

Raue Center in Crystal Lake set to roll out its 10th season

Author(s): BRETT ROWLAND - browland@nwherald.com **Date:** June 23, 2010 **Section:** News

CRYSTAL LAKE – For the venue’s 10th anniversary, organizers at the Raue Center for the Arts plan to bring back some favorite performers and unveil a few new acts. This season’s lineup includes drama, comedy and all styles of music in dozens of performances at the historic theater at 26 N. Williams St. Headliners include folk singer Arlo Guthrie, pianists Danny Wright and Emily Bear, the New Shanghai Circus, The 39 Steps, One Night of Queen, and Lucy’s Café.

In the past decade, the Raue Center has hosted 2,700 community acts seen by about 600,000 people, including 180,000 children, through programs such as Mission Imagination, which inspires young people through the arts, Executive Director Richard Kuranda said.

“After 10 years, we are excited to be turning the corner,” he said. “This year is a huge celebration not only for Crystal Lake, but for McHenry County.”

Kuranda said the center was working on a variety of projects, including starting an in-house theater company. The lineup was announced at a mixer Tuesday evening put on by the Barrington, Cary Grove area, Crystal Lake, and McHenry chambers of commerce.

“Our 10th anniversary celebrates big performances, and we are excited to have a lot of big performers this year,” said Amy Malpica, director of marketing for the Raue Center.

In addition, performances by local artists such as the Strikers **All-Star Drumline** are planned. Subscription sales begin July 5 and single ticket sales start Sept. 1. Ticket prices vary by event, ranging from free to \$150. However, most tickets cost between \$20 and \$65, with the average being about \$33, Kuranda said.

Tickets can be purchased online at www.rauecenter.org, at the box office at 26 N. Williams St., or by phone at 815-356-9212.

Musical performances set for the 2010-11 season include a variety of musical styles and performers, such as the Northwest Indiana Symphony Orchestra Holiday Pops, and blues harmonica master Corky Siegel’s Chamber Blues with Marcy Levy. Tribute

performances will cover the works of Bobby Darin, Jerry Lee Lewis, Queen, Jimmy Buffett, Michael Jackson, and Elvis Presley.

Those last two take the stage together in late October to celebrate Halloween with "Night of the Living Dead: Royalty Edition," which is billed as "inspired by Graceland and Neverland."

For the younger crowd, there are events such as the New Shanghai Circus, Nothin' Up My Sleeve 9, and The Berenstain Bears in "Family Matters: The Musical."

Most of the shows are set for the season, but Kuranda said some could be added later.

The 800-seat theater is operated by the Raue Center for the Arts, a nonprofit group. The theater was restored and named after benefactor Lucile Raue.

Coming to the Raue

The following acts are scheduled for the Raue Center for the Arts 10th Anniversary Season:

Arlo Guthrie: 8 p.m. Oct. 23

Danny Wright with Emily Bear: 7:30 p.m. Nov. 6

New Shanghai Circus: 7:30 p.m. Feb. 11, 2011

One Night of Queen: 7:30 p.m. April 2, 2011

Jim Brickman: 8 p.m. May 6, 2011

For information and a complete schedule, visit www.rauecenter.org

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