

DETROIT THEATER ORGAN SOCIETY

*Merry
Christmas*

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December 2014

DTOS
Executive Board
& Directors

Donnie Rankin Holiday Concert

Sunday, December 7, 2014 3:00p.m.

- **President**
Lance Luce
lanceluce@wowway.com
- **Vice President**
Michael Fisher
fisher.michael65@yahoo.com
- **Treasurer**
Dave Calendine
dave@calendine.net
- **Corporate Secretary**
Fred Bruflodt
fred.audioarts@prodigy.net
- Gil Francis
ggf@juno.com
- Paul Jacyk
paul5jacyk@aol.com
- Dick Leichtamer
tibiplena434@buckeye-express.com
- George Orbits
orbitsgc@gmail.com
- Bob Weil
robertjweil@yahoo.com
- Chris Werner
rolandefleur@gmail.com
- Kevin Werner
kevwer@comcast.net



December brings an award-winning organist to the Senate Theater for our holiday concert. Donnie Rankin took the theatre organ world by storm when he started playing the organ. Now one of the more sought-after young organist on the concert circuit, we are thrilled to bring his talent and artistry to the Senate Theater for our December concert.

Donnie Rankin first took an interest in the theatre organ at the tender age of three when he first heard the sounds of the Mighty Wurlitzer at the Civic Theatre in Akron, Ohio. Following that initial introduction to the King of Instruments, he frequently played on his great-grandfather's home organ. In 2000 Donnie acquired an instrument and began taking formal lessons. Classical piano training followed in 2005, and his budding talent quickly blossomed into first rate musicianship.

Since then,

Donnie has won several organ competitions and awards, including being named the Overall Winner of the American Theatre Organ Society's Young Theatre Organist Competition in 2007.

Donnie began studying with noted organist Jelani Eddington in September 2007. Since that time, Donnie has performed for theatre organ audiences from coast to coast. He resides in Ravenna, Ohio, and is a staff organist at the Civic Theatre in nearby Akron - playing the very same organ Donnie first heard when he was three years old.

When he has free time, he enjoys: boating, bowling, cinematography, photography, cycling, archery, marksmanship, and assorted backyard sports. Some more productive hands-on activities he's been involved with include re-soldering PC boards for home organs, and restoring antique tractors, his latest a 1966 John Deere.

Join us for a great Christmas concert, and don't forget our traditional intermission dessert buffet! We look forward to seeing you at the Senate!



Christmas Concert Refreshments

Dick Leichtamer, DTOS Board of Directors

All members that are attending the Christmas Concert on December 7 are asked to bring goodies for the party at intermission. We would

like to have cookies, brownies and other fancy baked goods (finger foods only, please!). You may also bring foods such as cheese and veggies for our

friends and guests that can't have the sweet items. The coffee, Christmas punch (non-alcoholic) and water are free that day. We will not have

popcorn. The intermission will be extended so that there will be plenty of time to eat and renew friendships. We hope to see you there.

President's Message

Lance Luce, DTOS President

It was great to be "back in business" again, smell the coffee brewing in the lobby, hear the organ and feel the excitement of the crowd. The boiler is keeping the place warm and there were lots of smiles on peoples faces. The new lobby piano sounded great, and I re-

ceived four comments about what an improvement it was from the old piano. We are looking forward to the upcoming movies (check the web site and this newsletter for dates and times) and we are looking forward to our Christmas organ concert with Donnie Rankin. One

item I did forget to announce from the stage was, please bring cookies or a treat to pass for the Christmas organ concert. We will have tables in the lobby to put your edible treats on for people to enjoy. This concert traditionally has an extended intermission to give

people a little extra time to visit and to sample some goodies. Please bring a friend as this is usually one of the best attended concerts of the year. Have a Happy Thanksgiving and a very Merry Christmas season!

Ballet Folklórico De Detroit Christmas Recital

Dave Calendine, DTOS Board of Directors

The Senate Theatre is proud to be the site of a Christmas dance recital by Ballet Folklórico De Detroit on Sunday, December 21 at 2:00 p.m.

Ballet Folklórico De Detroit is a community based dance troupe that promotes traditional Mexican culture through the art of dance. Their mission is to awaken a sense of culture within the students' lives, while creating interest and pride in their own cultural

backgrounds, and to foster a sense of respect for other cultures. The group was developed in November 2013 when a group of local young adults united to develop a place where youth not only learn to dance together but offers the opportunity to learn leadership traits, public speaking skills, and growth in artistic expression.

Classes are offered free of charge and depend on community support to continue our quest.

People of all ages and

backgrounds are invited to join and express their distinctive talents and ideas through traditional Mexican Folkloric dance. They value individuality, unity, cultural diversity, scholarship and good health. They are committed to our art, culture and our community. They recognize hard work and discipline as key in striving for the maximum level of artistic quality. They provide an environment of mutual respect and dignity.

The 2014 Christmas

Recital will include both our children's group and adult dancers who will present a sampling of dances from several regions in Mexico. We will sing Christmas Carols together, meet and greet Santa Claus and enjoy Mexican/American holiday traditions.

Tickets, available at the door the day of the performance, are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under.



Holiday Movies Fill the Screen at the Senate

Dave Calendine, DTOS Board of Directors

We are pleased to present two Christmas classics on our giant screen at the Senate Theatre this year.

First up, on November 29 at 8:00 p.m. is the 1938 version of the tale, "A Christmas Carol." Ebenezer Scrooge, Jacob Marley, Bob Cratchit and Tiny Tim are back in this telling of the Charles Dickens classic.

Reginald Owen stars as Ebenezer Scrooge. Gene Lockhart fills the role of Bob

Cratchit. Terry Kilburn plays the role of Tiny Tim. A great cast, a great story, and a great theatre. Come see this version, in all of it's black-and-white glory.

December 20 brings the new Christmas classic, "The Polar Express" to the screen at the Senate.

A magical train is boarded Christmas Eve by a doubting little boy, and the train heads towards the North Pole. Throughout the ride, the boy

takes a journey of self-discovery that shows the magic of Christmas exists for those that believe.

Tom Hanks fills several roles in the cast, from the conductor, a hobo, Scrooge, and even Santa himself.

Show times for "The Polar Express" are at 2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Doors for each movie open one hour prior to show times. Come early, get your pop and popcorn, select a seat

in the auditorium, and listen to the sounds of the Mighty Wurlitzer as it plays some of your Christmas favorites thirty minutes prior to each show time.

Tickets are only \$5.00 for everyone. Free guarded parking is available in the lot off of Gilbert Street.

Bring your friends and family to enjoy these great films. And you never know, maybe even Santa himself might come by as well!



UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE REDFORD THEATRE

December 5 & 6—Christmas Vacation

December 13 at 8:00 p.m.—Christmas Concert featuring Melissa Ambrose-Eidson at the Barton organ

Also featuring the Casali Holiday Dancers

December 19 & 20—White Christmas

December 28—Elvis Tribute Show

Films are shown Friday and Saturday evenings at 8:00 p.m. as well as Saturday afternoon at 2:00 p.m. (unless otherwise noted).

Organ overtures start thirty minutes prior to each show time.

Visit the Redford Theatre on the web at www.redfordtheatre.com



DETROIT THEATER
ORGAN SOCIETY

Over 50 Years of Entertainment!

Detroit Theater Organ Society

David Calendine, Editor
DTOS Newsletter
6424 Michigan Avenue
Detroit, MI 48210-2957

Phone: (313) 894-0850
Concert Hotline: (313) 894-4100

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.DTOS.ORG

Concert & Movie Series

November 29—Film: “A Christmas Carol”
(1938 film version) - 8:00 p.m.

December 7—Donnie Rankin - 3:00 p.m.

December 20—Film: “The Polar Express”
2:00 p.m. & 8:00 p.m.



photo: Lance Luce



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