



## NEWS . . WATERFRONT PLAYERS

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### From the President



Pat McDonald  
President

We hope you have all had a glorious summer. For the Waterfront Players, this has been our first free summer in eleven years, and we have really been enjoying it, taking lots of personal time and getting rested.

Before any other thoughts get out there, I would personally like to thank all the volunteers who helped in the closing of the Waterfront Playhouse in Pony Village Mall.

Many people helped with both the series of sales, and with the enormous amount of administrative work involved. We sincerely appreciate all the help—from volunteers and also from those who came by and purchased items.

We also have appreciated the many kind words from faithful audience members. So many of you have not just seen every single show we produced, but came early for lectures and stayed late for 'talk-backs.' I know that you will miss our amazing little boutique theater as much as we will. But, take heart and stay tuned, you haven't seen the last of us.

And once again, a 'thank-you' to our sponsors, Pony Village Mall. The board of directors of the organization presented a beautiful plaque to the owners of the Mall. The inscription on the plaque reads: 'To Pony Village Mall, for ten years of support for theater arts in the community.' What a marvelous example of local corporate sponsorship.

At our recent annual meeting, we elected officers for the next biennium. I will be serving another term as president, and I am pleased to say that Johnna Hickox has been elected to the position of Vice-President.

Marla Taylor has also been elected to continue as Treasurer, rounding out the Executive Committee.

The remaining board members include Hilary Densmore, Darren Dirk, and Jo Reierson.

Although you may not be seeing very much of us, we have been very active formulating our next phase of activity.

The board of directors has commissioned two new plays from our Artistic Director and resident playwright Judy McDonald: *Pandora's Daughter* and an adaptation of the film *MindWalk*. Turn the page for more information about these plays.

We have applied for grant funds to prepare and produce *Pandora's Daughter*, and to perform and workshop the piece throughout the region prior to its world premier.

You can bet that we'll be seeing you very soon. With best regards,

*Pat McDonald*



Johnna Hickox  
Vice-President

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## From the Artistic Director



Judy Elliot McDonald  
Artistic Director/  
Playwright in Residence

Hello friends. It's been a while since you heard from us. I am happy to say that I took almost the entire month of August off to play. I'm now back in my 'writing office' at home, and geared up for some serious work.

Let me tell you a little about the two pieces which have been commissioned by the Waterfront Players.

First, there is *Pandora's Daughter*. It's not easy to talk about a play that is not written yet, so, I will just say that it describes four significant days in the life of Sophia, a middle-aged woman who has reached a crisis in her life.

She is visited by a number of individuals who help her sort out her issues as a feminist woman in a post-feminist world. Her quirky and unlikely visitors include Simone de Bouvoir, Eve, Amazing Girl (a typical over-scheduled and hyper-producing teen girl), Swapneshwari, the Hindu goddess of dreams, and George Bernard Shaw. That's enough for now.

The second play I am creating is an adaptation of the movie *MindWalk*, which was itself an adaptation of the book "The Turning Point" by Dr. Fritjof Capra (author of "The Tao of Physics"). The movie was made in 1992 and starred Liv Ullman, Sam Waterston and John Heard.

I met with Dr. Capra in Berkeley in July and we have an agreement to pursue the idea of an updated version of *MindWalk* staged for a small company and to be performed in avant-garde, surprising and sometimes non-theatrical venues. We will be meeting again in Los Angeles in November at which time Fritjof's brother Bernt (an Emmy Award-winning cinematic designer and writer) will be joining us for discussion. Bernt wrote the original screenplay.

I don't know if I can relate how exciting this is for me, and for the Waterfront Players. I became a big fan of Dr. Capra after reading the iconic "Tao of Physics" in about 1978.

The timeline for *Pandora's Daughter* is to have a preliminary script to be read by next spring, a ver-

## CLASS OFFERED IN BANDON

A "Live Theater Workshop" will be taught by Judy McDonald in Bandon in January. Dates have not been set. This class will take place on two consecutive Saturdays from 10 am to 4 pm. "Live Theater Workshop" is an amalgamation of several Waterfront Players classes, and will place emphasis on actor's and director's skills, as well as intermediate stagecraft for the community theater.

Pre-registration will be necessary in order to prepare materials. The cost for this two-day workshop is \$45 per person. Contact Judy at 756-2900 for additional information and registration.

sion workshopped around the region by next summer, and a world premier by next winter.

*MindWalk* will probably be ready for a reading by the end of next summer, with a production possibility in 2009.

I guess I will have to postpone writing my historical novel, although those of you out there who are writers know that multiple stories, books, plots, etc., can percolate along simultaneously in these remarkable brains.

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The Waterfront Players' family lost two members this week. I will miss them both.

Katie O'Goley, a dedicated fan who attended almost every production, always brought friends, and always gave me a candid, honest, and refreshing critique, passed away in Coos Bay.

Patrick Flitcroft, actor and friend, passed away in Portland. Patrick appeared in *Outward Bound*, *The Rainmaker* and *Seven Keys to Baldpate*.

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**Waterfront Players**

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