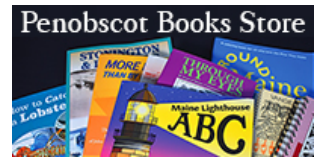




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NEWS FEATURE

STONINGTON

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Wide variety of events mark the Opera House summer season

Professional theater, jazz, Broadway favorites, folk music, student concerts, variety acts, summer blockbusters, and movie classics come together once again to celebrate a full season of art and entertainment on the stage of the Stonington Opera House, according to a press release.

Some events are listed here. For the full summer of entertainment and movies, visit operahousearts.org.

“Groove Master” Herlin Riley and his quintet will headline the 23rd annual Deer Isle Jazz Festival. Tickets are now on sale for the July 15 and 16 concerts featuring Riley’s signature New Orleans style. Opening for the Crescent City icon on opening night will be the Yvonne Rogers Trio. Award-winning combo Deep Space from George Stevens Academy will open Riley’s second evening which will feature traditional New Orleans jazz.

Residents of a fictional place called Almost, Maine will take the stage August 10-20 to share the consequences of falling in and out of love against the backdrop of a cold winter’s night. Directed by summer artistic director Kathryn Markey, Opera House Arts will be the first professional theater company to produce the recently published fourth revised edition of the play.

Stars of the Great White Way return to the Opera House stage to sing the show tunes and hidden gems of American musical theater on July 25 and returning on the 27th with a topsy-turvy take on the songs you know and love. Joining professional artists and Stonington residents John McVeigh and Fred Rose will be Bonne Kramer and Lisa Vroman.

The 2023 recipients of Bud Carter Memorial Scholarships will perform in concert on June 17. The annual scholarship and concert were inaugurated in memory of Bud Carter, Deer Isle crooner and bandleader of the StoningTones. More than 100 scholarships have been awarded by the scholarship committee to date, funding voice and instrument lessons, instruments and repairs, and music camps for students each year. This celebratory concert showcases the young winners and is the primary source of funding for the scholarships. The event is free to all and donations for scholarships will be gratefully accepted at the door. All proceeds will be directed to the scholarship fund.

Family-friendly variety acts continue through the summer in Live for \$5! presentations. Magicians and jugglers, bubble impresarios, and masked marvels will take over the main stage to entertain your whole gang.

Summer movies are shown Friday and Saturday at 7 p.m. and Sunday matinées with open captioning are shown at 2 p.m.

Summer concerts begin with Ray Duncan and “Under the Greenwood Tree” on June 24 at the Burnt Cove Church. The concert will showcase Duncan’s original music composed for the plays of William Shakespeare, including the music featured in OHA’s production of *Much Ado About Nothing*, staged at Mariners Park last summer.

Hancock County students are invited to attend live performances for free. Call ahead for advance ticketing or at the door on the night of the performance, space permitting.

For more information and a schedule of upcoming performances and events, visit operahousearts.org.

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