



# Sing Joy Sing Christmas

## UPCOMING CHRISTMAS SHOW FOR DECEMBER 2021

The Opland Singers are delighted to take the stage for our Christmas 2021 Show – “SING JOY! SING CHRISTMAS!”

It has been quite a wait, but what better time to bring some uplifting and happy music than Christmas. From rehearsals to opening night sets the stage for our return to the Performing Arts Center in Pipestone. We have joyfully been rehearsing some of our favorites, “White Christmas”, “One Small Child”, “Silent and Still”, “O Come All ye Faithful”, “Christmas on Broadway”, “The Most Wonderful Time of the Year”, “The Twelve Days After Christmas”, “White Winter Hymnal”, “Sisters-Sisters” just to name a few.

We always manage to choreograph some fun numbers and have many beautiful solos to enjoy. All wonderfully displayed with our glamorous costumes.

Our format is a little different this year as we are presenting only 4 shows December 2-5, on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. There will not be a second weekend. Mark your calendars for our beautiful Christmas show – SING JOY! SING CHRISTMAS!

The Opland Singers will be taking the Pipestone Performing Arts Center stage on December 2nd-5th. Thursday through Saturday evening shows start at 7:30 p.m. and the Sunday matinee is at 2:00 p.m. Tickets are \$15 for adults, and Students are \$7. Advance tickets can be purchased by stopping by the Pipestone County Museum or by calling 507-825-2020.

# DECEMBER 2 TO THE 5

EVENING SHOWTIMES AT 7:30 PM  
SUNDAY MATINEE AT 2:00 PM

## OPLAND SINGERS

### AL OPLAND SINGERS' HISTORY



ALLEN OPLAND (9/17/18-4/27/84) was a vocal and instrumental music teacher at Pipestone High School from 1945 until 1978, when he retired. In 1947 he helped organize the Pipestone Male Chorus (later, the group combined with the Pipestone Women's Chorus to form the Al Opland Singers). At the end of 1977, some of the men from the group contacted a few local women who were notable musicians, encouraging them to start a women's group that would perform in forthcoming shows which the men had been performing by themselves up until this time. Opland had a sense of humor which nicely complemented his demand for perfection. He is fondly remembered by former and current members for serious directing methods, such as "if you have to cough or clear your throat during a performance... die first."

According to the Constitution of the Pipestone Women's Chorus, the new women's group was declared an official entity on January 23, 1978, and the first show that included both groups was performed in 1978 - known as the Opland Singers. Each member had to pay yearly dues, which cost each person \$20, and this money went toward the purchase of new music. Each member had to buy his or her own outfit to wear for the performances, serving as a uniform. Members of both choruses have always had to go through an audition to join the group.

The shows that the Opland Singers put on include solos, mixed ensembles, duets and barbershop along with dancing, costumes & dialogue. The group used to travel around the surrounding area to perform the shows. The home performance venue was originally the Pipestone High School auditorium, but the group also travelled to put on shows at the Lake Benton Opera House, the Ruthon School Gym, as well as venues in Edgerton, Jasper, and Luverne, Minnesota.

The Al Opland Singers' performances cover many genres of music, including excerpts from Broadway musicals, popular songs, sacred and secular Christmas music, patriotic songs, as well as spirituals. However, the shows are not limited to music. Musicals, plays and smaller sections of each have been performed over the years, including well known titles, such as the Music Man.

ADULTS \$15  
STUDENTS \$7  
BOX OFFICE // 507.825.2020





# THE HOLY ROCKA ROLLAZ

*Celebrate a 50's Christmas with...*

Plan to attend our Christmas Presenters Series show at the Pipestone Performing Arts Center with a night of festive, rock 'n' roll music. Take an authentic trip back to the fantastic 50's with The Holy Rocka Rollaz! "Rockin' Around The Christmas Tree!" "Jingle Bell Rock!" "Santa Baby!" "Run Rudolph Run!" And MANY more classic Christmas songs delivered LIVE by Minnesota's own 50s rock 'n' roll trio. The Holy Rocka Rollaz will take the PPAC stage on Thursday, December 16th at 7:30 p.m. A Cash Bar will be available before the performance, and during intermission.

Nothing pleases these rock 'n' roll veterans more than seeing different generations enjoy this classic music together. The Holy Rocka Rollaz play with an immense amount of energy and joy. The trio collectively brings decades of live and studio experience to their shows and music.

Front man Mark Flora says his proudest moments come while playing the Winter Dance Party each year at the legendary Surf Ballroom in Clear Lake, IA. "Knowing that my band is regularly on the stage Buddy Holly played his last show, well, it just gives me chills," he said. "And seeing our name annually on the Surf Ballroom's marquee...well...that'll never grow old!"

With fellow musicians, drummer Matt Alexander & stand up bassist/vocalist Lisa Lynn, the three musicians have played many stages; including the Minnesota State Fair, Missouri State Fair, the huge Minnesota Street Rod Association Back To the '50s Car Show, South Dakota State Fair, First Avenue, the Cabooze, the historic Surf Ballroom in Clear Lake, Iowa, Treasure Island Casino, Mille Lacs Grand Casino, Hinckley Grand Casino Concert Hall, the Redlin Art Center in South Dakota, many Upper Midwest fairs and festivals, Winona Steamboat Days, Slice of Shoreview, the world's largest county fair in Clay County, Iowa, Coon Rapids Concerts By The Dam, Lee's Liquor Lounge, the Uptown Bar, the Fine Line, the 400 Bar, Schooner Tavern, barn dances, car shows, sock hops, private shows and prisons. Mark's wife, Lisa Lynn officially became the bassist in early 2014.

The band's first show together was in the South Dakota State Penitentiary several years ago, serving in a ministry capacity, where Flora has been sharing good news to inmates since 2003. "We were having so much fun playing in the State Pen that we decided to take our music to car shows and other events. We really do enjoy playing 50s rock 'n' roll just the way it was played back in the day. Seeing people light up when we really go for it brings this band a lot of joy. We hope we can do this for many years and for many people," said Flora.

Tickets can be purchased for The Holy Rocka Rollaz by visiting the PPAC website at [www.pipestoneperformingartscenter.com](http://www.pipestoneperformingartscenter.com), or by calling the Pipestone County Museum Box Office at 507-825-2020 or 877-722-2787.

**THURSDAY**  
**DEC. 16**  
**7:30 PM SHOWTIME**

**ADULTS \$20**  
**STUDENTS \$10**  
**BOX OFFICE // 507.825.2020**  
**CASH BAR**  
**STARTING AT 6:30 PM**



This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Southwest Minnesota Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

## PPAC GENERAL FUND / ALL DONORS AS OF NOVEMBER 8, 2021

The Pipestone Performing Arts Center, Inc. recognizes and is grateful to the individuals, families, businesses, resident arts groups and government agencies that help maintain our facilities by generously supporting our Center's work through contributions to the 2022 Annual Fund Drive that started in September 2021 and runs through August 31, 2022. The list includes current donors and those who have faithfully pledged and contributed for the current financial year but not yet paid.

### LEGACY (\$5000 & ABOVE)

Deeann Griebel  
City of Pipestone  
Dave & Marlyce Logan  
Terry & Kris Rodman  
Schuster Family

### PATRONS (\$1000-\$4999)

Betty Bullis  
Ian, Cindy & Richard Cunningham  
Carol Haubrich  
First Bank & Trust  
Bruce & Barbara Jensen

### FOUNDERS (\$500-\$999)

Jeff & Deb Brockberg  
Charles & Lorraine Draper  
Les & Ruth Everett  
Dennis & Diane Hansen  
Randy & Cindy Hartquist  
John & Jean McCallum  
Jean Neumiller  
William & Jeanine Olson  
Lyle & Marjorie Oye  
Delores Runge  
Ken & Barb Winsel

### SUSTAINERS (\$250-\$499)

Peggy Crosby & David Pederson  
**CENTENARIANS (\$100-\$249)**  
Carla Barkley  
Curt & Marilyn Bloemendaal  
George & Mildred Carstensen  
Kathryn Erickson  
Larry & Laurie Giff  
Karen Griebel  
Paul & Kristy Henriksen  
Tom & Cindy Houselog  
Betty Johnson  
Jeff & Bronwyn Jones  
Nyla Kraft  
Bob & Jeanette Larson  
Verone Merrill  
Mark & Leslie Morgan  
Mick & LaDonna Myers  
Marie Nelson

Sylvia Newell  
Dallas & Renee Roskamp  
Evan & Suzanne Schiller  
Chuck & Dorie Sendelbach  
Gladys Taubert  
William & Mary Ann Yseth

**FRIENDS OF THE CENTER (\$1-\$99)**  
Maurice & Gertrude Bickford  
Eugene & Arlene Bloemendaal  
Ricke & Jerry Bly  
David Christensen  
*In Memory of John Freese*

Marlys Crawford  
Rietz Hannemann  
Larry & Jan Harkema  
Barbara Heyl  
Irene Kofoed  
Annetta Legler  
Darlene Muller

*In Memory of Lester Landgren*

Joni Peterson  
Kenneth & Gloria Reed  
*In Memory of Rose McGinty*

Mark Schwanebeck  
**UNDERWRITERS**  
*Corporate \$500 and above for sponsoring Presenter Series*  
Calumet Inn  
Christensen Broadcasting  
Clothier By Dawn  
Dahl Motors  
First Bank & Trust  
First Farmers & Merchants  
First State Bank SW Pipestone  
Hank's Foods  
Hartquist Funeral Chapels  
Moors & Cabot/Deeann J. Griebel  
Pepsi  
Pipestone Building Materials  
Pipestone Co. Medical Center & Family Clinic/Avera  
Pipestone Veterinary Services

### HONORARIUMS

Steve & Peg Lange  
*In Honor of Dennis Hansen*

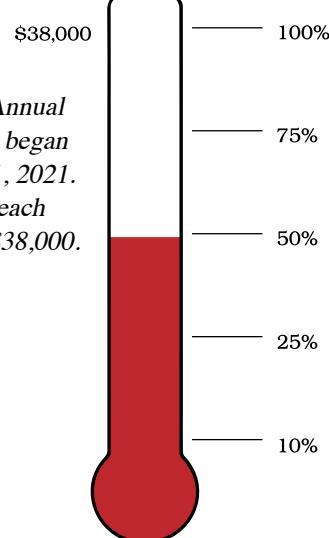
### CONTRIBUTIONS & GRANTS FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

Leslie & Ruth Everett: Electrical Improvements

**CONTRIBUTIONS & GRANTS FOR PROJECTS**  
Pipestone Community Foundation  
Minnesota State Arts Board  
Southwest Minnesota Arts Council

### COVID RELIEF

City of Pipestone COVID Relief  
Pipestone County COVID Relief  
State of Minnesota COVID Relief



*The 2022 Annual Fund Drive began September 1, 2021. Help us reach our goal of \$38,000.*

## UNDERWRITERS CATEGORY

The following businesses underwrite in part the expenses in presenting the Presenter Series.



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## MACT FEST local AWARDS

A big congratulations to our resident community theater company, the Calumet Players, for receiving awards in "Best of Festival" and "Excellence In All Design Areas" for their production of "After the Flags And Band" in the 2021 MACT Festival - which was held at the Pipestone Performing Arts Center in September. Actress Emily Blaeser received an "Excellence In Acting" award for her performance as Lizzy. We were honored to be host to their annual celebration of Minnesota community theatres. We share our love and admiration for all of the other theater participants, and thank them for sharing their hard work and talents with the festival on our stage.

A job well done to director Sylvia Newell, and the cast: Leah Roelfsema Ference, Denise Halbur, Kim Fleet & Emily Blaeser. We are so very proud!

Dennis Hansen, our former Managing Director of 27 years, was also honored at this year's MACT Festival with the Fliehr Award. The Fliehr is a lifetime achievement award recognizing distinguished service to Minnesota Community Theatre.

On behalf of the Pipestone Performing Arts Center Board of Directors, we congratulate him on this achievement, and thank him for the many years of service and inspiration in the performing arts.

Dennis, you are so very appreciated and admired by many in the Pipestone Community, especially your family in the Pipestone Performing Arts Center. You devoted your life to the advocacy and philanthropy of the arts, especially the local performing arts. This honor and achievement is well deserved. Congratulations!

## COMEDIAN **MARY MACK** Family Friendly Comedy

A hybrid of Minnesota and Wisconsin (with a severe cheese dependency), comedian Mary Mack is a favorite on radio shows and podcasts around the country including The Bob and Tom Show, Marc Maron's WTF Podcast, and The Grand Ole Opry. Mary played the leading character, Dylan, on Fox's cartoon Golan the Insatiable, season one. This year, she plays a lead character in the Hulu cartoon Solar Opposites by the creators of Rick and Morty. She's appeared in Montreal's Just For Laughs Festival, HBO's Andy Kaufman Awards, San Francisco's Sketchfest, and the Dry Bar comedy series. *Mack's television credits include Comedy Central's Live at Gotham, TBS' Conan, Adult Swim's Aqua Teen Hunger Force and NBC's Last Comic Standing and Last Call with Carson Daly.* When not touring, Mary spends way too much time and money working on her vintage camper in the woods of Northern Wisconsin.

Almost forgot...Check out Mary's Doopy Dooper and other characters in the new video game Trover Saves the Universe. Or maybe browse her youtube page under MaryMackComedy for videos that should have been deleted years ago or see a couple Conan sets on the Team CoCo YouTube Channel!

Tickets can be purchased for Mary Mack by visiting the PPAC website at [www.pipestonerperformingartscenter.com](http://www.pipestonerperformingartscenter.com), or by calling the Pipestone County Museum Box Office at 507-825-2020 or 877-722-2787.

SATURDAY  
**JAN. 22**  
7:30 PM SHOWTIME

**ADULTS \$20  
STUDENTS \$10  
BOX OFFICE // 507.825.2020  
CASH BAR  
STARTING AT 6:30 PM**



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## FROM THE MANAGING DIRECTOR MARK THODE

Friends, it's hard to believe the holidays are quickly approaching. We have a lot planned for you here at the Pipestone Performing Arts Center to usher in the season.

We will kick off the month of December with the Al Opland Singers. The Opland Singers have been sharing their musical talents with the region for 43 years. The group, comprised of singers from across SW Minnesota, have been in rehearsal for their Christmas production since early September. Their show is titled "Sing Joy! Sing Christmas!". I've had the opportunity to speak with the producers, and their vision is a unique take on their annual Christmas show: from rehearsals to opening night will set the stage as they share some of our favorite Christmas tunes. Take note, they are trying something new this Christmas season, which is to perform only one weekend. Performances will be December 2-5 (Thursday through Sunday).

A new arts non-profit in Pipestone called Arts & Mentoring Project had plans of sharing "Scrooge: The Musical" on our stage in mid-December, but they have decided to postpone that event until next year. Instead, the PPAC board of directors have decided to bring back The Holy Rocka Rollaz. We had this multi-talented trio take our stage in January of 2020 - which was a reschedule from December of 2019. We are excited to bring them back so that they can share their festive, holiday show which is full of classic, 50's rock'n roll Christmas music.

Turn-out to our season opener with the PRINCE Tribute band was low. Fall is a busy season for everyone, and concerns about COVID-19 doesn't help. The PPAC staff and board of directors have practices set in place so that your experience is not only enjoyable, but safe. We have placed sanitation stations throughout the venue that include hand sanitizer/wipes and have provided face masks at various entrances for your convenience. Increased cleaning practices have also been set in place. We hope you consider joining us for these upcoming events - we have worked hard to provide you entertainment right here in Pipestone. Theater and the performing arts are meant to be experienced live... and most of all - together.

I'll wrap up my note by encouraging anyone who is interested in getting involved with our organization to reach out. We are in need of Box Office personnel to sell tickets, ushers, volunteers in the scene shop, and dedicated members for our different committees.

I hope this Christmas season brings you and your loved ones the brightest and warmest of light.



## Volunteers

If you're interested in getting involved in volunteering or helping out with our productions, please let us know. We are always looking for volunteers to usher, distribute posters, help paint and sew, and serve on different committees. Our space is run by volunteers, and we could use your help.



### LIGHTS & SOUND

Volunteers are responsible for assisting in stage lighting, sound & maintenance.



### STAGE HANDS

The crew that works backstage during the show, shifting the scenery, & props.



### CARPENTERS

Volunteers that work to assemble set pieces.



### SEWING

Assembling pieces into finished costumes.



### PAINT

Volunteers help paint and prime the set.



### USHERS

Assist in the seating of patrons at performances.



### BOX OFFICE

Volunteers that work behind the Box Office desk and assist in selling tickets.



### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Join our board of directors!

## Board of Directors & Officers



Bronwyn Jones  
*President*



Paul Johnson  
*Treasurer*



MaryAnn Yseth  
*Board Director*



Dennis Hansen  
*Board Director*



Mick Myers  
*Board Director*



Mark Thode  
*Board Director*



Tammy Grubbs  
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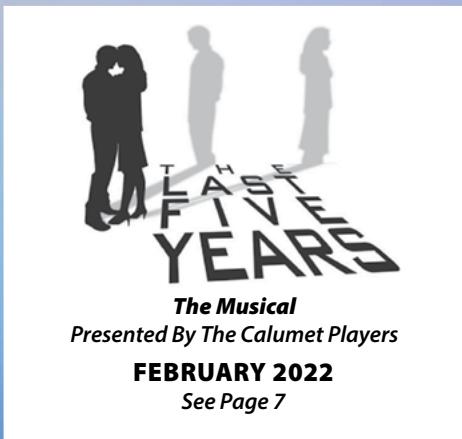
Pipestone Performing Arts Center newsletter is published quarterly: September, December, March, and June by The Pipestone Performing Arts Center, Inc. Views expressed are not necessarily those of Arts Center Board members or staff. The PPAC, Inc. challenge is to provide facilities, leadership, and encouragement of the arts through education, advancement, and presentation of a wide range of activities contributing to the enrichment of cultural life for the benefit of all in our community.

Pipestone Performing Arts Center, Inc. is a 501(c)3 Public Tax Exempt Corporation, and any contribution is fully tax deductible.

*Some of the activities are made possible in part by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the SW MN Arts Council,  
thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.*

To Contact Us: Mark Thode, Managing Director: (605) 838-7043 // email: director@pipestoneperformingartscenter.com  
Museum Box Office (Tickets): (507) 825-2020 or (877) 722-2787 // www.pipestoneperformingartscenter.com

# events calendar



## virtual arts

During 2020, we missed the artists and volunteers that occupied our stage. Because of the global health crisis, we had to get creative so that we could continue to share the talents of artists and performers with our audience, as well as keeping the mission of the Pipestone Performing Arts Center in the periphery of the community, which is “to continuously engage a passion in the arts”. During the time of our venue’s shutdown, we worked with local performers in creating a virtual arts experience straight from the PPAC stage. You can still view these virtual arts performances on our YouTube channel.

**You**Tube  
Check out our YouTube Channel



**MODERN MUSICAL CHRONICLING  
THE FIVE-YEAR LIFE OF A MARRIAGE,  
FROM MEETING TO BREAK-UP  
& FROM BREAK-UP TO MEETING.**

**PG-13**

SOME ADULT THEMES  
& LANGUAGE



Originally Produced for the  
New York stage by Arielle  
Tepper and Marty Bell

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY**

**FEBRUARY  
11, 12, 18, 19**

**7:30 PM SHOWTIME**

**SUNDAY MATINEES**

**FEBRUARY  
13 & 20**

**2:00 PM SHOWTIME**



**TICKETS**

**\$15 FOR ADULTS**

**\$12 FOR STUDENTS**

**BOX OFFICE // 507.825.2020**

Jason Robert Brown's Drama Desk winner, The Last Five Years, has been translated into a handful of languages and was named one of TIME Magazine's ten best shows of 2001. A testament to the show's longevity, and spurred by the show's regional popularity, The Last Five Years enjoyed an Off-Broadway revival at Second Stage in 2013. A film adaptation was released in 2014, starring Anna Kendrick and Jeremy Jordan.

An emotionally powerful and intimate musical about two New Yorkers in their twenties who fall in and out of love over the course of five years, the show's unconventional structure consists of Cathy, the woman, telling her story backwards while Jamie, the man, tells his story chronologically; the two characters only meet once, at their wedding in the middle of the show.

The Last Five Years is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).

All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. [www.mtishows.com](http://www.mtishows.com)

## **AUDITIONS**

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 27 & TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28**

Held at the Pipestone Performing Arts Center from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

These are scheduled auditions. To schedule, please email the director at [markthode.dzn@gmail.com](mailto:markthode.dzn@gmail.com) or call 605-838-7043. Once you have scheduled your audition, music selections will be sent to you to prepare for your audition. An accompanist will be provided.

**2 cast members needed: a strong female vocalist, and a strong male vocalist.**

Rehearsals will start in early January at the Pipestone Performing Arts Center.

# WINTER 2021 NEWSLETTER

Return Service Requested  
Pipesstone, MN 56164  
PO Box 100



NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Permit #22  
Pipestone, MN



MERRY  
*Christmas*