



MEET OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

In this issue:

Meet Our Board of Directors

Third Maputo Interschool Arts Festival

Our Newest Volunteer: Scott Feldsher

Which musical will be performed in Monteverde 2011?

Recent and Upcoming Events

August 5 - 7, 2010

Oliver! Bromelias Ampitheatre Monteverde, Costa Rica

September 2010

Third Maputo Interschool Arts Festival AISM, Maputo, Mozambique

June 21 - August 2 2011

Musical Theatre Connections 2011 Monteverde, Costa Rica

The Far Corners Community Musical Theatre Board of Directors has consisted of three passionate, dedicated individuals since its inception. With our organization growing, it was time for the Board to grow with it, so in October of 2010, two new Board members were confirmed. We would like to take this opportunity to introduce all the members of the Board who help guide the organization in fulfilling its mission.

Robin Richardson - President

Robin Richardson has worked with adolescents for many years, as a teacher, volunteer, and mentor. She believes that music and the performing arts are a wonderful way to captivate and engage youth, and to help them step outside of themselves, build something with others, and become part of a broader global community.



Juliet Lamb - Secretary

Juliet Lamb has been involved with FCCMT since its inception and has served on the Board since 2009. She is currently completing her Master's degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Conservation and has worked as a field ornithologist throughout the United States and Central America. When she's not living in tents and chasing birds, she loves all things music-related. A French horn player, she performs frequently with orchestras, wind en-



sembles, bands, and pit orchestras. In college, she served with future FCCMT founder Lisa Burns as a music director for the Harvard Noteables. She's also an avid writer and, together with Lisa, created and wrote the musical Pure Cheese. She appreciates reading, traveling, baking, dancing, sleeping in the grass, and ice cream.

Adrienne Leduc - Treasurer



Adrienne Leduc has volunteered for Musical Theatre Connections for the past two summers, as a producer for Urinetown and a violinist for Oliver! She has long been involved in music and the performing arts, most recently singing as part of a 600-member choir

during her many years working for the Walt Disney World resort. She is looking forward to her third summer in Costa Rica in 2011!

Lisa Burns

Lisa wears many hats at FCCMT. Besides Board member, she is the founder and executive director, Music Director and Program director for Musical Theatre Connections, Costa Rica. She has extensive experience teaching music & theatre in the U.S and internationally. A composer and writer of her own musicals, she is currently earning an MFA in Musical Theatre Writing from New York University.



Jonathan Brenes Salazar

Jonathan Brenes Salazar graduated from The Cloud Forest School in Monteverde, Costa Rica in 2008 and is currently a student at Sewanee: The University of the South. Interested in the performing arts, Jonathan was involved in musical theatre productions including Guys & Dolls, The Music Man, and Damn Yankees, two of which were FCCMT productions. At Sewanee, he has participated in the dance performan-



ce Perpetual Motion, sings in the University Choir. New to the Board, Jonathan is interested in the preservation of local cultural identity around the world and hopes to bring this goal to future FCCMT projects.

THIRD ANNUAL MAPUTO INTERSCHOOL

ARTS WORKSHOP



First organized by FCCMT founder Lisa Burns, the annual Interschool Arts festival is quickly becoming a showcase event at the American International School of Mozambique (AISM). This year's festival, held in September 2010 at AISM in Maputo, featured 240 students and adults from 12 local schools. For students, there were multiple workshops held in different arts disciplines such as choir, band, photography and digital filmmaking, as well as showcases of local art forms like dance and percussion. For teachers, there was a workshop on integrating drama into the classroom, to help support arts education year-round. FCCMT congratulates AISM for continuing this exciting tradition, bridging cultural, linguistic and socioeconomic boundaries to bring young people together sharing in the arts!



WANT MORE PICTURES? SEE US ON THE WEB!

www.farcornersmusicals.org

Our website has been updated with more content than ever before! In addition to more photos from the Maputo Workshop, here are some other recent additions you may want to check out:

- **Oliver!** - See more photos and meet the cast of our most recent hit production in Monteverde!
- **Applications** - Now available for participants, interns, and volunteers for Musical Theatre Connections, July-August 2011!
- **PayPal** and **Google Checkout** - Donate today to help us spread the gift of musical theatre to children around the globe!

Far Corners Community Musical Theatre



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Welcome ~ Bienvenido ~ Bem-vindos ~ 欢迎 ~ Bienvenue!

Far Corners Community Musical Theatre is a non-profit performing arts education organization providing opportunities to youth in under-served communities around the world.

To learn more about our work, click here, or visit the project pages below.

Costa Rica Mozambique

OUR NEWEST VOLUNTEER:

MEET SCOTT FELDSHER

FCCMT is thrilled to introduce a new volunteer who will be directing our next musical in Monteverde. Following are just the highlights of his extensive theatrical career:

Scott is a co-founder of Sledgehammer Theatre in San Diego, where he served as Artistic Director from 1985-1998 and again from 2005-2010, during which time he directed such notable productions as Hamlet, Blow Out the Sun, Endgame and numerous world and West Coast premieres including No Time Like the Present by Erik Ehn. Most recently, he wrote and directed the critically acclaimed production of A/WAKE: A Deinstallation with Choir and Soloists, and the West Coast Premiere of Charles Mee's Chiang Kai Chek. As founding Artistic Director of OperaZero, he has written the libretto for The World Is Round, an opera produced (under his direction) at both Skidmore College and the ASK Common Ground Festival in Los Angeles; the book and libretto for A Sleep of Reason Creates Monsters for the Chekhov Now! Festival in NYC; and the libretto for My Eye Was a Camera, a commission for the Tijuana/San Diego New Music Festival. He has worked in educational theater for the last 15 years, first as a faculty member at Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, New York, and currently at La Jolla Country Day



School in Southern California, where he collaborated with Universidad Autonoma de Baja California in Tijuana on a bilingual version of "Los Niños de Sal," by Mexican playwright Herman Galindo.

Scott joins us from La Jolla Country Day School in California. Welcome, Scott!

We are extremely grateful for the talent, experience and enthusiasm Scott brings to this project, and we look forward to an exciting collaboration!

THE SECRET IS OUT: OUR 2011 MUSICAL IS...

FCCMT is pleased to announce that *Little Shop of Horrors* (or *Tiendita del Horror* in Spanish) has been chosen as the production for the 2011 Musical Theatre Connections program in Monteverde, Costa Rica. The popular 1982 Broadway musical is based on a cult-classic 1960 movie of the same name, and was made into a movie musical starring Rick Moranis and Steve Martin in 1986.

The show, ostensibly an over-the-top fantasy/horror story about a large talking plant, actually explores

complex themes such as the slippery slope that can result from compromising one's values to attain personal happiness. *Little Shop* is sure to provide many technical and artistic challenges for the staff and students, and we hope many of you will be able to see our bilingual production, July 28-31 in Monteverde!



SUPPORT OUR MISSION! DONATE TODAY

Your donation of \$10, \$25 or any amount will help a child make new cultural connections and discover self-confidence and friendship through participation in the arts.

Donations can be made by credit card online through our website,

<http://farcornersmusicals.org>

Or, mail a check to:
Far Corners Community Musical Theatre,
1108 Fort Street Mall Suite 9B
Honolulu, HI, 96813

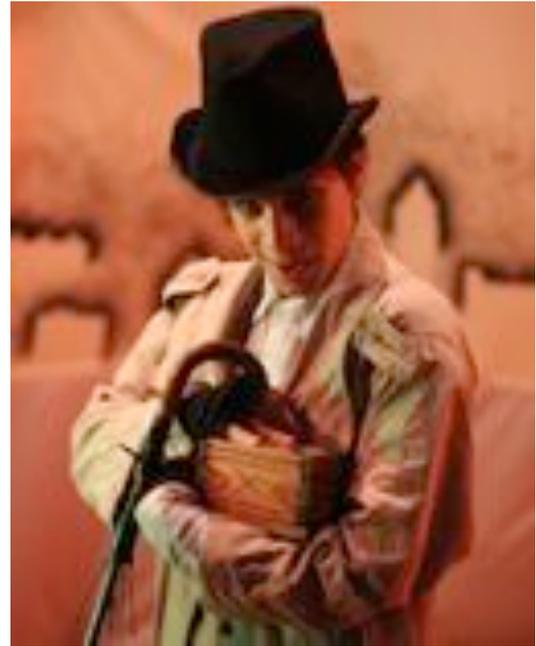
Your donation is fully tax-deductible. Far Corners Community Musical Theatre is recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) public charity in the United States.

WHAT DO MUSICALS MEAN TO ME?

A REFLECTION BY A MUSICAL THEATRE CONNECTIONS PARTICIPANT

Before I met Lisa, the word "musical" didn't mean much to me. In fact, I can recall that I had no idea what a musical was and had no type of artistic talent. When I was in 6th grade I was really shy and quiet. My self-esteem was low and I was afraid of people. One rainy afternoon, two weird women came into my classroom announcing auditions for a musical. I had no idea what I was getting into until I finally got to the auditions and had to sing and read out of a book for them. Two months later, I was in front of 400 people playing "Sky Masterson" in "Guys & Dolls". For me, this first production changed my life forever. It may sound a little dramatic but for a 12-year-old boy who had serious stage-fright, this was a big step. Far Corners Community Musical Theatre opened a door for me. A door that brought meaning to what I truly love. I can't imagine life without Musical Theatre and I can say that since that first show my life is a musical.

Over the past 5 years FCCMT has grown a lot. Our shows are bigger and much less amateur and FCCMT's mission for each show is different because the social problems and issues faced within the production are brought out so that we learn and teach our community about them. For me this has been a big part of the process, because I have learned that a musical is not just about staging, blocking, learning songs and dances, but also taking something from it and teaching people about what you learned. Musical Theatre Connections has really lived up to its name because



it has brought together a group of people from all over the world to do what we all love. Every summer, a new family is born. FCCMT has not only given opportunities to people like me, who otherwise would have never been exposed to Musical Theatre, but to many others as well. Not just the cast, but the community benefits from the show. They get to see a new show each year and they also get to spend time with some of the cast members discussing the issues addressed. For many of our audience members, it's really important what FCCMT does because it really involves and unites the community with each production.

Each year many of us wait for another great musical to come, new people to meet, new things to learn and a better show. FCCMT has changed my life for good. I can say that I am a better actor, singer, dancer (or at least I try to be!) and overall person. I can't put it into words but what I can say is that since I walked on stage singing "Luck Be A Lady" I can't seem to leave it, and it's what I want to do for the rest of my life. In a couple years, after majoring in Musical Theatre and my dream of being on Broadway is hopefully complete, I plan on working for FCCMT to give other people like myself a chance to fall in love with the theatre just like I did.

Below: Luis Dario Villalobos Castro, author of this article, rehearses for his role in Oliver!
Right: Luis Dario as Fagin in Oliver!



WANT TO JOIN US IN COSTA RICA?

THREE WAYS YOU CAN MAKE A MUSICAL THEATRE CONNECTION!

High School Students – As a Participant

If you know a young theatre-lover who is at least 13 years old and will have completed 8th grade (or equivalent) by July 1st, 2011, encourage him or her to apply to Musical Theatre Connections 2011! Students can participate in a three, four or six-week program, and can perform in the show, play in the orchestra or join the stage crew. The program includes a home-stay, individual Spanish language lessons, cultural activities and ecotourism excursions, and volunteer activities to serve the local community.



College Students – As an Intern

If you are at least 18 years old and have completed your first year of college, you can join us as an intern. Interns serve for five or eight weeks in a variety of roles, including:

- Stage Manager
- Technical Director/Assistant Director
- Co-Director of Children's Program
- Choreographer
- Costume Designer
- Community Relations Coordinator
- Communications Coordinator

Interns may also have the opportunity to be cast in the show, and will have the option of enrolling in Spanish language classes. You may be able to obtain college credit for your internship through your university.

Others – As a Volunteer

For adults 21 years of age or older, volunteer staff positions are available. Full summer positions include Technical Director, Producer, Stage Manager, or Children's Program Director. However, volunteers are always needed for a variety of positions, for any length of time.

For more information about any of these opportunities, and for application materials, please visit our web site: www.farcornersmusicals.org. If you have questions, email director@farcornersmusicals.org. We hope to see you in Monteverde!

Come to beautiful Costa Rica and volunteer the week of the show!

July 25-August 2, 2011

Sample round trip airfare from...

- Dallas: \$328
- New York, Boston or Chicago: \$368
- LAX: \$468





OLIVER!

THE CAST AND CREW SHARE THEIR VIEWS



Above: A Fagin Boy, asleep

Right: Nancy and The Artful Dodger dance in "I'd Do Anything"

Our bilingual production of *Oliver!*, performed this past August 5-7 in Monteverde, was a rousing success. The show played to a full house each night, and many of the audience members braved torrential rain (and even some flooding in the theatre!) to see the performance. Additionally, two special morning performances were given for local elementary school children, most of whom had never before seen a musical. We wish to thank the community for their incredible support. We had a blast, and so did the cast and crew! Here is some of what they had to say about the experience:

- *"The show brought people together and helped kids get to know each other"* - Gabe and Josiah, ages 8 and 9, Fagin Boys.
- *"I absolutely love to sing, and the opportunity that was given to me."* - Fiona, age 16, Nancy.

• *"Of course you should do this next year! There is no plausible reason not to do it again."* - Allegra, Age 13, Mrs. Bedwin.

• *"Many people who came this year and saw Oliver! would stop me on the street and say 'Hey, you're the person from Oliver!' and they're like 'That was so cool! I've never seen a play with singing and dancing in it'... they ask me 'When is the next show?'"* - Luis Dario, Age 15, Fagin.



OUR MISSION

Far Corners Community Musical Theatre is committed to providing diverse youth populations from communities around the world with new opportunities, through committed participation in the performing arts, to grow and succeed as collaborators, performers, thinkers, creators, change-makers, multilingual communicators and open-minded, responsible members of a global community.



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