

NEWSLETTER riverside theatre company

A youth performing arts charity which places the emphasis on **QUALITY, PERFORMANCE & PROFESSIONAL TUTORS** at **MINIMAL COST**

WINTER January 2010

www.riversidetheatrecompany.co.uk

Welcome back to everyone- we are looking forward to a really exciting new year for Riverside!

First, thanks to everyone who produced and came to support the Christmas shows, which were stunning, as ever. Perhaps, even, **MAGIC?**...



and **WOW!!!**..... Here is a review of the **Snowflake Soiree** from Michael Williamson, **NODA representative**, who is really looking forward to seeing "Seussical":

"The quality, as always, was consistently high and reflects great credit on the commitment and sheer hard work of the tutors and Committee. There were enthusiastic choral excerpts from the forthcoming production of 'Seussical the Musical', memorable performances by the Senior and Junior Choirs and some really excellent examples of drama and dance culminating with the very impressive 'Fracture'. This latter dance troupe brings together some of the very best dancers within the Company and their achievement is always significant. The enthusiasm and delight of the performers throughout the whole show once again shone through and this quickly conveyed itself to the audience. I cannot really think of a better way of celebrating Christmas than attending a performance of this very professional youth theatre. Congratulations to everybody concerned."

Dance has again been great, with victories for the senior dancers and "Fracture" in the Huntingdonshire festival of dance, as well as impressive performances in the freezing cold to turn on the Christmas lights, and in the hot football club. The dancers will all be continuing to work on technique next term, and Sara is planning some further awesome appearances including the Southern Street Dance Championships in Reading on 30th May, a dance show at the Commemoration hall in Huntingdon on 31st July, as well as the Albert Hall for the Barnardo's concert again.

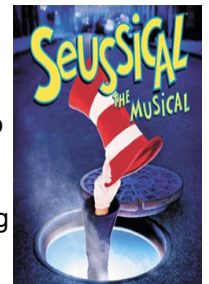
Group news

Now to the future.... Lots of new stuff is being launched, and lots of stuff is happening! **Vox Rocks** (no girls allowed)- the all new boys rock vocal group is launching on 6th January, and we have booked a big concert, which will involve all our choirs, as well as some stunning secret guest talent, to showcase **Vox Rocks** in May

VOX ROCKS Also we have the awesome **Mark DeLisser** of the **ACM gospel choir** (runners up in the **BBC's Last choir standing competition**) to run a **vocal workshop**, which will be open to everyone from Riverside, during February half term.

Watch the website for details, and if you know any boys who might want to try their hand at rock singing, let them know about Vox Rocks.(the group is open to new members even after 10th Jan).

Next up.... is the splendiferous "Seussical the musical" , from the **Sunday morning group**, to be performed at Buckden in March. Rehearsals for this are going really well, as evidenced from the review from Michael Williamson! New members for this group are welcome until the end of January, and will be able to take part in the show as chorus members, but we will be putting any others who want to join on a waiting list until after the show, so if you have friends who want to join, they need to join soon!



13
a new musical
about the labels
that last a lifetime

The Sunday afternoon group will be one of the very first groups to perform a brand new rock musical, just released in the UK, from its Broadway run. It is "13", written by Tony award winner Jason Robert-Brown, and was written especially for performance by teenagers- it is lively, energetic and fun, as well as having lots of parts and plenty of scope for dance and company singing. Check out youtube for some inspiring videos of the show. Richard also has plans to invite some of his friends from West End shows to run some special workshops this term.

Keep checking the website!

THE CHOIRS, under Ian and Jo, are going from strength to strength, and they will be competing again in this year's Rotary young musician of the year competition. They did a great job of entertaining theatre goers at Milton Keynes theatre on 3rd January, where lots of people were asking about Riverside! In May they will be taking part in the concert with Vox Rocks, and have been asked to sing in concerts with Bedford Brass and the East Cambs and Beds concert band, so look out for more details, again on the website.

The acting workshop are probably worn out with their excess of performances in the autumn term, and will be taking a term to experiment with new acting techniques and improvisation, inspired, as always, by Richard. **AND-** to help work off the cake and Christmas excess- **they will be working with a fight director on stage combat-** so the next show will be certain to pack a few punches....



We will be launching the **ERNIE CARD** - for each new member you introduce and joins Riverside you receive a sticker for your card. Collect 3 stickers and you can exchange your card for a **FREE** pair of Riverside Joggers or a Hoodie.



Come to the AGM on Sunday 31st Jan at 12:15 and tell us what you think !

Dates for 2010 but keep an eye on the website for any updates

Week beginning Sat 8th Jan- All Riverside groups start

Half term week 14-21st Feb- all groups continue except acting workshop

Wed 17th Feb- Gospel and soul singing workshop for Vox Rocks and choirs with Mark DeLisser of the ACM gospel choir (times TBC)

**Fri 12th March- Seussical dress rehearsal.
Sat 13th March Seussical performance**

Sun 14th March- No morning group. Afternoon Austin Powers/Fosse dance workshop

Week beginning Sat 3rd April- No Riverside groups

Week beginning Sat 10th April- Riverside groups re-start

Sat 1st May- Awards evening, Priory Centre

Mon 3rd May- no dance groups but choirs rehearse for concert 6-9pm

Fri 7th May- The Big Concert- featuring Vox Rocks and Riverside choirs

Mon 31st May to Sat 5th Jun No dance or acting workshop- Sunday groups as normal

**Fri 16th July "13" dress rehearsal .
Sat 17th July "13" performances**

Sun 18th July last Riverside session for all Riverside groups

Mon 26th-Fri 31st July Riverside summer workshop- "Hairspray!"

Sun 5th Sept Riverside re starts

but don't forget to keep checking the website:

www.riversidetheatrecompany.co.uk

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if you want any of the Riverside hoodies or joggers the order form is downloadable from the website or ask any of the committee for a form:
Hoodies from £16
Joggers from £14



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**Please read.....
Membership fees and subscriptions**

As per our last newsletter, we unfortunately need to increase monthly contributions for all members of the Sunday musical theatre groups, to £15 per month for the Sunday morning and £20 per month for the afternoon.

This increase is needed to cover our costs (please remember that we are a non-profit making charity, and that all funds benefit the members of the groups), and we still offer outstanding value for money (for instance, Stagecoach, where several of our tutors also teach, costs more per term than Riverside costs per year!). Remember that, to spread the cost, fees are payable throughout the year including over the summer break.

Please ensure that your standing orders are changed to reflect this **increase from 1st January**. If this has not already been done, please send in an additional £2 per member and increase your standing order payment from February. Payments for dance, choir and acting workshop are unchanged.

If any family is finding difficulty with payments, please remember that Riverside raises money to help fund assisted places, and you can apply in confidence either in writing to the executive committee, or via e-mail using enquiries@riversidetheatrecompany.co.uk.