

New plays fest to honor Mollie Mook-Fiddler

Silverton Theatre Mine announces second annual New Plays Festival: The Mollie

The Silverton Theater Mine (TSTM)'s second annual festival of new plays is slated for May 30, 31, and June 1, 2019 in Silverton, and Theatre Mine Artistic Director Daniel Sullivan is quite enthusiastic about 2019.

"Coming off of last year's success in the midst of the 416 fire," says Sullivan, "all of us on the TSTM board began imagining ways to see the festival mature. After many conversations, we agreed to both cosmetic and structural alterations that will benefit the 2019 festival."

Owing to observations made by people who had attended in the festival in recent years, TSTM reconsidered the lengthy titling: "The Mollie Mook-Fiddler Festival of New Works for Theater" as it was, for some, proving arduous to get out of their mouths in conversation.

"TSTM started looking for something to call the festival that had brightness, something that flashed up when either you spoke it or read it or viewed it," recalled Sullivan. "And so we came up with The Mollie." "Of course," he adds,



Theresa Carson

"we'll subtitle it and relate it to new plays and theater for clarification, but The Mollie is what we will lead with going forward."

"You hear it and it sounds right," observes TSTM secretary Matthew Vire, "It's syllabically fast off the tongue; it registers that brightness we wanted; and it conjures Mollie Mook-Fiddler all in one and at once."

"In explaining it," says Vire, "people will tell a story. Tell something about Mollie. Something about new plays. About how the people of Silverton support the theater and creative endeavors. And Silverton's theatrical tradition."

"A tradition begun and made thriving here by Marianne Fearn and ATG," adds Sullivan.

Structural changes for TSTM in 2019

"I and the TSTM board realizes the need to hire a festival coordinator," Sullivan said. "This leaves me with the artistic direction, while ensuring the events are organized, and the smooth-running of day-to-day festival activities."

"Recently," adds secretary Vire, "We entered into an agreement with Fort Lewis College Theater Department lecturer and Durango-based theater director, Theresa Carson, who will coordinate this year's 2019 festival. Theresa has a master's degree in theater directing from the University of Utah but has collegiate ties to many of

TSTM's board owing to her undergraduate years studying acting at the University of Iowa."

"Theresa has a long list of theater directing successes throughout the region, and has produced great productions at Sandstone, at San Juan College, at Durango Arts Center, and now at Fort Lewis College," says Sullivan.

"Owing to her astute coordinating talents," explains Sullivan, "during her six-year tenure in Farmington, New Mexico she took the Four Corners High School Theatre Festival and the New Mexico Activities Association One-Act Play Festival and turned them both into highly esteemed performance competitions and technical theater showcases for thousands of high school theater students throughout that state."

"Bringing in Theresa is smart," remarked secretary Vire, "but also because Theresa and Mollie had a close friendship."

Theresa Carson concurred noting, "Because of my dear friendship with Mollie, my interest in The Theatre Mine's endeavors in Silverton is deeply layered. Having been involved with Daniel and Judy Graham and Matthew Vire in the 2017 and 2018 festivals as an actor and director, I am thrilled to be called upon to use my coordinating talents in ways that would advance The Mollie to its next level in 2019."

Collaborations

The Theatre Mine continues

to collaborate with organizations throughout the Four corners region in 2019.

"Last year," noted Sullivan, "we furthered our collaboration with Durango Arts Center, once again bringing the top plays from DAC's nationally renowned 10 Minute Play festival to Silverton. We sought out and involved students from Fort Lewis College giving them opportunities to add to their resumes in stage management and acting, and we created a new collaboration with Sarah Syverson and Tom Yoder's Cortez-based Raven Narratives story-telling project."

"Using the Community Emergency Relief Fund (CERF) '416 Fire' grant money, TSTM brought the Raven Narratives to Silverton in August for a standing-room-only evening of storytelling at the Grand Imperial Hotel Downstairs Theater," noted Sullivan.

"In looking to extend our mission of collaboration," says Sullivan, "we'll consider possibilities in Ouray, Ridgeway, and Montrose in 2019, but more importantly TSTM will continue seeking ways to collaborate with ATG in Silverton - and aim to make such a collaboration come to fruition."

Festival Writers

Curatorial selection of festival writers from the region and the nation is ongoing, and TSTM will announce festival invitees in an upcoming *Silverton Standard* article.

STUDENTS, from Page 2

What if a bear hurts a kid in the park? It would be all our fault because we haven't gotten the right dumpsters. Some of us have little brothers or sisters and we don't want them to get hurt!

We know what you're thinking, "Where is the money going to come from?" Let us tell about a few ideas that can help with this! We learned that GOCO provides

Local Government Parks and Recreation Mini-Grants. These grants can be awarded for \$45,000-\$60,000 to enhance park facilities, like trash cans. An average bear proof dumpster costs around \$1,000, so we could buy two for Memorial, one for the school, one for the Visitor's Center, and maybe even the cemetery!

This won't help with the canisters on Blair Street but we have a few other tricks up our sleeve

for that! A place called Canyon Correctional Industries will make metal lids to fit on existing barrels. They only cost \$275 each. This is an awesome solution because we don't have to buy all new canisters. Also, we can keep the vintage look Silverton loves.

Now let's think about what we could do if we don't get any grant money. Don't worry, we've thought about that too! Other communities like Estes Park created an Adopt-a-Dumpster program. That means local businesses pledged to buy just one dumpster. If we go with the lids-only idea, people would only have to donate \$275! Or people could work in teams to raise the money. This is a good solution because no one has to spend too much money and we don't even need any tax dollars.

No one has to do it, but the whole town could work together. Our class could even help out by asking people to donate. As you can see, there are lots of options for making this happen. With all these amazing options, why start tomorrow when we can start today!

In 2018 Durango had to put down 25 bears that were repeatedly getting into the trash. In that same year, the town of Snowmass had to put down zero bears because every trash can was completely bear proof. Let's be like Snowmass, not Durango! Buying metal lids and bear proof dumpsters will help bears, our town, and our Earth. Let's fix these cans by this summer!

Sincerely, Silverton's fourth and fifth graders

CAG, from Page 1

at Superfund sites depending on community interests. The role of a CAG may change over time contingent on activity at a site and the interests of a potentially changing membership.

This CAG will be Colorado-based and will focus on Superfund activities impacting the Animas River within the state. It will not focus on the potential effects of Gold King Mine water release which occurred August of 2015, a year before the Superfund listing.

One of the main objectives of this CAG is to disseminate information about activities at the BPMD site to the community and to provide community input back to EPA. Related to that objective, this CAG will utilize local expertise in reviewing and commenting on technical documents associated with the site, Churchwell said.

Characterization and mine remediation in the upper Animas River Basin began 25 years before

CAG Members

Peter Butler, La Plata
Ty Churchwell, La Plata
Marcel Gaztambide, La Plata
Paul Montoia, San Juan County, N.M.
John Hopkins, La Plata
Charles Smith, San Juan
Chara Ragland, La Plata
Anthony Edwards, San Juan
John Ott, La Plata
Melissa May, La Plata
Larry Perino, San Juan
Jenna Emerick, La Plata
Dominique Edgerly, La Plata
Terry Morris, (San Juan County, CO liaison)
Parker Newby, San Juan, CO (Town of Silverton liaison)
(City of Durango liaison - pending)
(La Plata County liaison - pending)

it was listed for Superfund in 2016, and the community already possesses a great deal of data, knowledge and experience regarding the site.

OBITUARY

Lynn Mohney dies at age 83

Lynn W. Mohney, a longtime Durango resident, passed away Jan. 11, surrounded by family at the age of 83.

Lynn was born in Durango on Oct. 8, 1935. Lynn attended Animas City school and graduated from Silverton High School in 1953.

He joined the U.S. Air Force in 1953 and was stationed in Germany until 1957, when he was honorably discharged.

He then returned to Silverton where he worked as a miner, both in the gold and uranium mines in the southwest United States. In 1959 he married Bonnee Loftus of Silverton. He and his wife then moved back to Durango in 1961 where they raised their four children.

He worked at the Highland Dairy, La Plata Electric, and for a time owned and operated the Texaco service station on Main Street, where he was one of the most respected auto mechanics in the area. Lynn had a minor role in the TV series "Then Came Bronson."

Lynn retired with his wife Bonnee to Hermosa.

Lynn loved to hunt, fish, camp, operate anything with wheels, woodworking and could fix anything with a motor. He had a dominating presence that gave way to a gentle demeanor. Lynn was the kind of man who would help anyone in need and give the shirt off his back. The most important part of his life was his family. He was an excellent husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather and will be greatly missed by all who loved him.

He is survived by Bonnee, his wife of 59 years, his sons Bill (Laura) of Moriarty, N.M., John (Kathy) of Glendale, Ariz., and Rick (Vicki) of Queen Creek, Ariz., and his daughter Debbie (Chris) of Durango. He is also survived by 8 grandchildren; Patrick (Sabrina), Michael (Myranda), Sean (Ashton), Kristen (Marc), Sidney, Brittney (Chris), Jackson and Bryanna (Kyle). He also has 6 great-grandchildren; Ryleigh, Aislynn, Easton, Harper, Everly and Brixon. He is also survived by numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you make a donation to the Wounded Warriors or a charity of your choice. We want to thank the ER nurse, Ramona, for taking such wonderful care of him. We would also like to thank Mercy Hospice House for all they did during his brief stay there.

We want to thank Jim, Lavonne and Joaquin Bryce for helping us through the rough patches. Most of all, we want to thank Dayna McKinney. Dayna was there from the beginning and until the very end and we can't thank her enough for all she did for Lynn.

The family will have private services at a later date.



LYNN MOHNEY

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