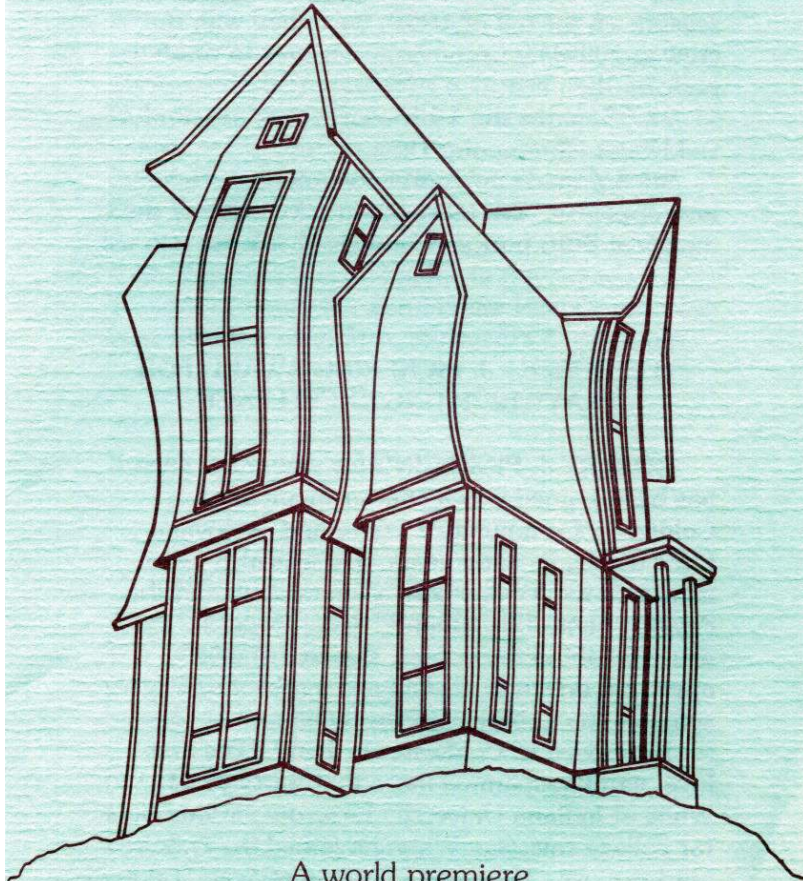


COLDWATER COMMUNITY
THEATRE
presents



HOUSE OF WONDERS



A world premiere
by Kate Aspengren

**For the Benefit of Branch County
Hospice**

**February 13,14,15 1992
8 p.m.**

**Tibbits Opera House
Coldwater, Michigan**

HISTORY OF COLDWATER COMMUNITY THEATRE

The actors known as the Coldwater Players was formed in the 1940's. In the late 1960's, the troupe enjoyed a brief revival as the Coldwater Community Theatre.

Robert J. Pickering's play A SLIGHT EXAGGERATION came to the stage in 1979, and CCT has been an active organization ever since.

The ROBERT J. PICKERING AWARD FOR PLAYWRIGHTING EXCELLENCE formed in 1984, the first presentation was in 1985. That same year CCT began producing musicals.

In 1987, CCT initiated its four performance season; in the fall of 1990, we joined with the crew at Hillsdale Community Theater to produce-perform the musical "1776."

92-93 marks the 14th consecutive season for Coldwater Community Theatre.

We are made up entirely of volunteers who love applause. We meet the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at Charlie's II. Please join us!

THE ROBERT J. PICKERING AWARD FOR PLAYWRIGHTING EXCELLENCE

ROBERT J. PICKERING for whom the award has been named was a charter member of Coldwater Community Theatre and a driving force during its early years. He was also instrumental in the Tibbits Opera Foundation and the development of its summer stock program. Bob worked behind the scenes, directed shows, appeared on stage, including 10 seasons of summer stock, and even wrote his own shows.

He moved to Coldwater in 1967. His first love, writing, spanned more that thirty years. While at Indiana University he wrote various skits for college reviews. When he joined the U.S. Marine Corp. he wrote a musical review, "Take Five" which was chosen to tour the East Coast naval hospitals. Later he become involved in radio and commercial writing and started his own production company making commercials for many major advertisers.

Bob Pickering died of cancer in 1984, not long after CCT had produced his final show, "Hang onto The Horse." During his final months, Bob was a patient of Citizens for Hospice. It is a natural tie-in that this eighth Pickering Award-winning play be presented for the benefit of Branch County Hospice.

Including Pickering's own shows, CCT will this year present its eleventh original play. Proudly, we are the only non-professional theatre group in the state of Michigan to present a premiere production annually.

THE AUTHOR

Kate Aspengren lives and works in Iowa City, Iowa, where she is a member of the University of Iowa Playwrights Workshop. Her play, *Dear Mrs. Martin*, was produced last spring as part of the Iowa Playwrights Festival. *Dear Mrs. Martin* had a reading last summer in New York by Echo Repertory and is scheduled to be published by Samuel French, Inc., later this year. A second play, *Mother's Day*, was produced last June by the Drama Workshop of Des Moines, Iowa, and will also be published by Samuel French later this year.

Kate's play, *A Day in the Life*, written for Orientation Services at the University of Iowa, was performed last summer for all incoming freshmen, Kate has also written several pieces which may be heard on the Iowa Radio Project on National Public Radio. While at The University of Iowa, Kate has been the recipient of the Norman Felton Award and the Barry and Maggie Kemp Scholarship. She was a semi-finalist in the Actor's Theatre of Louisville Ten-Minute Play Contest last year with the play, *Mrs. McNutly's Confession*.

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ROBERT J. PICKERING AWARD FOR PLAYWRIGHTING EXCELLENCE

The award was established to encourage new playwrights and new productions and to present to audiences original entertainment.

RECIPIENTS:

- 1985 - "Cooperative Living" by Donna R. Sorbello
- 1986 - "Folly's Quarter" by Jack Fournier
- 1987 - "Big Al Goes Straight" by Carol Costa
- 1988 - "It Was A Dark and Stormy Night" by Tim Kelly
- 1989 - "Murder Most Fouled Up" by Nikki Harmon
- 1990 - "Absurdly Yours" by Richard Neissink
- 1991 - "To Wit" by Joan Garner
- 1992 - "House of Wonders" by Kate Aspengren



"HOUSE OF WONDERS"



There will be a 10 minute
intermission between acts



CAST

(In order of appearance)

HOLLY. Deborah Jersey
CHRIS. Chuck Lillis
RACHEL. Julie Shoop
MYRTA. Marti Craig
EUGENE. Bill Shoop
CREE. Jamie Lemke Wallace
GARTHLENE. Irene Grimes Butdorf
JUNEAU JIM. Bill Butdorf

PRODUCTION STAFF

DIRECTOR. J. Richard Colbeck
PRODUCERS. Greg Hager and Ken Delaney
STAGE MANAGER. Marisue Taylor
SET DESIGN. Anne Davidson
SET CONSTRUCTION. Tom Harmon, Ken Morris,
Wade Adams, Anne Davidson,
Mary McIndoe, Laurie Adams, Bill Shoop,
Julie Shoop, Stephanie Davidson,
Jennifer Davidson, Kay Riegel, Maron Bigler
Paul Fuhrmann, Carolyn Stewart-Magruder
LIGHT DESIGN. Wade Adams and Tom Harmon
LIGHT BOARD OPERATOR. Ken Morris
SOUND DESIGN. Ken Delaney
SOUND BOARD OPERATOR. Tom Harmon
PROPS COORDINATOR. Mary McIndoe
COSTUMES. Mary McIndoe and
Carolyn Stewart-Magruder
HOUSE MANAGER. Tom Rebentisch
TICKET MANAGER. Laurie Adams
PUBLICITY. Christine Delaney and Committee

Special thanks to those who made donations of space, materials, or time to make this production a success: Dan Dobson State Farm Insurance, Schafer Distributing, Longstreet Furniture, Swick TV and Appliance and Bobilya Chrysler Plymouth Dodge.

And Thanks Bob! This one's for you!

HOSPICE

Hospice is an organization that helps the terminally ill and their families deal with death in a dignified and loving way. We have been a part of this community for over ten years helping those who are most in need of help. It is that philosophy that would lead Bob Pickering and his family to seek the help of Hospice and he, like all of our patients, came to realize that Hospice truly is an act of love.



This production is presented in memory of the families with whom we have worked.

Health Dept. Hospice
809 Marshall Rd.
Coldwater, MI 49036
(517) 279-9561

SPECIAL THANKS

to the following for helping make this production possible.

Branch County Federal Savings and Loan
Great Lakes Bancorp
Southern Michigan National Bank

as well as the following for donations of goods.

Felpausch
Gordon Food Supply
Mattingly Foods

Thanks to Hospice Volunteers, Astra Club of Coldwater High School, and the Interact Club of Coldwater High School for providing the Ushers for this production.



United Way

We most grateously thank the following for their generous sponsorships of this production.

Playwright Level Coldwater Rendering

Thespian Level
Solvay Automotive, Inc.
Dr. and Mrs. Edward Lake
Asela Jumao-as, M.D.

Chorus Level
Branch County Federal Savings
and Loan

Balcony Level
Jepson Electric
C.C. Wu, M.D.
Phillips Steel
Interact Club of Coldwater High School

Stage Hand Level

Bronson Journal/Ray Smith
John Rohloff
Wal Mart Corporation
Mr. and Mrs. John Petzko
Quality Spring/Togo
Peter Barone Tax & Accounting
Bernie Stankewicz
Edward D. Jones and Co.
Dally Tire Co.

**COLDWATER COMMUNITY THEATRE
PRODUCTIONS**

1979-1992

A SLIGHT EXAGGERATION
THE TORCH BEARERS
PLAZA SUITE
NIGHT WATCH
A NICE PLACE TO VISIT
THE GIRL IN THE FREUDIAN SLIP
CALIFORNIA SUITE
AND MISS REARDON DRINKS A LITTLE
THE GOOD DOCTOR
TEN LITTLE INDIANS
HANG ONTO THE HORSE
REHEARSAL FOR DEATH
CHRISTMAS TREE TALES
WHOSE LIFE IS IT ANYWAY?*COOPERATIVE LIVING
LITTLE MARY SUNSHINE
CHRISTMAS TREE TALES II
FOLLY'S QUARTER
COME BLOW YOUR HORN
HARVEY
BIG AL GOES STRAIGHT
GUYS AND DOLLS
MISTER ROBERTS
THE LAST OF THE RED HOT LOVERS
IT WAS A DARK AND STORMY NIGHT
THE UNSINKABLE MOLLY BROWN
CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF
A CHRISTMAS CAROL
MURDER MOST FOULED UP
KISS ME KATE
WAIT UNTIL DARK
CHRISTMAS TALES
ABSURDLY YOURS
LI'L ABNER
"1776"
FOOLS
TO WIT
PLAIN AND FANCY
THE NERD
GIFT OF THE MAGI/THE MOUSE THAT
WAS STIRRING
HOUSE OF WONDERS*

* Co-produced with Branch County Hospice

** Co-produced with the Hillsdale Community
Theater.