

As seen in the Vermont Standard – Sept. 16, 2021

Learning to Live with COVID

It's apparent that while numbers are leveling out, we need to remain vigilant and maintain safety precautions regardless of vaccine status. Once I received my second shot, I no longer worried about maintaining a stack of clean masks. Not so fast! Back to foggy glasses and facial recognition issues.

Given the current COVID reality Pentangle will soon adopt additional safety protocols for inside programming where social distancing is not possible.

We've also made repairs and modifications to the theatre's air handling system, including the installation of a CO2 sensor for demand-controlled ventilation. This ensures the maximum level of outside air flow based on the number of patrons inside the theatre.

On the Big Stage:

The Show must go on!

With additional safety protocols in place, we welcome NCCT's (North Country Community Theatre) production of *Mama Mia*, opening November 12th, with 8 performances.

Tickets are on sale for Wassail weekend performances: *Irish Christmas* and *The Whiffenpoofs*, December 10th and 11th respectively. The *Holiday House* tour will be postponed until December 2022. Additional safety precautions will be added to our web site and in promotional materials for all indoor performances.

What's Ahead for Youth in Arts Programming?

For the second year in a row, we will not have in theatre or in school performances this Fall.

I'm optimistic that in 2022 our scheduled Youth in Arts program will go forward. Obviously, the landscape may shift, and modifications made based on recommendations from appropriate health agencies.

Here are some current highlights:

Jabari Dreams of Freedom (grades 3-6)

In this live musical 10-year-old Jabari learns to love to paint. And through these paintings, he escapes the turbulent world around him, and the reality of a friend hurt by police violence. In his dreams, he meets children and young people from the Civil Rights Era.

Pete the Cat (pre-k -3)

A live musical based on the children's book by the same name.

Lakou Mizik Performances and Workshops

Lakou Mizik is an all-star collective of Haitian musicians whose high energy non-stop dance live shows have made them one of their country's top cultural exports.

Workshops will be scheduled with Woodstock Elementary School, Barnard Academy, Prosper Valley School (Grades 5-6) and Woodstock Union High School.

Emily Bernard – Workshops and Interactive Gatherings at WUHS/MS

Emily Bernard was born and raised in Nashville, Tennessee. She holds a B. A. and Ph. D. in American Studies from Yale University. Her work has appeared in *TLS*, *The American Scholar*, *The New Republic*, *The New Yorker*, *The Yale Review*, *Harper's*, *O the Oprah Magazine*, *the Boston Globe Magazine*, *Creative Nonfiction*, *Green Mountains Review*, *Oxford American*, and *Ploughshares*. Her essays have been reprinted in *Best American Essays*, *Best African American Essays*, and *Best of Creative Nonfiction*. Her first book, *Remember Me to Harlem: The Letters of Langston Hughes and Carl Van Vechten*, was a *New York Times* Notable Book of the Year. Her most recent book, *Black is the Body: Stories from My Grandmother's Time, My Mother's Time, and Mine*, won the 2020 *LA Times* Isherwood Prize for Autobiographical Prose. She has received fellowships and grants from Yale University, Harvard University, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Vermont Arts Council, the Vermont Studio Center, and The MacDowell Colony. A contributing editor at *The American Scholar*, Emily is the Julian Lindsay Green and Gold Professor of English at the University of Vermont.

On the Big Screen:

Free Guy PG 13

When a bank teller (Ryan Reynolds) discovers he's actually a background player in an open-world video game, he decides to become the hero of his own story -- one that he can rewrite himself. In a world where there's no limits, he's determined to save the day his way before it's too late, and maybe find a little romance with the coder who conceived him.

Show times:

Friday, September 17 at 7:30 pm
Saturday, September 18 at 7:30 pm
Sunday, September 19 at 7:30 pm