

### Westfield School District Art Show Open to Public

WESTFIELD – The public is invited to attend the 31st annual Westfield Public School District's Art Show, which will be held in the Westfield High School varsity gymnasium from Tuesday, May 12 through Thursday, May 14. A sampling of hundreds of artwork created by students representing all 10 public schools and grades ranging from kindergarten through twelfth will be on display at the annual show.

On Tuesday, May 12 and Wednesday, May 13 the artwork can be viewed from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and in the evening from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Visitors are also welcomed on Thursday, May 14, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Graphic art, sculptures, ceramics, charcoal and pencil drawings, watercolors, fabric arts, painted furniture and other work of Westfield Public School students will be exhibited.

Linda King, Supervisor of Fine Arts in the Westfield Public Schools, noted that the annual exhibit is "an outstanding cultural event in this community. The Art Show is a wonderful opportunity to exhibit hundreds of various art media created by our talented students under the direction of dedicated art educators."

### Shakespeare's The Tempest At Farmstead Arts Center

BASKING RIDGE – The Lord Stirling Theater Company, a new theater company based in Basking Ridge, is proud to present William Shakespeare's *The Tempest*, its second production in association with Farmstead Arts Center.

The Lord Stirling Theater Company is a dynamic new community of creative artists committed to presenting innovative theater for diverse audiences, through readings and full productions of classical theater and new works, as well as exploring the American experience through compelling productions that illuminate and celebrate our history, culture and literature.

Performances of *The Tempest* are on Friday, May 8 and Saturday, May 9 at 8 p.m., on Friday, May 15 at 8 p.m. and Saturday, May 16 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., and on Friday, May 22 at 8 p.m. and Saturday, May 23 at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for seniors, children under 12 years, and members of Farmstead

Arts Center. For ticket sales, visit <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-tempest-tickets-16705059282?aff=es2> or [www.farmsteadartscenter.org](http://www.farmsteadartscenter.org). The Farmstead Arts Center is located at 450 King George Road, Basking Ridge, NJ, 07920.

The cast of *The Tempest* includes Fred Dennehy of Cranbury as Prospero; Lisa Black as Ariel, Danielle Levitt as Trinculo, Katy Cockrell as Miranda, and Sharon McGuire as Gonzala, all of whom hail from Westfield; Jack Cibrian as King Alonso and Matt Guerra as Ferdinand, both of whom hail from Sayreville, NJ; Maxwell C. Blackriver of Mendham, NJ, as Sebastian; Lee Grabelsky of Monroe, NJ, as Stefano; Allan Gershenson of Linden, NJ, as the Boatswain; and Peter Curley of South Orange, NJ, as Antonio. William Ward of Basking Ridge, NJ, directs and designs this unique interpretation of one of William Shakespeare's most beloved plays.

### Concert to Benefit Keith Knost Special Needs Trust

WESTFIELD – The Coffee With Conscience Concert Series concludes its fifteenth season by presenting a very special night of music, hosted by NJ-based Singer/Songwriter, Scott E. Moore. The concert will take place on Saturday, May 9, at the First United Methodist Church of Westfield, 1 East Broad Street (corner of North Avenue) in Westfield. Doors will open at 7:15 p.m. and the concert begins at 8 p.m. Admission is \$20 on line and \$25 at the door.

This concert will benefit the Keith Knost Special Needs Fund. Tickets can be purchased online in advance -- at the discounted price -- by going to: [songwritershang.eventbrite.com](http://songwritershang.eventbrite.com)

In 1998, Scott E. Moore started a monthly song-writer performance series called *The Writer's Hang* at the now defunct Liquid Lounge (later known as the Goldhawk) in Hoboken. It was the first listening room-type show in the area, akin to a living room concert in a bar, where Scott would play once a month with 2 guest friends

from the national and local music scenes. The series ran for ten years.

The Coffee With Conscience Concert Series supports the following charities: Homefirst (Plainfield), Habitat for Humanity (Plainfield), the Community Food Bank of NJ (Hillside) and the Keith Knost Special Needs Fund (Mountainside). Each beneficiary has at least one concert dedicated to it during the season.

The Keith Knost Special Needs Trust is the beneficiary of this concert. Keith Knost is a former Summit resident who was paralyzed from the chest down in a horrific car accident in October of 2000. For more information about Keith Knost and the Trust, go to: <http://www.makingcontact.com/keith/>

For more information about the Coffee With Conscience Concert Series, the upcoming performance, or ways in which to get involved with the series, please visit [www.coffeewithconscience.org](http://www.coffeewithconscience.org). You can also call the Concert Hotline at (908) 412-9105.

### New Jersey Youth Symphony To Perform Spring Concerts

NEW PROVIDENCE – The New Jersey Youth Symphony (NJYS) Philharmonia, Fortissimo Flutes, and Clarinet Ensemble will perform a Spring concert on Sunday, May 10 at 3 p.m. at the Union County Performing Arts Center at 1601 Irving Street in Rahway. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for students and seniors, available by calling (908) 771-5544.

Philharmonia, an introduction to the symphonic experience for students in grades six to nine, is the first ensemble in the NJYS family that combines all instrument families—brass, woodwinds, strings and percussion—in a full symphony. Conducted by Mark Gunderman, Philharmonia explores the orchestral repertoire of great composers, arrangements of masterworks, and music written especially for youth ensembles.

Fortissimo Flutes, an elite ensemble consisting of eight advanced high school musicians representing the best

of the best from around the state, performs on piccolo, alto and bass flute, in addition to the traditional C flute. Fortissimo Flutes frequently appear in concerts and interactive events that provide a dynamic musical experience for the audience. Under the direction of conductor Diana Charos Reilly, Fortissimo Flutes not only perform but also act as mentors within the NJYS community, inspiring younger students to strive for excellence and encouraging a lifelong love of music.

Exploring deeply the unique qualities of clarinet playing, the NJYS Clarinet Ensemble for students in grades eight to 12 performs everything from new commissions to the landmarks of the Classical repertoire, challenging and inspiring students to reach their full potential in ensemble playing. Under the direction of Bryan Rudderow, students have the opportunity to play Eb Soprano, Alto, and Bass Clarinets.

### Masterwork Chorus Continues Director Search

SUMMIT – The Masterwork Chorus continues its search for a new music director with the performance of "Resounding Joy" at 8 p.m. on Saturday, May 9, at the Calvary Episcopal Church, 31 Woodland Ave., Summit, N.J. The program, under the direction of candidate conductor, Dr. Christopher Shepard, is a celebration of the joys of life, and features music ranging from the majestic sounds of Bach's *Sicut Locutus Est* and Handel's *Sing unto God* to the quiet reflections of Charlon's *To See a World*, a moving setting of the Blake poem of the same name. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$15 for students, and are available through the Masterwork website

[www.masterwork.org](http://www.masterwork.org), by calling Brown Paper Tickets at (800) 838-3006, and at the door.

Mr. Shepard is one of the two finalists selected from the initial field of 42 applicants for the music director position. Much in demand, he is currently the music director of the Desoff Choirs in New York City, conductor of the Worcester Chorus in Worcester, MA, and artistic director of the professional chorus CONCORDA based in New Britain, Connecticut. Christopher Jennings, recently appointed organist and choir master at Calvary Episcopal Church, and pianist Carol Walker, an award-winning conductor in her own right, are the accompanists for the concert.



ESTATE ELEGANCE... This splendid all-brick estate home situated on nearly an acre of manicured gardens is one of four grand residences to be featured on this year's Saturday, May 9 Tour of Notable Homes to benefit NJFO.

### Annual Tour of Notable Homes to Benefit NJFO

WESTFIELD – "From Gothic to Victorian to New York Industrial-style to automotive innovation to Mother's Day celebrations, there's something for everyone as we, the Friends of NJ Festival Orchestra, present our thirty-first annual Tour of Notable Homes this Saturday, May 9, 10 a.m. through 3 p.m.," according to Michelle Pierce, co-chair of the event.

Participants on the tour, which is a major funding source for the orchestra, will see four different homes that have been recently renovated and decorated. All are in Westfield. This year the tour will include a group of specialty cars.

"To see the Gothic-style manor house alone is worth the cost of the ticket," Jennifer Colamedici says. "It recently underwent a comprehensive remodeling. The architectural elements and amenities are nothing short of fabulous! I am especially pleased that the homeowner has generously invited us to tour all four floors. Each room is a jewel of authenticity, whimsy and beauty."

Pierce tells us that the Victorian house is situated two blocks from the center of town. She explains that much of the 19th century tradition remains but there are plenty of updates, and the home has been "kicked-up a notch" with the addition of New York industrial-style elements. This home also contains some outstanding environmental touches: the green roof over the porte-cochere, the recycling chute in the kitchen made from an old ash dump, the salt-water pool warmed by solar panels and lots of reclaimed materials.

"The nineteen twenties roared in Westfield as they did in most of the nation after World War I," says Alicia Barker, President of the Friends. "The neoclassical colonial home, circa 1924, on the tour is the perfect home in which to raise children and do a lot of entertaining. Not only is there a wine cellar, but a wine tasting room as well. The kitchen is a fabulous space all done in Carrara marble."

Pierce outlines the charm of the large home that dates back to the Great Depression in 1929. "As seen from the street it is a real beauty," she enthuses. "It's all brick construction on nearly an acre that has been professionally landscaped. There are wonderful updates to the large rooms and open plan within that make for perfect 21st century living." She also thinks "tourists" on May 9 will enjoy seeing the original chestnut millwork and oak flooring.

In addition to the four magnificent residences, specialty cars from across the decades will be presented, adding a new dimension to this year's tour. Cars included are a 75-year-old one-of-a-kind Cadillac 60 Spe-

cial built for the president of General Motors, a fully restored Pro-Touring Plymouth Barracuda, a limited edition Ferrari F430 Scuderia and an award-winning all-electric Tesla Model S, the very latest in the evolution of electric automobile engineering. There will even be a raffle opportunity to "Win a Tesla for the Day." The drawing will take place at close of tour but winner need not be present to win.

The tour includes live music performed inside each home by the Junior Musical Club of Westfield. In addition, there will be a plant sale of seasonal booms and herb medleys, ideal for Mother's Day gifts or just to brighten your own home. Refreshments will be served, and luxury raffles of themed baskets will tempt tourgues to bid.

Norman Luka, President of the NJ Festival Orchestra Board of Trustees, observes, "The Friends are truly the 'wind beneath the wings of the orchestra'. Without the proceeds of this massive undertaking each year, we could never make our world-class professional music possible. Our heartfelt thanks go to The Friends members, the assistance of their families and the generosity of the 'notable' homeowners."

The orchestra's Music Director, David Wroe says, "What a fabulous day out on this Mother's day weekend! I am anxious to tour these fantastic homes, and enjoy the music, luxury cars and raffles. I and my family look forward to seeing you there."

Tickets for this year's Tour of Notable Homes are \$35 and can be purchased on-line at [www.njfestivalorchestra.org](http://www.njfestivalorchestra.org). On the day of the tour ticket prices are \$40. Tickets can also be purchased at the following area stores: Baron's Family Pharmacy, Westfield; The Town Book Store, Westfield; Christoffer's Flowers and Gifts, Mountainside; Norman's Hallmark, Fanwood, and Periwinkles, Cranford. Further information is available at [www.njfestivalorchestra.org](http://www.njfestivalorchestra.org) or by visiting the Friends of NJ Festival Orchestra on Facebook.

### WHS Grad Wins Miss Maryland

WESTFIELD – Mallory Rome, a 2013 graduate of Rider University and 2009 graduate of Westfield High School recently won The 2015 Miss Maryland Intercontinental Pageant. Mallory was a Musical Theater Major in College and dreams of becoming a professional actress.

In addition to her Miss Maryland Crown, she has already landed multiple acting roles and been featured on several television news programs.

JUXTAPOSE GALLERY Due Sorelle Jewelry Spring Trunk Show Saturday, May 9th 10am - 5pm The Perfect Gift for Mother's Day 58 Elm Street • Westfield 908-232-3278 www.juxtaposegallery.com

### 'Success' at Cranford Dramatic Club Theatre

By SUSAN MYRILL DOUGHERTY Specially Written for The Westfield Leader and The Scotch Plains-Fanwood Times

CRANFORD – There are old "chestnuts" in the musical theater world that need a bit of brushing off to let their true beauty shine. Such is the case with *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, a musical by Frank Loesser, Abe Burrows, Jack Weinstock and Willie Gilbert. It was first presented on Broadway in 1961 starring Robert Morse and Rudy Vallee who reprised their roles in the 1967 movie version. The Cranford Dramatic Club's (CDC) production, which opened last weekend, is polished to a mahogany hue that, as the spotlight hits, is dazzling.

The story revolves around an ambitious window washer, J. Pierpont Finch (Shane Long), who fantasizes about being in the corporate world. A narrated self-help book by the same name as the musical gives him step-by-step instructions to reach the success he craves. After Finch literally bumps into J.B. Biggley (Rich Maloy), Chairman of the Board of World Wide Wicket Company, Finch uses that fact into finishing a job for personnel head Mr. Bratt (Gus Ibranyi). Through a series of half-truths and fortuitous coincidences, Finch works his way up the corporate ladder. A focused young secretary, Rosemary Pilkington (Emily Greenberg), has an immediate attraction to him and, along with her co-worker and friend Smitty (Lindsay Braverman), assists him in his quest.

Ms. Greenberg's rendition of the '50s philosophy expressed in "Happy to Keep His Dinner Warm" isn't sung with the traditional sweet, wistful dreaminess of a young woman of that time. Her presentation seems to come from a strong, almost belted version of a self-actualized woman of 2015. It's only on the reprises of the song that Ms. Greenberg's tender, sweet voice emerges.

That's an interesting change. With director Jeffrey Fiorello and musical director Jack Bender at the helm of this musical flashback to the late '50s, one might expect changes. A welcome one appears, delightfully, in the character of Mr. Biggley. Mr. Maloy's characterization of him isn't quite as cartoonish as Rudy Vallee's or Tony-winner John Larroquette in the 50th anniversary Broadway revival. No, even in his nicely coordinated Saturday golf outfit (many versions have mismatched plaids and balloon pants) Biggley is played as a manipulated, opinionated pawn, but certainly not a buffoon. When Mr. Maloy croons to his secret mistress Hedy LaRue, "Love from a Heart of Gold," he's not doing it tongue in cheek.

Hedy, played adorably by Dana Patrice, is not the traditional buxom bimbo character; instead, Ms. Patrice is a curvy gal who knows just how to wiggle her hips and booty to the max and flash her million-dollar smile teasingly. When she first appears onstage as the new secretary, all of the men in the company ogle her and in the fun song "Paris Original," no other girl seems to exist in the room.

And ah, what dancing this show has! Bob Fosse's original choreography is beautifully presented especially in the jazz-infused "Coffee Break," in "Cinderella Darling," a rousing tap number, in "Grand Old Ivy" replete with leather-helmeted football players and the memorable tune, "Brotherhood

of Man." There's not one song and dance number that doesn't click. The male dancers, particularly, are spectacular in their execution of intricate moves. The "Company Way" in the mailroom with Mr. Twimble (Joe Leo) is an especially fast-paced number that requires split-second timing. Choreographer Megan Ferentinos has assembled a cast of male dancers who are talented enough to do her brilliant choreography justice.

Other standouts in this cast of standouts are: Ms. Braverman, playing Smitty, is especially snappy in the song, "Been a Long Day"; Gus Ibranyi is hysterical as Bratt, the company man who flip-flops in his opinions faster than a hooked flounder; Scott Baird plays Bud Frump perfectly by milking the last drop out of every funny bit he's given. Speaking of funny, Miss Jones (Arlene Britt) — clad in orthopedic shoes and old maid mannerisms and dress — is a scream in her transformation and Shane Long is the quintessential Finch but with a much better singing voice than the originator of the lead role.

A full bodied seven-piece orchestra, under the masterful direction of keyboardist Jack Bender, never overtakes the performers in the intimate CDC Theatre.

The beehive inspired three-tiered sleek backdrop set by Christopher Abbott suggests a city's bustling buildings. The buildings' interior sets, with functional, moveable sets of typing desks, the board table or washroom basins and mirrors, are whisked on and off effortlessly by Steven Douche's stage crew.

Fiorello productions always boast amazing set decoration and spot on costumes. The director's color coordinated vision is brought to life by a costume crew of four. Even the hairdos (Raven Dunbar), for the most part, are reflective of the late '50s. Mark Reilly's lighting design hits the mark on the center stage as well as the two side alcove playing areas.

Often at revivals of *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, the word "dated" is used. Be clear: the show is a period piece with crinolines plumped full skirts or skin tight sheaths that echo back to the time of typewriters, sexual harassment of women in the corporate world, and male dominated companies. Like the TV mega-hit "Mad Men," it's not dated, it successfully harkens back to another time.

It runs Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. for the next two weekends with a special 2 p.m. matinee on Mother's Day, May 10.

### NJYT Announces Opening for Cabaret

ROSELLE PARK – Performances of New Jersey Youth Theatre's (NJYT) summer production, *Cabaret*, will kick off on Friday, July 17 at the Westminster Arts Theatre at Bloomfield College.

"Our production of *Cabaret* will be a special event, especially since we're having our premier at the Westminster Arts Center. Bloomfield and the surrounding townships are wonderful supporters of the arts and we're so excited to be working with Westminster," said Cynthia Meryl, NJYT's Artistic Director. She added, "Any one who is sad to see *Cabaret* leave Broadway just has to drive across the river to New Jersey to see a first rate

Calderone School of Music NJ Registered Professional Development Provider Established 1975 Certified Teachers All Instruments for Every Age Kindermusik Classes for ages 2 to 7 Suzuki Strings Plus Program College Prep Division River Walk Plaza 34 Ridgedale Ave. East Hanover, NJ 07936 (973) 428-0405 256 Morris Avenue Springfield, NJ 07081 (973) 467-4688

PIANO LESSONS & MUSIC TECHNOLOGY REGISTER TODAY WHILE TIMESLOTS ARE AVAILABLE! Secure your time-slot now! The Studio is now registering for both the SUMMER and FALL SESSIONS, for all age groups. Call now for more information. Paul Nazzaro Music Studio VISIT US ONLINE AT www.NazzaroMusic.com OR CALL 908-232-3310