warm and loving person and will certainly be missed.

 **MUSIC AND DRAMA CLUB**

PRESENTS ITS 2018 SPRING MUSICAL

From the composer who brought you Aladdin, Beauty and the Beast, and Little Shop of Horrors

WEIRD *Romance*

Music by Alan Menken Lyrics by David Spencer
Book by Alan Brennert

MAY 4-19 at the **NASA Goddard Recreation Center**

8pm Fridays and Saturdays, 2pm Sundays

Doors open 30 minutes before the show

10000 Good Luck Rd, Greenbelt MD

Tickets and information at

MADTHEATER.ORG

\$20 online, \$25 cash at the door

Save \$2 online for opening weekend and Mother's Day

Warning: some adult situations and language

Directed by Randy Barth
Music Direction by Bob Hanisch

Produced by Eliot Malumuth
Choreographed by Betsy Edwards



"Weird Romance" is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.