

FACT FROSTIVAL

4th Annual



Ten. Minute. Plays.

Week 1: January 19–21

A WALK IN THE PARK

By Kirsten Shockley
West Fargo, ND

THE CONCIERGE

By Brent Alles
Wyoming, MI

TOXIC NORSE-CULINITY

By Matthew McLachlan
New York City, NY

LITTLE KASIA MEETS THE GOD OF DEATH

By Andrea Berting
Chicago, IL

HOW TO DONATE TO YOUR LOCAL PUBLIC LIBRARY

By Joe Gaskill
Livonia, MI

Week 2: January 26–28

SPEED DATING

By Curt Strickland
Stoughton, MA

BOUNTY

By Amy Martin
Vienna, VA

THE VISIT

By Dan Borengasser
Springdale, AR

THE ELIMINATION ROUND

By Carl L. Williams
Houston, TX

DEMONIZED

By Emily Beck
Fargo, ND

A NOTE FROM FMCT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, JUDY LEWIS

Hello FMCT Friends and Families,

Welcome to the Fargo Moorhead Community Theatre's 4th Annual 10-minute play festival! We are so excited to present these plays to you live at the Hjemkomst! This evening's scripts were selected from the works of 189 playwrights from all over the world. We're honored to bring these plays to life in our community.



Thank you to the cast, crew, and creative teams of each of these plays. Not only does this festival provide an opportunity to present new written works for the stage, but it also provides an opportunity for artists to try their hand at directing and gives actors the chance to do what they love best – bring fictional characters to life in a world of their own.

To our guests, whether it's your first time seeing a production at FMCT, or you're a long-time patron of our productions, on behalf of everyone at FMCT I'd like to welcome you. Your support means everything to us. Please grab a drink from the bar, settle in, and enjoy the stage debut of some really fine plays. Theatre is one of the most collaborative art forms on the earth – and you, the audience, is the final player – welcome to the festival!

With joy,
Judy Lewis
Executive Director, FMCT

A WALK IN THE PARK

Week 1
Jan 19-21

Director

Gina Bar-El

Cast

Dawn Thompson as Josie
Charles Newman as Dave

Written by Kirsten Shockley – West Fargo, ND



I live in West Fargo and love to write and act. This is my first produced work and I am currently working on numerous projects I hope will be published someday.

My play was inspired by mom who loved to write also. She was taken from us too soon so I would like to dedicate this play to her and her memory. I think she would have really enjoyed it.

The play I wrote is about a chance meeting in a park. You never know how your day is going to go when you wake up in the morning. When Dave woke up he did not realize he was going to meet Josie and share her secret. And that is what makes life so interesting.

Director

Hailey Crowe

Cast

Abigail Vogeler as Young Woman
Miranda Pautzke as Other Woman
Addison Ettish as Beth
Mickey Porter as Simmons

Written by Brent Alles – Wyoming, MI



Brent Alles is the author of many full-length and one-act plays. Most recently, his full-length play for young audiences, *The Last Kid in the Universe*, had a world premiere with LowellArts in Lowell, MI, in the Spring of 2023. He is a 2018 Play Bytes winner for his 10-minute play *SWIPE LEFT, SWIPE RIGHT*. His work can be found at www.justbcuzproductions.com. He has directed 15 full-length productions in the past for community theater in the West Michigan area. He is a proud Member of the Dramatists Guild. Brent is a graduate of Syracuse University, Central Michigan University, Capella University, and the School of Hard Knocks. As always, he'd like to say thanks to his lovely wife Camille for putting up with the theatrical endeavors.

A NOTE FROM THE AUTHOR:

“Life, death, and the afterlife (whatever it may be) is a constant fascination for me and the subject of quite a few of my 10-minute and other work. “The Concierge” represents one of those musings, perhaps, in terms of just what might be on the other side. I hope you enjoy it. My thanks to the fabulous cast and excellent director Hailey Crowe for bringing my idea to life and to FMCT for supporting playwrights!”

TOXIC NORSE-CULINITY

Week 1
Jan 19-21

Director

Matt Smith

Cast

Ethan Quist as Sven
Jordan Franzen as Bretl
Reid Strand as Kevin

Written by Matthew McLachlan - New York City, NY



Matthew McLachlan is a Scottish-American playwright born in Scotland, raised in Florida, and currently survives in New York City. He is a Dramatist Guild Member, a two-time ScreenCraft Stage Play Finalist, and Samuel French OOB Festival Finalist. His plays include: *The Demand of Avarice*, *This God Damn House*, *Jack & Melissa*, *Orion*, and *The Place We Are Meant to Be*, among others. His plays have been presented by Abingdon Theatre Company, Labyrinth Theater Company, The Chain Theatre, Nylon Fusion,

The NOW Collective, The Farm Theater, The PIT, Thespis Theater Festival, and performed regionally in Kentucky, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Wyoming, New Jersey, West Virginia, North Dakota, & Florida. Other credits include: His published works *A Collection of One-Acts & Other Things You May or May Not Enjoy* and full-length play *Orion* are available now at The Drama Bookshop and on Amazon.

A NOTE FROM THE AUTHOR:

“My play *Toxic Norse-culinity* was my way of "solving" the toxic masculinity I saw around me and around the world. Did I do that? Probably not. But it is funny and makes some good points. At least I think. Either way, it's a good silly time and I hope you enjoy it.”

LITTLE KASIA MEETS THE GOD OF DEATH

Week 1
Jan 19-21

Director

Gaige Jevne

Cast

Jeff Rondeau as Czernobog
Brenna Johnson as Kasia

Written by Andrea Berting – Chicago, IL



Andrea Berting is a live theatre professional, having spent most of her career backstage in the world of wardrobe. It took a global pandemic closing down theaters worldwide to get her to sit down and give writing a shot, but now that she's started she can't stop. Her dramedy feature screenplay, *BREAST IN SHOW*, won Best Original Comedy Feature at the 2022 Richmond International Film Festival, as well as earning her a position as an ISA Fast Track Fellow. Additionally, her 90-second pitch of the project recently won the 2023 Austin Film Festival Pitch Competition. Andrea received her BFA in Theater Education from VCU in Richmond, VA. She lives in Chicago with her husband and very anxious rescue dog. You can keep up with Andrea on Instagram or Twitter at @andreaberting. This piece is dedicated to her great-grandmother, Kasia, whose real-life immigration story inspired this short play.

HOW TO DONATE TO YOUR LOCAL PUBLIC LIBRARY

Week 1
Jan 19-21

Director

Ashley
Fredericksen

Cast

Sarah Nelson as Audrey
Jacob Kalvoda as Jess
Isla Lassig as The Body

Written by Joe Gaskill - Livonia, MI



Joe Gaskill is an actor, voice actor and playwright from Livonia, Michigan. While primarily studying acting at Wayne State University (where he graduated with a BA in Theatre Performance in 2019), Joe took a playwriting class in his senior year and not only loved the experience of creating a play, but saw his first one act (a true events-inspired psychological drama called “Unethical”) become one of three pieces performed at Wayne State’s Heck-Rabi Playwriting Festival. Outside of writing, Joe still performs in theatres throughout Michigan (recent roles include multiple characters in “Office Hours”, Hal in “Proof” and Sandy in “Duck Hunter Shoots Angel”) and records voiceovers remotely from his home studio.

A NOTE FROM THE AUTHOR: One day, while Joe was working at his local library (a job he still holds to this day), a patron placed a hacksaw into the donation bin. Years later, he decided to write about the occurrence while viewing it through a darkly comedic lens, and thus “How to Donate to Your Local Public Library” was born. Other similarly odd items still get donated to that same library to this day.

SPEED DATING

Week 2
Jan 26-28

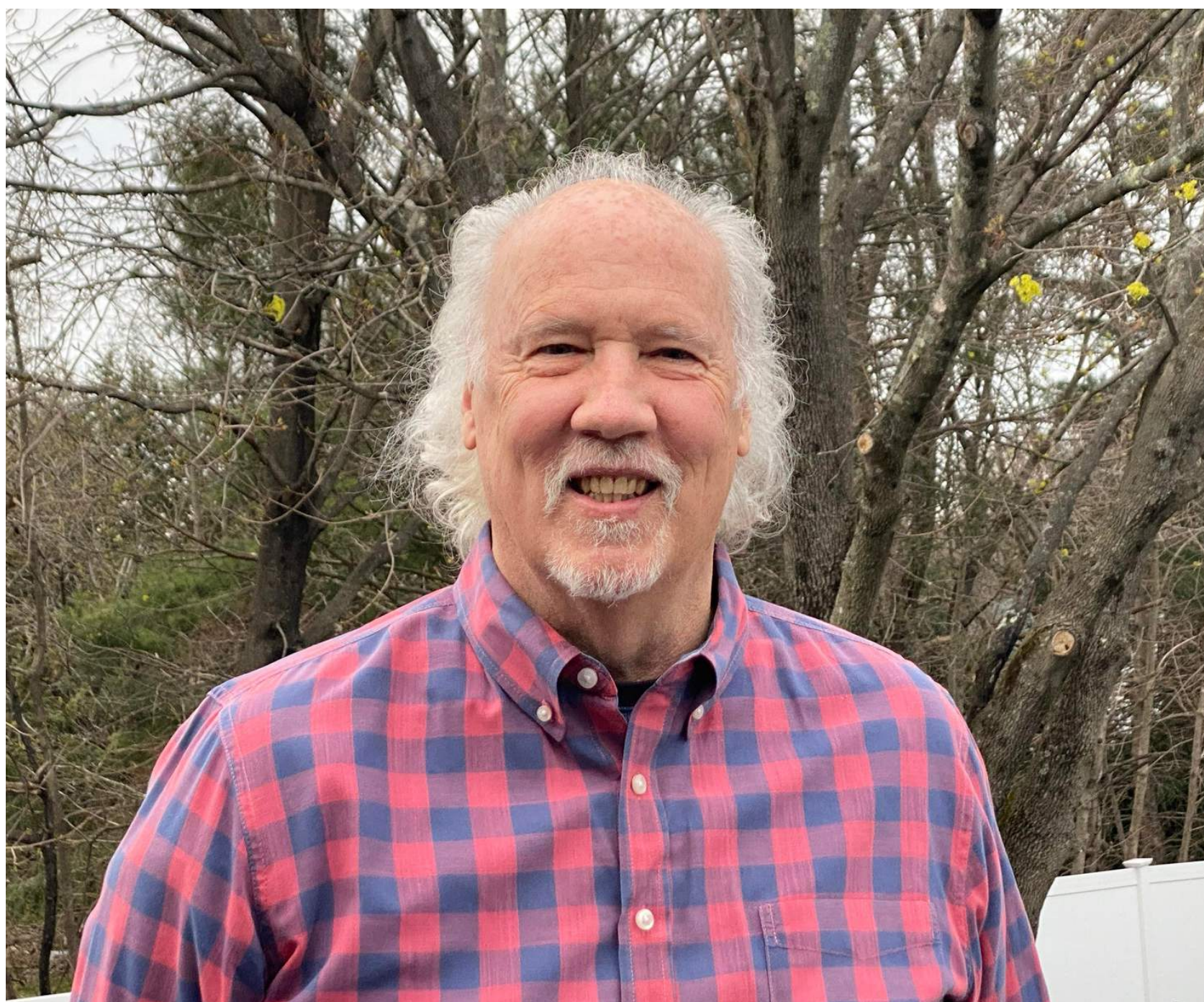
Director

Keith Schweigert

Cast

Karin Rudd as Sara
Jeff Rondeau as Jesse

Written by Curt Strickland - Stoughton, MA



Curt Strickland is a playwright who recently received a masters degree in playwriting from Lesley University's graduate program. Inspired by August Wilson, Curt is finishing up his 5th play in a ten play opus on America, each play set in a different decade. Besides his political and cultural essays (curtsview.com), Curt is a landscape photographer, and a former owner at Great American Art, one of the largest commercial art corporations in the nation. Curt believes that art should serve to heal, inspire, provoke, challenge and to offer hope - but most of all to connect, to remind us of our common humanity. In 2020, Curt received a double lung transplant, an event that had profound effects on both his writing and his life. This experience is the basis of a new play he is developing called "Double Lung."

Director

Jace Erickson

Cast

Jordan Franzen as Wayne
Jessica Hayes as Daphne
Rikki Walter as Slone

Written by Amy Martin - Vienna, VA



Amy R. Martin is a multi-genre writer. Her essays and stories have appeared in numerous literary magazines, including The Lumiere Review, JMWW, Cleaver, and Pithead Chapel. Her flash essay, "Oysters," was nominated for Best of the Net 2023 by Atlas + Alice. Also in 2023, she was named a Virginia Center for the Creative Arts fellow. Amy serves as the Stage & Screen Editor at the Southern Review of Books and works as a creative producer at start-up Lost Mountain Entertainment, where she develops stories for film and television. She received

her MFA in stage- and screenwriting and creative nonfiction from the Queens University of Charlotte. Her work can be viewed at <http://www.amymwrites.com>, and she tweets now and then about writing and women's rights at @martinamyr.

A NOTE FROM THE AUTHOR: This play is very near and dear to my heart. I wrote it in the wake of the Texas SB8 law, which authorized a private civil right of action against any person who aids or abets the performance or inducement of an abortion, and in anticipation of other laws that might make it a criminal offense to help minors travel out of state for an abortion. I tried to imagine what enforcing an "abortion trafficking" law might look like. At about the same time, I was increasingly exposed on social media and elsewhere to a tide of rhetoric among conservatives and right-wing extremists about their desire to eliminate access to contraception and no-fault divorce. This wave of sexism and misogyny, in my view, reached a peak in the U.S. Supreme Court's Dobbs decision, which struck down Roe v. Wade, and continues to roil today. I was - and still am - greatly disturbed by this assault on my rights as a woman and as a person, and on what this "war on women" might mean for my future and for the future of my daughters, so I channeled my angst into this play.

Director

Grace Morton

Cast

Caryn Hewitt as Kate
Brad Swenson as Justin

Written by Dan Borengasser – Springdale, AR



Many of my plays have been produced or have received staged readings. A number of plays – including A.R@Uni.Gov, The Kindness of Strangers, The Canterbury Tales Revisited, and Sense & Insensibility – have been published. My plays have been produced in theaters across the country, from New York to Los Angeles, as well as in Canada, Mexico, India, Australia, New Zealand, Malaysia, and the Philippines. Several short screenplays have been produced as well as a feature length film I helped write, titled The Donor Conspiracy. A number of radio plays have been produced and broadcast nationally.

www.danborengasser.com

The Elimination Round

Week 2
Jan 26-28

Director

Jim Hagel

Cast

Rick Mangahas as Fenrick
Grace Magstadt as Priscilla
Shanna Franzen as Geneva
Jim Luchsinger as Morgan

Written by Carl L. Williams - Houston, TX



CARL L. WILLIAMS is a Houston playwright whose full-length and one-act plays have won numerous national playwriting competitions, including the Stanley Drama Award in New York. His plays have received over 400 productions around the country, including off-off-Broadway, as well as in a number of foreign countries. More than 40 of his plays have been published, with several one-acts appearing in anthologies. Carl is a member of The Dramatists Guild of America. He is also the author of a Western novel called Fool's Play and most recently an amateur detective novel called Lights Up on Murder, available on Amazon Kindle.

Director

Craig Roath

Cast

Emma Byer as Malerie
Skylar Steffan as Amy

Written by Emily Beck - Fargo, ND



Emily Beck is a film fanatic, proud auntie, and writer of countless things she has never had the nerve to share...until now. Emily received a bachelor's degree in Film Studies from MSUM in 2006. She joined the Fargo Theatre team two years later and has served as Executive Director since 2011. A devoted fan of all things spooky, Emily is currently producing Ghost Show, a 10-episode narrative podcast which will be released later this year. Emily lives in Fargo with her extremely supportive husband Adam and her collection of Stephen King books. She is thrilled to have her first play selected for this festival!

CREATIVE TEAM

Artistic Director.....Judy Lewis
Technical Director.....Rick Lewis
Stage Manager.....Michaela Pytlik
Production Manager.....Konner Doucette
Costume Designer.....Gina Bar-El

FMCT STAFF

Executive Director Judy Lewis
Technical Director Rick Lewis
Community Engagement Director..... Shanna Franzen
Education Director Michaela Pytlik
Finance Manager Kim Rensvold
Master Carpenter & Design Anna Kann
Scenic Charge & Educator Kate Aarness
Executive Assistant.....Kayla Rice
Technical Assistant Konner Doucette
**Front-of-House Team Amanda Kadrmas,
Tami Mangahas, Rick Mangahas, Reid Strand, Gabby Clavo,
Dut Deng, Tarin Rensvold**

COMING UP NEXT...

FMCT Theatre For Young Audiences Presents:

**Junie B.
Jones[®]**
The Musical

Public Performances

March 2 & 9

(Sensory-friendly performance March 2 at 1pm)

For more information, to purchase tickets, or sign up for auditions
please visit fmct.org or call 701-235-1901

THANK YOU TO OUR
EVENT SPONSORS:

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NORTH OF NORMAL

THANK YOU TO OUR
GRANT AND COMMUNITY
PARTNERS:

This project is supported in part by a grant from the North Dakota Council on the Arts, which receives funding from the state legislature and the National Endowment for the Arts:

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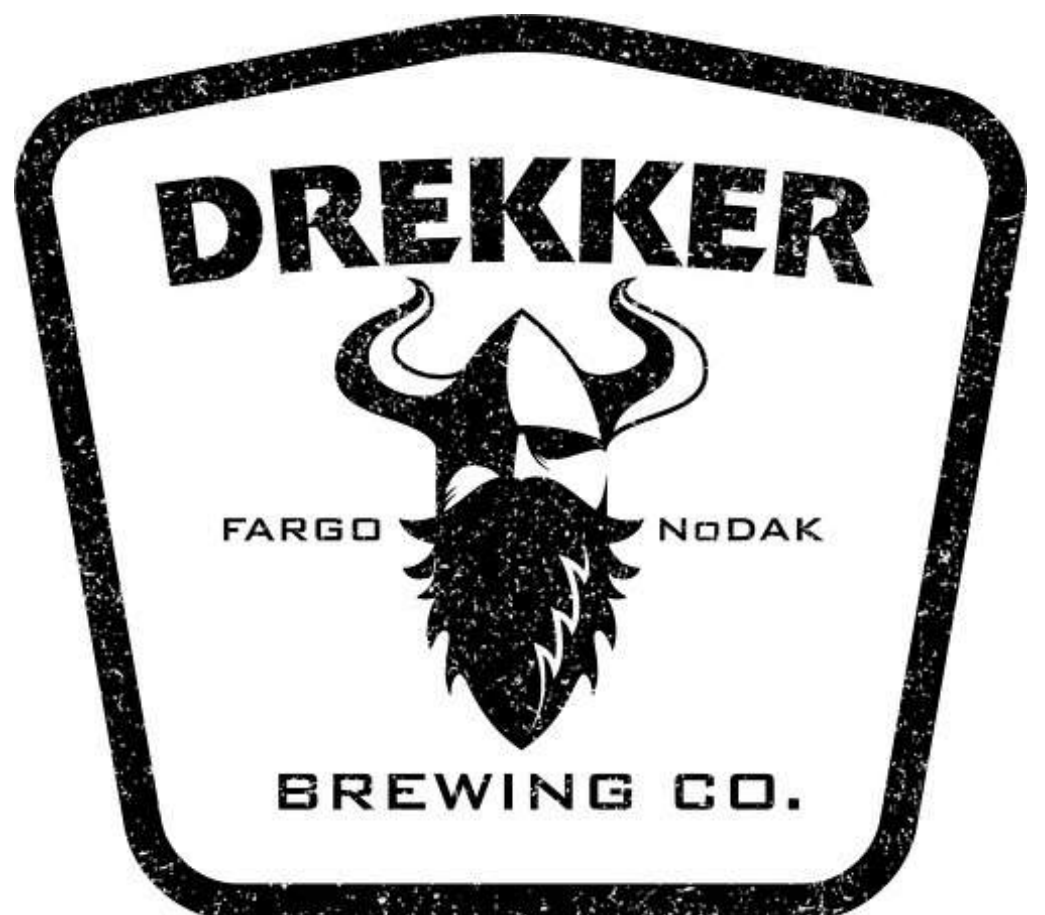


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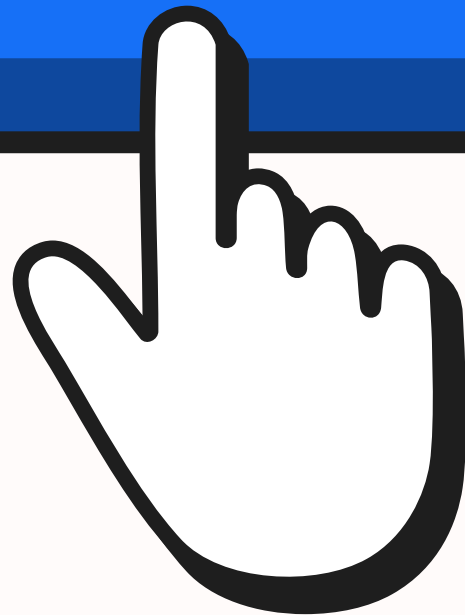
CLICK ON THE IMAGE TO VISIT THEIR WEBSITE!

FMCT

FARGO / MOORHEAD
COMMUNITY THEATRE

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!
What would you, our FMCT patrons,
like to see from us? Take our brief
survey and provide your input!

TAKE SURVEY



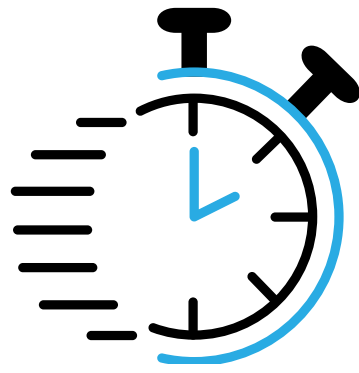
For more information, to purchase tickets,
find auditions, volunteer opportunities and
learn more about us, visit fmct.org.

Stay in-the-know by following
us on social media:



COMING UP THIS SEASON...

4th Annual



Ten.
Minute.
Plays.

Jan 19-27, 2024



Feb 10, 2024



Feb 29 - Mar 9, 2024



WAIT
UNTIL
DARK

Apr 5-13, 2024

Silver Follies

MURDER MYSTERY
Dinner Theatre

"Murder at Shady Acres"

May 9-11, 2024



June 2024

Stay tuned to FMCT's website & social media for more show information & upcoming auditions! www.fmct.org

2023-2024 sessions

Spring Session (Apr 6- May 11, 2024):
Registration opens March 2

Summer Sessions now open for registration.
Please visit our website for specific camp
dates & times.



"Grease: School Edition"
Summer '23

CLASSES OFFERED

Acting Sections for Pre-K (ages 3-5) * Kindergarten - 2nd
grade * 3rd - 6th grade * 7th-10th grade

Beloved children's books serve as the foundation for dramatic adventures. Students will work together to create new characters, situations, and exciting opportunities for creative and heroic problem solving!

Musical Theatre K- 2nd grade * 3rd - 6th grade *
7th-10th grade

Students will tackle fun, challenging harmonies and choreography. Through discipline and artistic expression, students will develop their performance skills in a multidisciplinary environment.

Auditioning 4th - 8th grade * 6th - 12th grade

Study the process of auditioning to build a repertoire for future auditions. Students will practice monologues, song choices, and dance combinations in this course.



"Little Shop of Horrors"
Summer '22

One-Act 5th - 8th grade

Students will take their acting and storytelling skills to a new level by rehearsing and performing an in-studio one-act play.

Adult Acting ages 16+

Explore core principles of acting, voice, movement, objectives, obstacles, theatre vocabulary, and the importance of risk-taking and ensemble building.

About FMCT Education

Theatre education embraces many aspects of curriculum: English, History, Science, Social Studies, Math, Music, and more. Through stories, character development, problem-solving, peer collaboration and critical thinking, students explore these areas of curriculum in order to creatively exist within the world of a play.

The goal at FMCT Ed is to expand upon a student's frame of reference and teach them to make connections between the theatre they create and the world in which they live. Students learn to collaborate with peers, connect with people from differing backgrounds, and begin to see themselves as valued citizens on the world's stage where they develop important ideas about justice, history, personal choice and humanity.

Through programs like "On The Road", "Silver Follies", Saturday Education Class sessions as well as Summer Musical Productions and Camps, FMCT is proud to offer exceptional year-round educational programs featuring a variety of classes and performance opportunities for individuals of *all* ages and experience levels.





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With FMCT Flex Passes, you have the freedom to attend any of our mainstage shows, mixing and matching your tickets. Whether it's drama, comedy, or musicals that pique your interest, our Flex Passes are your key to experiencing the full spectrum of theatrical delights right here at FMCT.

What's even better? FMCT Flex Passes come with no expiration date so you can use them when it's most convenient for you.

Get yours today at fmct.org!

**THE FOLLOWING IS A STATEMENT
INCLUDED IN THE 1946 PLAYBILL FROM
THE FARGO MOORHEAD COMMUNITY
THEATRE FOUNDING PARTNERS,
ARTICULATING THEIR VISION FOR THE
NEWLY FORMED THEATRE:**

“With the establishment of a Community Theater, residents of Fargo-Moorhead now share with people in many other cities of the nation the opportunity to regularly see offerings of the legitimate theater. With continuation of the present support the Theater will soon find its permanent place in our community.

The Theater was organized in February after several meetings of people with varying interests and backgrounds but a common interest in the stage; there were potential actors, designers of costumes and scenery, stagehands, directors, makeup artists, house managers, producers—and some folks who just liked to see plays. Each was able to contribute something to the development of a well-rounded organization. A play was selected, a director secured and production started. Public response to ticket sales already assures the Theater of being self supporting...

...it is the purpose of the Theater to present professionally produced legitimate stage plays for the entertainment of patrons, to provide opportunities for those people who are interested in working in the theater either as a hobby or preliminary to a professional career and to make these opportunities available to everyone without regard to race, creed, color or position in life.”