

In this issue is information on these events in December:

- Saturday 1** Gualala Arts Choir Christmas Concert at 7 p.m. **
- Friday 7** Opening Night of “Beauty and the Beast” doors open at 6:30; performance at 7 p.m.**
- Saturday 8** Art Center Theater performance of “Beauty and the Beast” at 7 p.m.**
- Saturday 8** “Alternatives” Photography Exhibit Opening in the Burnett Gallery 5 – 7 p.m.
- Sunday 9** Art Center Theater matinee performance of “Beauty and the Beast” at 2 p.m.**
- Monday 10** Lecture: “Quackery, Placebos, and Elixirs” by David Goheen at 7 p.m.
- Friday 14 & Saturday 15** Art Center Theater performance of “Beauty and the Beast” at 7 p.m.**
- Sunday 16** Art Center Theater matinee performance of “Beauty and the Beast” at 2 p.m.**
- Saturday 22** Christmas Concert by Ernest Bloch Bell Ringers & Anchor Bay Children’s Choir at 2 p.m.**
- Monday 24** Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols at 5 p.m.

Coming in January:

- Saturday 5** Sally Jaffee Exhibit, Dolphin Opening from 5 – 7 p.m.
- Sunday 6** Chamber Music Series, David McCarroll, Mary Elliott, Roy Bogas, 4 p.m. **
- Saturday 12** North Coast Artists’ Guild Exhibit “Out of the Box” Opening 5 – 7 p.m.
- Saturday 12** Gualala Arts IS: Instructors Show Opening Reception 5 – 7 p.m.
- Monday 14** Lecture: “Rebuilding the Transcontinental Railroad” by Alan Ramsay at 7 p.m.
- Wednesday 23** Lecture: “Redwood Forest Conservation” by Don Kemp at 7 p.m.

Coming in February:

- Saturday 2** Karen Bowers & Walt Rush Opening at the Dolphin from 5 – 7 p.m.
- Monday 4** Lecture: “Introduction to the World of Mushrooms” by Bill Hanson at 7 p.m.
- Saturday 9** Gualala Arts Interest Groups Exhibit Opening Reception from 5 – 7 p.m.
- Saturday 9** Elementary School Art Opening Reception from 5 – 7 p.m.
- Sunday 17** Chamber Music Series, Nadya Tichman, violin & Marc Shapiro, piano, 4 p.m. **

** Tickets on sale now. Call 884-1138 with Visa/MC

Don’t miss seeing “Beauty and the Beast” in December!



“Beauty and the Beast” was an old fairy tale first published in France in 1740. In 1991 Disney stripped the tale down to its essential romantic core and made it into a cartoon feature that was so successful that it was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Picture. Broadway producers saw the film and immediately felt it was perfect for a musical. Disney’s opening scene of Belle waltzing through her little provincial town was made for the stage.

It’s a long way from Broadway to Gualala. When Lynne Atkins decided on this play for this year’s holiday musical she didn’t have the kind of professional production facilities that would make this show easy to stage. Instead, she had a group of fanatical volunteers who would follow her anywhere.

Still the challenge was daunting. The cast of thirty ranges from a hideous beast to a wood chopping machine. Enormous production numbers fill the stage with twenty or more actors all singing and dancing at the same time. Except for five days around Thanksgiving, the cast is rehearsing every night until their first performance. But they are not the only ones under the gun.

Six members of the construction crew have to build the complex set, designed by Kathye Hitt, that spans the distance between a quaint French village and a mythic castle. Fifty costumes, ranging from a dancing spoon to an enchantress have to be constructed, and sewn, keeping the ten seamstresses in the costume shop very busy. Five more costumes were rented, since constructing an animated wardrobe was a bit beyond our grasp. Five music directors and coaches, a choreographer and all together thirty-five volunteers are working on the technical side of the production, all of them toiling as hard as the cast to pull this production together.

Be prepared to enter a vivid fairy tale this December as Art Center Theater converts the Arts Center stage into a magical world. You will laugh, and be touched by this moving tale of arrogance, pride, true love, and redemption. Shows begin December 7 and run through the 16th. Ticket sales are already brisk, so buy yours early!