



ROGERS CITY COMMUNITY THEATRE

Fall 2022

Volume 15, Issue 1

Spotlight

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Hard-Hitting Rock Musical Opens March 9

By: Katy Carignan, Director, and Justin Dawes

If you like an impactful story with great music, come see *next to normal* at Rogers Theater this March 9-12.

The show won a Pulitzer Prize and three Tony awards for a reason. This drama showcases struggles that many families experience in a way that's relatable and engaging, with plenty of comedic relief and an uplifting ending. And the contemporary rock songs (more similar to Jesus Christ Superstar than the classics), with their powerhouse performances, will have you humming on the way home.

This production will definitely make you laugh, it may make you cry, and hopefully it will leave you with a long-lasting impression. And again, for emphasis, the music is

fantastic! (One of the Tony awards was for best original score).

next to normal follows "Diana" (played by RCCT newcomer Lyn Loheed) as she and her family navigate her course of treatment for mental illness. Garrison Benson plays "Dan", her loving and codependent husband. Brittany VanderWall is "Natalie", their musical genius daughter who is lost in the middle. Justin Dawes has moved to Rogers City to fulfil his dream role of "Gabe", their son and Natalie's brother. Caitlynn Shadbolt shines as "Henry", the boyfriend of Natalie. Robert Starnes IV is made to play "Dr. Madden" and "Dr. Fine".

This show has also been a great opportunity to partner

Production Members

Cast:

| | |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| Lyn Loheed | Diana |
| Garrison Benson | Dan |
| Brittany VanderWall | Natalie |
| Justin Dawes | Gabe |
| Caitlynn Shadbolt | Henry |
| Bob Starnes IV | Dr. Madden/Dr. Fine |

Creative Team:

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| Katy Carignan | Director |
| Alex Czarnecki | Assistant Director/ Music Production |
| Theresa Gibson | Producer |
| Baylee Lijewski | Assistant Producer |
| Garrison Benson | Technical Director |
| Julia Blaukopf | Projections Design |
| Ashley Nowicki | Choreographer/ Stage Manager |

Crew:

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|
| Noah Hanson | Lights |
| Alex Czarnecki | Sound |
| Anne Belanger | Projections |
| Lexi Haske | Microphones |
| Katy Conklin | Make-up/Hair |
| Judy Fisher & Cliff Fisher | Props |
| Anna May Kohler & Veronica Frost | Backstage Crew |

What: *next to normal*, a rock musical

Where: at the Rogers Theater, 257 N. 3rd Street Rogers City, MI

When: One weekend only: March 9-12

Times: 7:30 p.m. Thursday.-Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday

Tickets:

Adults: \$14

Students: \$6

Tickets available at the box office one hour prior to each show.

Six Pack punch card; mix and match any six admissions for \$60

with local businesses. Renewed Blessings loaned the furniture for the set of the show. Tradewinds Bakery is donating a birthday cake for each show's birthday scene, which will be given away to a lucky audience member each night. The Stone House, a new Rogers City arts and cultural organization, sponsored international artist Julia Blaukopf to visit and take photos for the show's projections and marketing. We also could not complete this production without the generous support of our volunteers and donors.

This production is Rated PG-13 for strong language and adult situations.

President's Corner

By Theresa Gibson, RCCT President



Theresa Gibson

Greetings, Friends and Supporters of Live Theatre!

It is my honor to be elected to my second term serving as the President of the RCCT Board of Directors. I am excited to discuss our upcoming season and goals for the organization. Our productions for the 2023 season have some new and exciting offerings for you.

First, *next to normal* is a contemporary rock musical and family drama about a woman's struggle with mental illness. It breaks away from RCCT's more common offering of light-hearted comedies. This three time Tony Award winning show ran on Broadway from 2009 - 2011 and represents our commitment to providing a variety of genres in diverse and quality entertainment to our audiences.

Another new genre being offered is a variety show to be staged in the summer. This is open to all performers and won't require a commitment to a lengthy rehearsal process.

Check out the article below for more information.

The popular children's summer youth program and the fall play will continue to be in our season. We happily accept applications from anyone interested in Directing or Producing any of our shows. Find more information on our website.

The entire Board of Directors has been working hard to maintain focus on our Mission: "RCCT endeavors to enrich and improve the lives of residents and visitors of Northeast Michigan by providing high quality live theatre performances and educational opportunities to people of all ages for personal and artistic growth in all aspects of theatre production." We are very near to finalizing the 5 year strategic plan in which we agree to put our collective efforts into increasing our pool of volunteers, pursuing diverse funding sources, and recruiting board members. These goals will help us to

achieve our mission and continue to bring quality theatre to our stage.

Lastly, for the first time in RCCT's existence, we are heading into the new season without the leadership of our founder, Karl W. Heidemann. Karl has decided to fully enjoy his retirement and take a step away from the business and management of the organization. His contribution has been immeasurable and I, personally and on behalf of the Board of Directors, wish to extend to him all the best wishes in his future leisurely activities, along with heartfelt and sincere appreciation for visualizing, creating, building, and supporting Rogers City Community Theatre. We will continue to uphold his legacy in his stead.

Thank you to all of those who continue to support our efforts and our actors, crew, and creative teams. We hope you enjoy the coming season as much as we enjoy coming together to create it for you.

Join the Community-Wide Talent Show

By Heather Nordenbrock, Director



Rogers City Community Theatre is trying something new! This summer, we will present a Community-Wide Variety Show. The intent of this production is to showcase as much local talent as possible, and, as the title implies, we're looking for as much variety as this community can muster!

In addition to the traditional singers, actors, dancers and instrumentalists, we're looking for more obscure talents, as well. Do you juggle? Ride a unicycle? Have a great magic trick or some hilarious jokes? Join us!

Maybe you have a band that might want to play a cover or an original piece?

When I was the Masquers Club Advisor at Alpena High School, we put on the annual talent show and, one year, we had a kid that could kick himself in the head! Did we let him in? Of course! And RCCT will be happy to let you share whatever talents you have, as well.

Don't have a talent you want to share ON stage? You're in luck! We'll need behind the scenes talent, too! Techies: stage crew, light and sound

board operators, microphone managers... we need them all!

So, how do you become involved? Get your talent ready now! We'll have "auditions" on June 13-15 from 7-9 p.m. Just show up on one of those nights and show us what you've got! IF we get too much talent (which is entirely possible), we'll make cuts based on the auditions, so make sure you're ready to go! Techies can fill out an interest form during this time, too. There will be individual rehearsals with the creative team once a week, at the most, with performances July 20-23.

Volunteers Not Only Welcomed, But Needed!

Rogers City Community Theatre runs completely on volunteer power. There is not a single member, from the actors, to the directors, and even the President of the Board, that receives any payment for their time. And some of them donate a LOT of time to make sure RCCT continues to grow and thrive. And that's why we need you!

As the saying goes: Many hands makes light work. But lately, our work is getting pretty heavy. We need more hands! And there are so many ways to lend yours:

- Join the Board: We currently have one open board position, which are 2 year rotating terms. Interested? Find an application on our website.
- Join a Committee: Board Members head each of our committees, but everyone is welcome to serve on any of our standing or ad hoc committees. These currently consist of: Marketing (creating and distributing posters, managing the

website, facebook, and social media, organizing print, radio, TV, and digital advertising, creating the Newsletter); Programming (choosing the shows for each season, as well as who will direct and produce, and the production dates); Fundraising (organizing funding drives and events and finding show/season sponsors); Finance (developing the budgets for each season by show, as well as managing special funding for special projects); others as needed.

- Join a Cast or Crew: Watch for upcoming auditions to sign up for tech work, too, such as backstage crew, light, sound, projection and microphone operators, sewing crew
- Join the Creative Team: Be a director, producer, technical director, or designer. Start by being an assistant!
- Join us for a volunteer clean-up day! Email rogerscitytheatre@gmail.com or check out our website: rcctheatre.org for more information and applications.

RCCT 2023 Season

next to normal
Hard-Hitting Rock Musical Drama
Katy Carignan, director
March 9-12

Variety Show
Community-Wide Celebration of Talent
Heather Nordenbrock, director
July 20-23

Matilda, Jr.
Summer Youth Program
Theresa Gibson, director
August 17-20

The Alibis
Comedic Who-dunnit
Pennie Hoeft, director
October 27-28 and
November 3-5

Ticket Information (Purchase tickets at the door. Box office opens one hour before show)

| | |
|---|------------|
| Six Pack punch card; mix and match any six admissions | \$ 60 |
| General Admission to <i>next to normal</i> | \$ 14 each |
| Student Admission to <i>next to normal</i> | \$ 6 each |

Angel Donation Form

Angel Donation Amount (see box at right):

Angel information for program listing:

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ email: _____

Make check payable to : Rogers City Community Theatre

Amount:



Are you an Angel?

The Rogers City Community Theatre is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit corporation committed to bringing quality theater to NE Michigan. Donations are an important part of our budget. Please consider enabling our work through your gifts, at any level.

- _____ \$500 Heavenly Host
- _____ \$250 Archangel
- _____ \$100 Guardian Angel
- _____ \$ 50 Seraphim
- _____ \$ 25 Cherubim

Angels will be recognized under the appropriate category heading in all 2023 show programs. Thanks for your continuing support!

We have the lowest ticket price in NE Michigan. Help keep it that way with your donations.

Rogers City Community Theatre

257 North Third Street
Rogers City MI 49779



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Rogers City Community Theatre Flashbacks: How many of these 77 live shows did you see?



ROGERS CITY COMMUNITY THEATRE

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Join our group on Facebook!

Newsletter Editor:
Heather Nordenbrock



See you at the show!

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Oklahoma, 11/04 | Red, White and Tuna, 5/11 | Godspell, 8/17 |
| The Music Man, 10/05 | Willy Wonka, Jr. 8/11 | County Fair in da UP, 10/17 |
| A Tuna Christmas, 1/06 | Arsenic and Old Lace, 10/11 | Spectaculathon, 11/17 |
| Chicago, 5/06 | Christmas Belles, 1/12 | Shrek The Musical, 3/18 |
| Beauty and the Beast, 8/06 | R.C.T. Pinafore, 4/12 | Beer for Breakfast, 5/18 |
| South Pacific, 11/06 | Contempt of Court, 6/12 | Once on this Island, 8/18 |
| Greater Tuna, 1/07 | Bugsy Malone, Jr. 8/12 | Don't Dress for Dinner, 10/18 |
| Urinetown: The Musical, 3/07 | Lend Me a Tenor, 10/12 | The Curious Savage, 12/18 |
| Night, Mother, 5/07 | Annie Get Your Gun, 3/13 | Mamma Mia! 3/19 |
| Cinderella, 8/07 | The Cemetery Club, 5/13 | Point Noire, 5/19 |
| A Funny Thing...Forum, 11/07 | Little Mermaid, Jr. 8/13 | The Lion King, 8/19 |
| Boardwalk Radio Murders, 12/07 | Harvey, 10/13 | Death by Design, 10/19 |
| Little Shop of Horrors, 5/08 | 9 to 5: The Musical, 2/14 | Prime of Jean Brodie, 12/19 |
| I Buried an Idol, 6/08 | Murderous Crossing, 5/14 | Sister Act, 3/20 |
| Alice in Wonderland, 8/08 | Curtain Call, 8/14 | Evening w/ Mark Twain, 8/20 |
| The Pajama Game, 11/08 | Xmas Carol in da UP, 10/14 | Tuna Does Vegas, 2/21 |
| Hello, Dolly! 3/09 | The Singin' Cowboy, 3/15 | Savannah Sipping Soc., 4/21 |
| Café Noir, 5/09 | The Altos, 5/15 | Cemetery Historic Tour, 8/21 |
| Aladdin, Jr. 8/09 | Yearbook Reflections, 8/15 | The Nightingales, 10/21 |
| Escanaba in da Moonlight, 10/09 | Leaving Iowa, 10/15 | All Together Now! 11/21 |
| Curtains, 2/10 | The Game's Afoot, 1/16 | The Addams Family, 3/22 |
| Odd Couple, 4/10 | My Fair Lady, 5/16 | Trial by Media, 7/22 |
| Noir Suspicions, 6/10 | Dear Edwina, 8/16 | Wizard of Oz, 8/22 |
| Honk! Jr. 8/10 | Carol Burnett Show, 10/16 | Moon Over Buffalo, 10/22 |
| The Sound of Music, 10/10 | The Miracle Worker, 3/17 | next to normal, 3/23 |
| Singin' in the Rain, 3/11 | Oliver! 5/17 | |