

NORTHERN FORT

PLAYHOUSE

NORTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY

ARTS | NSU

From the Artistic Director: **“WELCOME HOME!”**

It might sound a bit corny, but the words “Welcome home!” are emblematic of my approach to serving as the new Artistic Director of the Northern Fort Playhouse. To say the last year or so has been a lot for all of us to overcome is probably an understatement. Our whole world has changed, but thanks to the resilience of many people who believe in our mission, we are proud to say the Fort is still home to history, community, and great theatre. Truly, we have missed you. To me, the hallmark of the work produced by the Fort is our commitment to creating experiences that make you feel at home with us. Our season of summer shows celebrates those human connections that make life worth living: song, laughter, love—and, certainly, home. Whether we are producing family-friendly theatre showcasing the talents of regional artists, or sharing the rich history of Fort Sisseton on our much-loved Lantern Tours, we are overjoyed to have you back in the spirit of friendliness and tradition that have long been associated with the Fort. Welcome home, friends.



Kane Anderson
Artistic Director



Northern Fort Playhouse's 15th Season

BEGINS JULY 9, 2021

PERFORMANCES

July 10, 16 and 23 at 7:30 P.M. | July 18 at 2 P.M.



Book and lyrics by Phil Olson and music by Paul Olson

Oh, for cute! Get the hotdish cooking for supper, because we're going Up North for this show. Minnesota is a place like no other. And Minnesotans are a people like no other.

In this musical comedy, a fed-up bar owner is ready to sell off his business and escape to sunny Florida. His wife—a former Winter Carnival Bunyan Queen, *don'tcha know*—isn't about to be uprooted. Meanwhile, their waitress, an aspiring singer, finds herself caught between her fiancé and a wily salesman who's arrived in town selling the “magic” of karaoke. It should be no surprise to anyone that all heck breaks loose!

Don't Hug Me is part of a much-loved series of musicals by Phil Olson (book and lyrics) and Paul Olson (music) who bring their affection for all things Minnesotan to the stage. With songs like “I’m a Walleye Woman in a Crappie Town” and “I Wanna Go to the Mall of America,” you betcha we’ve got a fun romp for the whole family... want to come with?

PERFORMANCES

July 9, 17 and 24 at 7:30 P.M. | July 11 at 2 P.M.



THE OREGON TRAIL

by Bekah Brunstetter

If you've spent any time in school in the last thirty years, you've probably played some version of the iconic computer game *The Oregon Trail*. But we'll bet you've never found yourself sucked into 1848 putting those trail skills to the test!

When middle schooler Jane gets stuck in a computer lab playing the game, she ventures into the literal Oregon Trail amid covered wagons, harsh environments, and even her own great-great-grandmother. When the two confide in each other, this comedy takes a poignant turn to address depression and making one's way in the world.

Playwright Bekah Brunstetter guides us through Jane's pioneering into her teen years with family tensions, new hormones, and maybe a little cholera. Whether navigating the literal Oregon Trail or its 8-bit simulation, Jane learns that life isn't always a smooth ride across the plains—but finding our inner strength is worth the trip.

TICKET PRICES

All Seating is reserved
and social distancing
will be observed.

SINGLE SHOW PRICES

Adult \$13
Children \$7
Dinner show \$30
Lunch show \$26

State Park Entrance License covered by The Northern Fort Playhouse.

SEASON SHOW PRICES

Adult \$24 (save \$2)
Children \$12 (save \$2)
Dinner show \$58 (save \$2)
Lunch show \$50 (save \$2)

PURCHASING PLAYHOUSE TICKETS

IN ADVANCE | BRITTON BOX OFFICE

Tom Farber Insurance Agency, 705 Main Street, Britton
Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. | Ask for Pam Lunzman

BY PHONE

(605) 467-3247 | Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

SEASON AND GROUP TICKETS

Bundle and save! For multiple performances or groups of 10+
Call us for details!

DAY OF PERFORMANCE | SOUTH BARRACKS

Tickets available 60 minutes prior to the start of the performance.

JOINING US FOR DINNER?

We encourage you to book at least three days in advance to allow our caterer to prepare.

PAYMENT

Credit cards, checks, and cash are accepted at all locations.

FEATURED ARTISTS

In an effort to highlight other art forms in northeastern South Dakota, Northern Fort Playhouse has started to feature the work of local visual artists at some of the Friday night performances. This year's Featured Artists will be Connie Gisi Wagenaar Henning from Webster, SD, and Jim Bird from Peever, SD.



"Mares & Foals"

The rural Webster artist is a member of SD Artists Alliance. In 2017 she was active in numerous regional Plein Air shows and received the Artist's Choice Award at the Harvey Dunn Plein Air event in DeSmet, SD.

July 16 | Featured Artist: Connie Gisi Wagenaar Henning

Drawing, painting, and the love of animals and the outdoors have been a part of Connie Gisi's life since childhood. Her mission is to put on paper or canvas what others pass by, but don't actually see. Connie works in oils, watercolor, pastels, pen and ink and just about anything that makes a mark. Subjects range from landscapes to animal portraits to things in between.



"Monarch"

July 23 | Featured Artist: Jim Bird

Jim Bird is a landscape and wildlife photographer from Peever, SD. Jim submits his work to National Geographic's Your Shot and has had fourteen of his photos selected as "Editor's Favorites" since joining the global photographers group in 2016. He is often out with his camera long before the sun comes up and he endures all kinds of South Dakota weather to capture the right shot, but it's all worth it to him, "I see my photography as a way of showing the wonderful works of God's creation that surround us every day."



TOUR THE FORT

2021 Patrons of the Playhouse will have an added TREAT, following three of the performances. These added activities will be FREE OF CHARGE to patrons of the Playhouse. July 10 Stars, Strolls and S'mores, July 17 and July 23 Lantern Tours.



FRIDAY NIGHT RECEPTIONS

All our Friday evening performances will feature a free will donation social hour. Come early and visit our featured artists' talents, enjoy some snacks prepared with COVID guidelines observed and a beverage of your choice.



JOIN US FOR DINNER ON SATURDAY NIGHT OR A SUNDAY LUNCHEON

SATURDAY DINNER

Don't Hug Me: July 10

The Oregon Trail: July 17 and 24

SUNDAY LUNCH

The Oregon Trail: July 11

Don't Hug Me: July 18

Dinner seating begins at 6 p.m. followed by a 7:30 p.m. performance. Lunch seating begins at 12:30 p.m. followed by a 2 p.m. performance. All meals are catered by Hickory Street Kitchen and Cocktails, Sisseton.

Social distance and COVID guidelines will be put in effect for your safety. Check our website or call our Britton ticket location for additional information. Bon appetit.

We have our own Playhouse website for our friends and patrons. Check us out at www.northernfortplayhouse.com where we post upcoming news, menu information about our dinner theater nights and have an extensive photo gallery from our past seasons. Fans of Facebook can visit our page at that site for more news and to interact with other Playhouse friends.

The Playhouse is supported with funds from:



COVID PRECAUTIONS

- Facemasks will be strongly encouraged for all those attending performances.
- Free facemasks will be available at the ticket table.
- "Pod -seating" will be used to encourage social distancing in the audience.
- Tickets will not be sold "to capacity."
- Seats will be sanitized after every performance.
- Seating and serving for the dinner and lunch meals will also follow COVID-19 Safety Guidelines.
- Hand sanitizing stations will be available.

JOIN THE RANKS OF

NORTHERN FORT

PLAYHOUSE SUPPORTERS!

Isolation was a part of the daily lives of soldiers serving at Fort Wadsworth (now Fort Sisseton) in the 1860s. For the last year, as we have all endured the restrictions brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, we have also experienced times of isolation.

For soldiers and officers at Fort Wadsworth in the 1860s, it was traveling groups that stopped at the fort on the prairie to provide music and entertainment that made them laugh and lift their spirits.

Now, almost 150 years later, we hope that the music and entertainment of our 2021 season will renew the spirits of our audiences as we emerge from our own levels of isolation. The Northern Fort Playhouse (NFP) Board is committed to taking protective measures to insure our guests will have a safe environment as they enjoy quality live theatre for three weekends in July in the South Barracks on the beautiful grounds of Fort Sisseton State Historical Park. Dedicated professionals from the Northern State University Theatre Department will present two different and delightful shows during the 2021 season.

Helping to make each performance successful is the NFP Board of Directors, a group of volunteers from a three-county area that are passionate about providing live theatre in northeastern South Dakota. Last summer, with the safety of our cast, crew, audience and volunteers in mind, the board made the very difficult decision to cancel the 2020 season because of the spread of the Coronavirus. We are extremely grateful to those that offered donations as part of the “2020 Extraordinary Regiment” to help us meet our annual financial obligations as we experienced the loss of income from ticket sales.

This year, your financial support is more important than ever. Donations at any level will help continue the tradition of summer theatre at Fort Sisseton for its 15th season in 2021. As a member of The Regiment Corp. (levels listed on the next page) you will be recognized in the program and on our website www.northernfortplayhouse.com. Those at the “Captain” level and higher will also receive two complimentary tickets.

To get the 2021 season off to a great start, please complete the form on the next page and return it with your check OR credit card information prior to June 1, 2021 to Northern Fort Playhouse, P.O. Box 129, Britton, SD 57430-0129. For more information, call 605-467-3247.

Thank you for considering a partnership with us to support and grow this unique theatre experience at historical Fort Sisseton.

Sandi Jaspers
NFP Board President



Photo Credit: South Dakota Tourism Department

NORTHERN FORT PLAYHOUSE MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Northern Fort Playhouse is to showcase the beauty of Fort Sisseton Historic State Park and the talents of the Northern State University School of Fine Arts by supporting and coordinating an entertaining summer theater experience that attracts audiences of all ages.

THE NORTHERN FORT PLAYHOUSE FOUNDATION

P.O. Box 129
Britton, S.D. 57430-0129

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> General (\$1000 or more) | <input type="checkbox"/> Captain (\$200-\$299) | <input type="checkbox"/> Corporal (\$50-\$99) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Colonel (\$500-\$999) | <input type="checkbox"/> Lieutenant (\$150-\$199) | <input type="checkbox"/> Private (\$25-\$49) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Major (\$300-\$499) | <input type="checkbox"/> Sergeant (\$100-\$149) | |

Bill my credit card

Number _____ Exp _____ CVC _____ Zip Code _____

NORTHERN FORT PLAYHOUSE 2019 REGIMENT

If you would like to join the 2021 Regiment or renew your contribution, fill out the form above and mail it with your donation to Northern Fort Playhouse Foundation at the indicated address. Thank you for your tax-deductible donation.

GENERAL (\$1000 OR MORE)

Frank Farrar

COLONEL (\$500 - \$999)

Horton, Inc.

Hugh K. Schilling Jr.

MAJOR (\$300 - \$499)

Ronald R. Jarrett
Robin Moran

CAPTAIN (\$200 - \$299)

Great Plains Bank, Eden
Susan Wismer
Ken and Brenda Spence
Calvin and Vivian Hove

SPONSORS

Spencer and Kathy Gross
Britton Lions Club, Britton
Eden Lions Club, Eden
Club Eden
Mavis Jones

Mark Wismer

Horton, Inc.

Craig and Gail Eichstadt

Cutting Edgz

KA & Sally Squire

Sisseton Arts Council

Teal's Market

Prins Cattle, LLC

QQP / Midstates

LIEUTENANT (\$150 - \$199)

Marge Rosin

RDO Equipment

SERGEANT (\$100 - \$149)

Thomas P. Tonner

Roger and Sandra Gresh

Strand Theatre

Farmers Union Insurance

Tom Farber Agency

Dave Hahler Automotive, Inc.

Scott's Lumber

Meyer Hardware Hank

Dave and Sue Bankers

Terry and Sandi Jaspers

Carol Johns

Boomtown Enterprises-

Parabooms

Wayne and JoAnne Schlekekwy

Jill Trebil

Bantz Gosch & Cremer, LLC

CORPORAL (\$50 - \$99)

Jirava Ventures

Larry and Susan Jirava –

Subway

Cornwell Drug

Northland Auto Center

Sturdevant's Auto Parts, Webster

Rodney and Betty Veflin

Emily Guhin

A & S Hardware Hank, Webster

Holland Brothers Oil

John and Jane Rasumussen

Duane and Jane Schneider

Allen and Jennifer Nolan

Norstar Federal Credit

Union, Britton

Mark Wismer

Green Iron Equipment

PRIVATE (\$25 - \$49)

Brewhouse Boutique

Matt Amdahl / Pikes

Webster Auto Care

Day County TV & Appliance,
Webster

Mike and Mary Dunn

Karen Heidel

Jean Amacher / Dizzy Blondz
Marlene Seeklander

2020 NORTHERN FORT PLAYHOUSE EXTRAORDINARY REGIMENT

COLONEL (\$500 - \$999)

Horton, Inc.

KA & Sally Squire

MAJOR (\$300 - \$499)

Ronald R. Jarrett
Mark Wismer and Carolyn
Furman
Robin Moran

CAPTAIN (\$200 - \$299)

Ken and Brenda Spence
Carol Johns / The Church Mouse
Frank Farrar / Beresford
Bancorporation
Brampton Farm Services, LLC
Calvin and Vivian Hove

Susan Wismer

Jo Schlekekwy

LIEUTENANT (\$150 - \$199)

Christopher and Laura Haar
Mavis Jones
Todd and Angie Garry
Rodney and Betty Veflin

SERGEANT (\$100 - \$149)

Jill Trebil
Mike and Mary Dunn
Tim Lipetzky
David and Sue Bankers
Dan and Anita Brudos
Susan Bates Johnson
JHK Consulting /
Jennifer Healy Keintz

Harvey and Linda Aman

Terry and Sandi Jaspers

Britton Lions Club

Spencer and Kathy Gross

CORPORAL (\$50 - \$99)

Kim Burger

John and Deborah Rieck

Craig and Jenny Lingren

Duane and Jane Schneider

Monte and Joann Troske

Doug and Connie Leschisin

Emily Guhin

Arlene and Wes Elliot

Doug and Junia Meyer

Richard and Sharlene Anderson

Matt and Laura Hubers

Becky Pribyl

PRIVATE (\$25 - \$49)

Scott and Kara Dennert

Elaine O'Brien

Vollie Ann Williams

Scott Kram

Herschell and Bea Premack

Chan Benda

John Vander Hoek

Paul and Faye Symens

Anita Patterson

Farmers Union Insurance

Tom Farber Agency

Dennis and Marion Hartung



School of Fine Arts

1200 S. Jay St.
Aberdeen, SD 57401
605-626-2497

northern.edu/artsnsu

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Aberdeen, South Dakota
Permit No. 77



Follow us on facebook and twitter:

@northernfortplayhouse and be sure
to share your favorite fort memories.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT THE NORTHERN FORT PLAYHOUSE
Pam Lunzman at (605) 467-3247

July 23 | 7:30 p.m.

July 24 | 7:30 p.m.

July 18 | 2 p.m., matinee

July 17 | 7:30 p.m.

July 16 | 7:30 p.m.

July 11 | 2 p.m., matinee

July 10 | 7:30 p.m.

July 9 | 7:30 p.m.

PERFORMANCES



PERFORMANCES



NORTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY

PLAYHOUSE

NORTHERN FORT