



**EDITOR'S CORNER**

Happy Summer!!!!!! Where has it gone? It is almost time to go back to school already. What a way to begin our 5<sup>th</sup> season, with a blockbuster of a hit, Nunsense II. Having been in Nunsense, the first-ever production of City Circle, it was a great thrill for me to be in Nunsense II. It was just an all-around, really good...fun-filled, nun-filled...show. We are still basking in the glow, creating great excitement and anticipation as we prepare for our next production, Rocky Horror. Our Play Selection Committee really found something for everyone in the season this year. Please continue reading for all the news from the Circle. I cannot end, however, without giving a big Thank you to Dorla and Judy, who took care of putting this edition together while I was rehearsing. Now sit back, put your feet up, and enjoy the newsletter. See you next time!

*Barbara Lee*

**AUDITIONS FOR THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW**

Auditions for our fall production of The Rocky Horror Show will be held on September 12th and 13th from 7 to 10 pm at New Song Church. The location is 912-20th Avenue in Coralville. Roles are available for seven men and three women of various ages. Because of the graphic content of the show, we must insist that those auditioning be at least age 18 or older.

No prepared song is required for the auditions, but they will contain elements of singing, movement, and cold readings. Most of the characters engage in sexually explicit behavior on stage and are attired in revealing costumes. So we're looking for actors who can appear confident and uninhibited under those pressures. Further questions may be addressed to the director, Chad Larabee, at 621-6548.

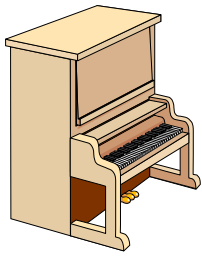
Much more detailed information, including character descriptions and requirements, is posted on our web site [www.citycircle.org](http://www.citycircle.org).



A big thanks to everyone who helped with the parade. It was another hot and sultry event and fortunately we were toward the front of the parade. We went through all of the candy, and were through the fliers about half way through the event. Plus, 36 bottles of water later we made it through most of that as well. A special thanks to Rod Mc Crea for helping with getting the cars and cleaning up afterwards, to Dorla Hill my navigator and candy tosser, to all of the Nuns for being dressed in black from head to toe in the heat, to Kit and her dog Joe who was a big hit with the kids, to Todd for roller blading and Tony for walking the whole route. To Jessica Stokes for helping out but especially to Michael Stokes who is in a cast from a spill on his roller blades and will be seeing the Ortho Clinic for a possible fracture near his elbow. Judy Carlson got the signs for the cars whipped together on short notice! Please be sure to give Pat Lind or Tor Nichlaus a thank you at Carousel Motors for the use of two convertibles.

*Parade Master, Jerry Howe*

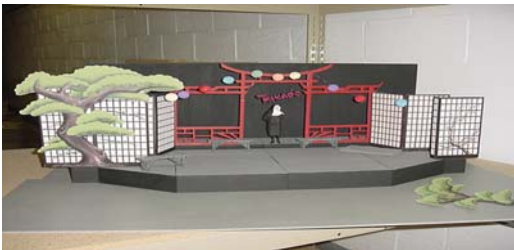




For the past five years, City Circle has not owned a keyboard of its own, in spite of having engaged in five major musical productions. In rehearsals, we've depended on church-owned pianos; and in performance at Oakdale, we've been blessed by J. Hall Keyboards providing us regularly with keyboards on loan.

Late this spring, we had an opportunity to purchase a slightly-used professional-quality keyboard, which is easily portable between the various rehearsal and performance locations. The keyboard itself was on sale for \$1,050, with additional costs of \$450 for a new stand and a case for storage and transportation.

An anonymous donor came forward in May with a cash donation of \$500, to be matched in equal parts by contributions from City Circle's budget and by contributions from our supporters. We are now engaged in the informal campaign to raise \$500 toward this purchase from you, our patrons and audience members. This remarkable keyboard made its debut in the July production of Nunsense II. *John Harper*



## CITY CIRCLE SPOTLIGHT

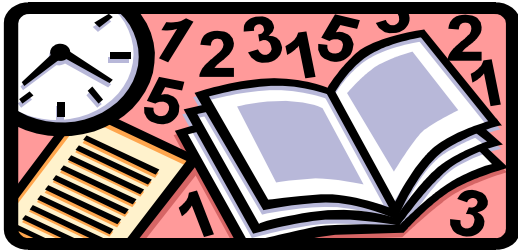
City Circle has just completed an extremely successful run of Nunsense II. It was a delightful return visit to the wacky world of the Little Sisters of Hoboken, the same world that five years ago initiated the very first season of the City Circle Acting Company of Coralville. We were delighted to have three of the original nuns return for a second tour of duty. They deserve another round of applause, as do the four new cast members and the numerous support persons who helped make the show "happen." Many thanks to all who comprised the Ensemble!

As the Assistant Director and Stage Manager for both Nunsense productions, the two shows have provided me a retrospective on how much City Circle has grown over the past five years. The auditions and rehearsals for the original Nunsense were held at the Community of Christ Church, the first of many City Circle productions using the space, in what has developed into a very special community partnership. Nunsense II was the beneficiary of new rehearsal and shop space made available to us through the supportive partnership developed with the City of Coralville.

For the first Nunsense we knew we'd be performing in the Oakdale Auditorium, but with many unknowns---how many sections of stage would be needed? How tall would they be? Who would build them? Where would they be stored after the show closed? How elaborate could the set be decorated? What would we do with the costumes after the show closed? How big an audience could we accommodate? Were there enough chairs? How would tickets be sold? Where would the Box Office be located? Where would dressing rooms be? Would we sell refreshments? How many lighting instruments would the electrical system support? Could we have both lights AND air conditioning? All these issues were successfully dealt with during that first show, and now are part of a comfortable, although people-intensive, routine. (We always need volunteers!!!) The maturity of the organization also is illustrated in the set design of the two shows, growing from the simple, but very effective, staging of the original Nunsense to the beauty and complexity of the set for Nunsense II.

Yes, we've come a very long way in five years!

*Penny Hall*



If you frequent City Circle Productions you will notice an ad in our programs for Akasha Design. This is a graphic design company owned and operated by Scott Miller. Early on in the life of City Circle it became evident that the design work for Playbills, Brochures etc. could make life easier for the new company and our few volunteers for this job could be out sourced to another provider.

Enter Scott Miller from Akasha design. I had known Scott for some time so a quick phone call and sales pitch from me had Scott on board. His knowledge of design, graphics and computer skills has made a job that had become difficult for us as simple as a few phone calls and e-mails to get the job done. It is the program that you receive at our performances that is the final result of his hard work and dedication. We are always pleased at the quality of his finished product.

Scott along with Bob Goodfellow of Goodfellow printing have given us wonderfully exciting and diverse brochures the past several seasons as well. They are high quality printing, graphically interesting and promote the quality of our seasons in a quality way.

Scott has also become integral in the graphic design work for Iowa Realty Corporate marketing out of Cedar Rapids and works closely with many other local businesses. His creative skills as well as his winning personality always make working with Scott a pleasure.

One may wonder how City Circle can afford the cost of a professional graphic designer? Scott does all of his work gratis for City Circle, a gift of immeasurable value to us. Add to that the gift of the brochure printing from Goodfellows and we have been very fortunate this year.

So when you are in need of any graphic work please keep Scott Miller and Akasha Design in mind. It is the support of businesses like these that has helped City Circle to continue to grow and succeed.

*Jerry Howe*

## **THE CIRCLE SPACE**

Something new has been added! It's the Circle Space located at 213 E. 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Coralville. It is the former home of Gold's Gym, now owned by the City of Coralville. Ultimately the building will be removed to make way for the hotel/conference center and rain forest/museum being developed by the City. But for now it has been made available for our use. It has a large storage space/construction area, and rehearsal space

plus heating, cooling and restrooms. It has already proved to be a great boon in the preparation for Nunsense II. How did we happen to be so fortunate?

Corny as it may sound, it happened as the result of relationships and trust. I have been representing City Circle at the weekly luncheons of the Coralville segment of the Greater Iowa City Chamber of Commerce, which is also regularly attended by the mayor, several city councilors and the city administrator. John Harper and I are also members of the Board of Directors of the Village Project of Coralville, which has been meeting regularly about the building of a community-learning center on the corner of 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 5<sup>th</sup> street in Coralville. Two members of the city council and the city administrator are also members of that board. It was through those relationships that the activities of City Circle became known, not only relating to our plays but to our work with the Coralville Recreation Center and the City itself. Obviously we came to be seen as a committed, reliable group. When the city administrator volunteered information about the space, inviting us to take a look at it; we jumped at the opportunity. It appears that we can have the space, rent free, for the next several years at least, long enough for us to take full advantage of it.

To use the space effectively, we need some things. Our wish list includes tables, chairs, a refrigerator, dehumidifiers, a large table suitable for cutting costumes, and construction tools, as well as items suitable for props and stage settings. If you have some items, please call our Producer, Rod McCrea at 331-4330. Do it today!

*Duane Spriesterbach*

## **ACTING CLASS**

City Circle offers an acting class for adults as part of our commitment to community enrichment and education. The course is taught by George Stratton, who has studied with Anita Jesse of the Anita Jesse Studio in Los Angeles and Laird Williamson, current Artistic Director of the American Conservatory Theatre in San Francisco.

Students will learn a practical approach to the actor's creative process. Focus will be placed on the basic skills of acting: concentration, imagination, access to emotion, listening, observation, and relaxation. Actors will be expected to prepare and perform scenes for presentation during class time.

The course is now offered in two sessions. In the fall, Acting I is offered through the Coralville Parks and Recreation Department. It meets one night a week for ten weeks from mid-September through mid-November. A second course, Acting II, which has a pre-requisite of Acting I or its equivalent, meets from mid-March through mid-June. Class size is limited to a maximum of eight students. For more information, contact George Stratton at 319-351-1624 evenings, or contact the Coralville Parks and Recreation Department at 319-354-3006 about registering for the fall class.

## PLANNING BEGINS FOR 2003-2004 SEASON

All though the current season is just barely underway, the Play Selection Committee has already been meeting to begin planning for the season which begins next summer. We always welcome suggestions from our members and season ticket holders for plays you'd like to see in the future.

Please keep in mind the limited size of our stage space and the limitations on our capacity to produce shows in which sets revolve or scenery needs to fly in and out. Each season, we attempt to present a balanced list of musicals, comedies, and serious dramas, as well as a mix of popular standards and new scripts.

You can transmit your ideas for next season to us through email, to Tim Barnes, chair of the Play Selection Committee ([tim.b@shortstravel.com](mailto:tim.b@shortstravel.com)) or write to us at: City Circle, P.O. Box 5156, Coralville, 52241.



## FIFTH ANNIVERSARY SEASON

### ***Rocky Horror Show***

**directed by Chad Larrabee**

October 31 (7:30 pm), November 1\*, 2\*, 7 (7:30 pm),  
8\*, 9\* (\* shows at 10:30 pm)

### ***Shadowlands***

**directed by Rachel Lindhart**

February 28, March 1, 2 (matinee), 7, 8, 9 (matinee)  
**8:00 pm except Sunday matinees: 2:30 pm**

**All performances Oakdale Auditorium,  
Oakdale Campus**

Coralville Recreation Center  
1506 8<sup>th</sup> Street  
Coralville, IA 52241

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