

Letter from the President

By the time you read this, Mountain Harvest Festival will be fading in your memory as the holidays loom on the horizon. But at the moment I am writing, we're in Harvest Festival recovery mode: bursting with pride and sagging with exhaustion. This year the Blue Sage went all out. We started the weekend with two new events for us. Friday morning kicked off the premier of Paint Paonia, a pleine aire art contest along the lines of Render the Rock, which turned out to be a huge success. The other event was the ever-popular Chili Cook-off in the town park, which we organized for the first time, with Lori Porter as our superb chairwoman at the reins. As in previous years, we hosted the Harvest of Voices with the library on Friday night and then on Saturday night we had four bands rockin' the dance floor until the wee hours. If

another town this size exists that can showcase such a rich harvest of local talent, I'd like to see it. A special thank you goes out to all the volunteers, board members and staff who helped make this Harvestfest exceed our highest expectations.

Meanwhile, the Blue Sage is getting organized. Helene Enslow has stepped down from the board to take over the role of Events Coordinator from Lynn Wetherell, who is taking a much needed break from the countless hours of paid and volunteer work that she gave to the Blue Sage over the years. Don Foster also stepped off the board and we thank you both for all you've done for us and for the community. The Blue Sage would not be what it is today without your loving care.

I am excited to announce that two new board members started in September. Annette Choszyk and Randy Campbell have joined us and Randy has already

jumped in with two feet as chairman of the facilities committee. We look forward to their contributions as hard working board members!

Approaching in the near future is a Halloween bash to beat them all - and in this town, that's a tall order! Leah Morris is organizing a DJ party that will bring out the spookiness in all of us. It won't be long before we're gearing up for the Holiday Arts and Crafts fair, a New Year's Eve bash with the Paradise and the beloved Black Eyed Pea Jubilee. In many ways, this town seems to sleep through the winter, but the locals always know where to find the party and we aren't afraid to come out of hiding to celebrate together. I myself am looking forward to it.

Your President,
Carol Kwiatkowski

Creede Repertory Theatre

Tuesday, September 30, the main street of Paonia rang with the sound and laughter of 177 students arriving at the Paradise Theatre for Creede Repertory Theatre's production of Grimm's Pajamas - Inventing Fairy Tales. The screenplay is a take-off of Grimm's Fairy Tales, with winding twists and turns swirling the leading actors into a plethora of comical antics and humorous lines.

Earlier in the day, Creede's actors presented two workshops with smaller groups of students from various schools, inspiring and engaging students into their creative expression through activities of problem solving, communication, public speaking, and performance.



The production was hosted and co-sponsored by the Blue Sage, Vision, Lamborn, Hotchkiss Montessori, Paonia Elementary and Paonia Middle schools along with sponsorships from High Country Printing and Graphics,

1st State Bank of Hotchkiss, 1st Colorado National Bank, Don Foster - Pot of Gold Show, Delta County Federal Credit Union, Paonia State Bank, High Country News, Bobby Mason Music, Flying Fork

Restaurant, Overgaard Bicycle Repair, Expressions Bookstore, Paradise Theatre, and Lori Porter - LP Appraisals.



I want to thank all of our sponsors for your gracious support in making this free to the students. Your sponsorships have touched the lives of many students by inspiring theatre arts, creative writing, public speaking, and performance.

The Blue Sage looks forward to hosting more educational art programs like this for our youth and community.

Helene Enslow
Blue Sage Event Coordinator

So, Who Got Your Vote?

Was it the Platte River Chili? Cedar's Steamin' Chili? Mountain High? It appears that "Many Liked It Hot" at the "Some Like It Hot" Chili Cook-Off, part of the 8th Annual Mountain Harvest Festival. Paonia Town Park provided the perfect setting, the weather was ideal, and the event was attended by chili aficionados from far and near. Chili cooks traveled from as far as Colorado Springs for the chance to win one or more of the \$75 cash prizes - or maybe it was that "Some Like it Hot" limited edition apron!

Twenty-six different entries offered something for everyone, from "Friend of the Devil" red chili to "Sweet Curry Green." For the exotic tasters, Buffalo Chocolate chili rounded out the choices. With anonymous judging by our eminently

qualified tasting team, as well as the popular People's Choice award, the winning entries were:

Red - Greg Peterson and the RE/MAX team

Green - Karin Winans

Meatless - Delicious Orchards

People's Choice - Delicious Orchards.

A huge thanks to our sponsors, **Dependable Lumber, Oxbow Mining, LLC, and Mountain Coal Company**, as well as all of the wonderful cooks, judges, volunteers and tasters. Without you, our supporters, it would be impossible to bring it all together. Let's make it a date for next year too!



Thank You Volunteers!

The Blue Sage would like to thank its many volunteers who helped make Mountain Harvest Festival a huge success: Your willingness to contribute time and time again is what allows us to offer events such as Paint Paonia, The Harvest of Voices, the Chili Cook-Off, and of course, the Saturday night music venue. Many thanks to you ALL.

Bill Bishop	Margaret Musngung
Roger Bissell	Dava Parr
Thomas Boddie	Greg Peterson
Russ Chapman	Jane Schulz
Jackie Gullick	Eleni Stelter
Tamarah Hardesty	Linda Talbott
Kristina Hutchins	Patricia Weller
Dave Jenkins	Lynn Wetherell
Linda Levine	Laura Lee Yates
Bob McHugh	Jack Young
Steve Morris	Kate Zachman
Bill Musngung	

And as always, the wonderful Blue Sage Staff, Joy Kuhlman and Helene Enslow, and your board, at work behind the scenes.

Thank you, Sponsors!

The following wineries enabled us to offer fine local wines, a treat for all. Please support our local vintners and let them know you appreciate their generosity.

Alfred Eames Cellars
Bethlehem Winery
Black Bridge Winery
Leroux Creek Vineyards
Stone Cottage Cellars
Terror Creek Winery

**Aprons
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\$8 exclusively at
the Blue Sage



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Annette Choszyck
Kelly Ryan Johnson
Administrative Director - Joy Kuhlman
Events Coordinator - Helene Enslow

What's Happening at the Blue Sage

Paint Paonia

The Blue Sage added a new dimension to the Mountain Harvest Festival: a pleine aire artists' competition. Twenty eight artists gathered with their favorite tools and created incredible portrayals of the autumn-tinted town of Paonia. At three o'clock the judges went to work, choosing the top three winners and several in the *Honorable Mention* category. Kathy Steckel's lovely pastel was awarded \$500 for *1st place*, Rosalie Clock - \$300 for *2nd place* and Alyssa Pinkerton - \$150 for *3rd place*. During intermission of the Harvest of Voices prose and poetry reading that evening, the packed house of literary lovers was offered the chance to bid on, and own the three outstanding art pieces. The remainder of the paintings were sold at silent auction, with proceeds benefitting the Library and the Blue Sage. We thank the artists and bidders for their generous contributions.



coming together made the event more than a Harvest of Voices, but a harvest of creativity, of acceptance, and above all, a harvest of community.

Upcoming Events

As the early darkness of October sets in, prepare for the Blue Sage to enlighten your senses with exciting new classes, events, and lectures. You will not be disappointed to fill your otherwise dreary, dull evenings with the upcoming events and exciting challenges of new dance and theater classes.

Need some laughter to shake the impending doom of winter's approach? Come join the Ship of Fools comedy troupe on Mondays, October 6, 13, 20, from 6:30-8pm to experience improv. Who knows? You might discover you have the humor gift.

If riotous comedy is not your thing, maybe hip hop is. On Board Balloon, Olathe's own number-one hip hop trio, will have you popping to some great rhymes and rhythms on October 18.

Regardless of your taste in music, you will not want to miss the Halloween DJ Handoff Party on October 31. Local DJs will set the scene for you to show off your fantastic costume on this spooky night. Don't have a costume? Come to our costume swap at the Paonia Library on Saturday, October 25 at 3pm. Tell your friends - it will be for all ages, male and female. Participants can bring whole costumes or accessories like hats, capes, wigs, jewelry, tails, noses, etc.

New Classes

Not only will the Blue Sage continue with its regularly scheduled yoga, tai chi, and dance classes, but it will add a little bit of drama to the class schedule.

Have stage fright? Well, then, live vicariously through your children. Lisa Howden

will be offering a variety of childrens' acting classes for different age levels. Commencing the week of October 20th, these classes will end with a public performance in December.

Looking for another way to get in the spotlight? Star in Arthur Starr's swing dance classes from September 9th until October 9th, Tuesday and Thursday nights.

For a month of dancing, acting, or just plain spooking, come rocktober your October with the Blue Sage.

2nd Annual Blue Paradise New Year's Eve Party

The Blue Sage Center for the Arts and the Paradise Theatre invite you to The Blue Paradise New Year's Eve Celebration, 2008. Entertainment begins at the Blue Sage with jazzy, swiny vibes, along with succulent hors d'oeuvres. The party shifts to the Paradise for delectable desserts, dancing and theatrics.

Through gathering together the resources and enthusiasm of both venues, there are more possibilities for fresh ideas and collaboration in planning and financial commitment. An event such as this brings people together, supports the community, the arts and local commerce, giving both organizations an opportunity to continue their service to the community. By pooling resources and talent, we will throw a fantastic party, Paonia style.

Tickets are \$30 in advance, \$35 at the door. December 31st, 8pm - 1am. Some volunteers will be needed. For more information or advance tickets, contact Regna at 970.527.6610 or Helene at 970.527.SAGE.

Fall Class Schedule

Tai Chi with Bob

Sunday and Thursday 6:30-8pm

Children's Theatre with Lisa - Age 5-9

Tuesday 3:30-5:30pm (Oct.21-Dec. 10)

Children's Theatre with Lisa -

Age 10-up Wednesday 3:30-5:30pm (Oct.22-Dec. 10)

Yoga with Phyllis

Thursday 8:30-9:45am

Harvest of Voices

by Leah Morris

Walking past the obviously packed Blue Sage on the evening of September 26, a person might have been intrigued to peer inside. While it would have been difficult to see through the cluster of bodies, the words issuing forth from the stage would have drawn in all but the most agoraphobic of eavesdroppers, for the poetry, prose, and theater presented that night covered topics from all corners of Delta County. The event was Harvest of Voices, a collaboration between the Paonia Library and the Blue Sage.

The evening began with a hint of music theater, a piece of a larger musical written by Marty Durlin. Following that, talented writers from the North Fork Valley told personal stories, recited poetry, narrated essays, and read their own fiction to a completely rapt audience.

This was an evening made possible by a generous audience and willing art buyers, as well as numerous volunteers, including the readers themselves. All of these people



*Committed to
Promoting & Expanding
the Role of Arts & Humanities,
Enhancing
Cultural & Educational
Enrichment in the Community.*

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Randy Campbell

"I fix & build things"

I will do small jobs; I do return phone calls.

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Create a Meaningful Legacy...

with a simple designation in your will. Talk to your lawyer to plan your estate and leave the Blue Sage a set amount, percentage, or even specific assets. This will provide a charitable estate tax deduction and is an effective way to leave a legacy of community support!

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Calendar of Events

Saturday, October 18, 8pm,
On Board Balloon, Hip Hop music,
co-production with Efficacious
Entertainment and the Blue Sage

Monday, October 20, 7:30pm, Informal
Video and Discussion **Lecture Series:**
"Religious and Scientific Perspectives
on the Environment"

The **Lecture Series** - continues every
second Wednesday, with every third
Monday follow-up informal discussion
and videos.

Saturday, October 25, 3pm, **Costume
Swap** at the Paonia Library

Friday, October 31, 8pm **Halloween
DJ Extravaganza Party**

Saturday, November 8, 7:30pm,
Western Slope Chamber Music Series
World-famous pianist Joel Fan, a mem-
ber of Yo-Yo Ma's Silk Road Ensemble.

Friday, December 5, 3-8pm &
Saturday, December 6, 9am-5pm -
Holiday Art Fair

Saturday, Dec 13, 7pm **Children's
Holiday Voices** and **How the Grinch
Stole Christmas** performance

Saturday, January 10, 7:30pm -
Western Slope Chamber Music Series
- Viola, Harp and Flute Dreams

Saturday, January 31 - **Mike Gwinn
and the North Fork Flyers & Three
in the Morning**



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