Arts & Entertainment

Service Members 'Letters Home' Humanizes The War Experience

CONCORD — The deeply moving stories of U.S. service members in Iraq and Afghanistan are the subject of a powerful play coming to the Capitol Center for the Arts Thursday, May 21, at 7:30 p.m.

Griffin Theatre Company's Letters Home puts the wars front and center by bringing to life actual letters written by soldiers serving in the Middle East. The production was inspired by the New York Times Op-Ed Article, The Things They Wrote and the subsequent HBO documentary, Last Letters Home and additionally uses letters and correspondences from Frank Schaeffer's books, Voices From the Front, Letters Home From America's Military Family, Faith of Our Sons, and Keeping Faith.

The play, without politicizing, is designed to give audiences a powerful portrait of the soldier experience in the ongoing wars. The initial production last winter was critically acclaimed and was nominated for a Joseph Jefferson Award for "Outstanding New Play."

Letters Home also includes a small number of correspondences from parents – their words, being no less important. These letters were written under the most difficult of circumstances: the disorientation of training, deployment, separation from family and loved ones and combat, and occupation duties in Afghanistan and Iraq.

At the conclusion of the play, the actors will lead a community discussion, and members of the New Hampshire military community have been invited to participate. Organizations that provide services to military families have been invited to set up displays in the Capitol Center lobby.

Admission for military families is complimentary, courtesy of the Citizens Bank Foundation. "We are extremely pleased to underwrite this compelling production," said Cathleen A. Schmidt, president, Citizens Bank. "At Citizens Bank, we take great pride in supporting colleagues who are called to active duty. This production is a poignant glimpse into the lives of our brave service men and women during the most challenging of times – combat. It is our honor to underwrite complimentary admission to this performance for military families."

Tickets are $22.50 for adults and $16.50 for students and seniors. To purchase tickets, contact the box office by phone: 225-1111 or online: ccanh.com.

Folklore Society Presents An Evening of Cape Breton Music

NELSON - The Monadnock Folklore Society is excited to present Kimberley Fraser for an evening of Cape Breton music on May 16th at 8:00 PM at the Nelson Town Hall. On Kimberley's last visit to Nelson she accompanied fiddler Jerry Holland on piano, fiddle and traditional step dancing. She is a captivating and extraordinary performer!

Kimberley Fraser was born on Cape Breton Island, and nurtured within its rich musical heritage. She first began to impress audiences at the age of three with her step-dancing talents. Soon after that she took up both the fiddle and the piano. Like many in Cape Breton, music is not new to Kimberley's family. She proudly owns the fiddle of her great great grandfather, spanning the musical tradition within her family over a hundred years.

Though still in her early 20s, Kimberley's career is already a distinguished one. She has traveled the world, from Victoria to Afghanistan, bringing Cape Breton music with her wherever she goes. Dan MacDonald of the Cape Breton Post says this about Fraser's versatility, "She has matured to become one of the stellar players of the Cape Breton fiddle tradition, equally at home at a house party, playing for a square dance or on stage for a concert in Bras d'Or or Boston, Scotsville or Scotland." She has played with Cape Breton's finest, including Ashley MacIsaac, Natalie MacMaster, Gordie Sampson and the late John Allan Cameron. Internationally, Kimberley has shared the stage with such notables as Alasdair Fraser, Lunasa and Martin Hayes. Kimberley is also in demand for her piano skills, accompanying various Cape Breton fiddlers at home and abroad. She had the honour of being the pianist for the acclaimed Irish musical group, Cherish the Ladies, during their tour of Sweden in May of 2004. Her impact upon the music of Cape Breton has not gone unrecognized. In 2000, Kimberley received the Tic Butler award for significant contribution to Cape Breton culture.

Visit: www.monadnockfolk.org

Nashua Community Concert 2009-2010 Season Attractions

The Nashua Community Concert Association announces its 79th consecutive season offering outstanding live performances. We offer six exciting concerts between September and April at a series price of just $50, comparable to buying the same number of movie tickets. Specific performance dates will be announced in August.

2009-2010 season

"Red Hot Hollywood" Matt Davenport Productions Inc. presents a thrilling "red carpet" review of Hollywood's greatest music memories. A versatile cast of eleven sing, dance and recreate magical movie memories of Gene Kelly, Astaire and Rogers, Julie Andrews, Donald O'Connor, Judy Garland and more.

Presidio Brass Hailing from San Diego, CA, Presidio Brass is a dynamic force in American brass chamber music. With a unique and exciting repertoire written specifically for the ensemble, the Presidio Brass is committed to providing engaging musical programs as well as developing close ties to their audiences.

Daniel Rodriquez A former New York City police officer, Rodriguez has experienced a meteoric rise to fame. He was one of his department's designated anthem singers on September 11, 2001, when fate intervened -- he rendered a capella performances of "God Bless America" and the National Anthem that proved far greater than a patriotic gesture. Ringing, heartfelt and beautiful, his performance stirred the hearts of the entire nation.

Hunt Family Fiddlers This award-winning family of Irish step dancers, fiddlers and singers enchants crowds everywhere! The family of nine performs Celtic, bluegrass, inspirational and popular tunes, offering a unique blend of diversity in every show.

Rudolph Budginas Born into a family of musicians in Lithuania, Budginas began his piano studies at the age of four and made his debut at the age of nine with the Lithuanian National Symphony. He trained at the prestigious Moscow Conservatory and has risen to international prominence performing solo concerts

Nearly Neil and the Solitary Band Bobby Bruce is an exhilarating performer who, with a talented group of backup singers, has spent the last fourteen years astounding fans throughout North America, Australia, New Zealand and South East Asia with his amazing tribute to Neil Diamond. His path was set in motion in Toronto in 1994, when the Vancouver-born Bruce's talent for impersonating Neil Diamond earned him a spot in a local tribute show.

To subscribe to this series, Nashua's best entertainment value, call 888-9158 or visit our booth at Darrell's Music Store between 10AM and 5PM on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays (starting Saturday, March 7) through March 28.

CURRIER MUSEUM OF ART

May Schedule of Events

MANCHESTER — The art of best-selling author and illustrator David Macaulay comes to the Currier in the new exhibition Building Books: The Art of David Macaulay, on view through June 14. The exhibition includes over 100 original works of art, including illustrations from his highly acclaimed 2008 book The Way We Work, studies, sketchbook, models, manuscripts, and a video documentary about the artist. Also on view through May 10 are A Passionate Collector: Highlights from the Robert Cross Vergobbi Bequest and Function and Sculpture: Building a Ceramics Collection.

The museum's entrance is located at 150 Ash Street and parking is available in the new parking lot. Museum hours are Sunday, Monday, Wednesday - Friday 11a.m. – 5 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., open the first Thursday of each month 11 a.m. – 8 p.m., and closed Tuesday. To find more information and to register for programs, visit www.currier.org or call 669-6144, x108.

MAY

Public Guided Tours

Tours are offered daily, and highlight either the museum's collection or the current special exhibition. Public tours are free with museum admission. Building Books: The Art of David Macaulay tour times through June 14: Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays at 12:30 pm. Welcome to the Currier: Highlights of the Collection tour times: Through June 14 – Every weekend: Saturdays at 11:30 am, and Sundays at 1 pm,.. After June 14 - Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays at 12:30 pm.

Zimmerman House ticketed tours

Take a tour of the Zimmerman House and learn more about this Frank Lloyd Wright treasure! A Zimmerman House Tour provides visitors with a 90 minute tour of the house with information about the Zimmermans, life in the 1950s and 60s, and the architecture of Frank Lloyd Wright. Beginning Friday, April 3, these tours are offered Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays at 2 pm, Saturdays at 10:30 am and 12:30 pm; and Sundays at 11:30 am and 1:30 pm. Zimmerman House public tours are free for museum members.

Private Group Tours Full-length tours, or 1-hour, introductory "Hightlights" tours of the house can also be scheduled throughout the week and on weekends.

Currier Museum Art Center Spring Classes

May 11 – June 15

The Spring program at the Currier Museum Art Center offers art classes for students of all ages and abilities. The Art Center's Art Foundations for Children provides classroom art experiences for children from ages 2 to 10 through a largely multimedia approach, while ArtVentures for Preteens! and Art School for Teens and Adults concentrate on the needs of older students through an emphasis on specific disciplines and materials.

Family Studio

Wednesday, May 13 from 2:30-4:30 pm

Adults and children can drop by one of the museum studios to participate in an art-related activity and brief gallery talk about the "Artwork of the Day" May's Family Studio theme is "The Art of Architecture." This program is free with museum admission.

ARTalk - The Way the Zimmerman House Works

Saturday, May 16

ARTalk at 1 pm, Zimmerman House Tours at 2:30 and 3:30 pm

Join Hetty Startup, former Zimmerman House Site Administrator, as she discusses the nitty-gritty of the way the Frank Lloyd Wright-designed home works—aesthetically and physically.

Currier Museum Art Center Child and Parent Workshop: A Day to Play in Clay – Picasso Pitchers

Saturday, May 16 from 1-3 pm

Drawing in the Galleries

Sunday, May 17 from 1-3 pm

Enjoy drawing? Come to the Currier and sketch amongst the works of art on view. Art educators will be available to offer advice and encouragement. Pencils and paper will be provided, or bring your own. Free with museum admission. Children under 18 are free.

Walking Tours with the Manchester Historic Association – The Way Manchester's Original City Plan Worked

Sunday, May 17 from 1:30-3:30 pm

The Currier and the Manchester Historic Association present two walking tours of Manchester related to concepts in Building Books: The Art of David Macaulay.

Family Studio

Wednesday, May 20 from 2:30-4:30 pm

Adults and children can drop by one of the museum studios to participate in an art-related activity and brief gallery talk about the "Artwork of the Day" May's Family Studio theme is "The Art of Architecture." This program is free with museum admission

New Parent Gallery Talk: May Flowers

Thursday, May 21 from 11 am-noon

Has your new baby reduced your vocabulary to coos and other nonsensical words? These gallery talks are design for new parents (with baby in tow) to get a personalized tour of the museum. So pack up the baby stroller and stop by for some much needed adult conversation. Free with museum admission.

Zimmerman House Focus Tour –

Frank Lloyd Wright, the Zimmerman House, and the French Connection

Sunday, May 24 at 3 pm

Focus Tours are designed for guests who have already visited the Zimmerman House and would like to examine specific, changing topics connected to the house, the Zimmermans, or the architecture of Frank Lloyd Wright.

Storytime in the Gallery

Monday, May 25 at 11:30 am

Looking for a way to introduce your preschooler to art? Come to the Currier for an art-related story read by Manchester City Library children's librarian Karyn Isleb followed by a gallery talk about the "Artwork of the Day". Recommended for ages 3 to 5, but all are welcome.

Family Studio

Wednesday, May 27 from 2:30-4:30 pm

Adults and children can drop by one of the museum studios to participate in an art-related activity and brief gallery talk about the "Artwork of the Day" May's Family Studio theme is "The Art of Architecture." This program is free with museum admission

Currier Art Center Family Day to Play!

Saturday, May 30 from 1-5 pm

Join us for a campus-wide day of family fun! Participate in hands-on art-making in the Art Center and Museum, reserve your seats early to view award-winning artist David Macaulay while he demonstrates his craft in the auditorium, walk through the galleries and view the Macaulay exhibition, dance with your kids to the sound of the Art Center's unofficial band the "Toe Jam Puppet Band," view and bid on special silent auction items, and more! All ticket proceeds fund the programs of the Currier Art Center. $15 for all adults; $5 children (under 18).

ARTalk – The Way David Macaulay Works

Sunday, May 31 at 2 pm

This season's ARTalks are inspired by David Macaulay's book The Way Things Work. Today, meet award-winning author illustrator David Macaulay as he discusses his techniques for explaining complex concepts through illustration. Book signing to follow.

Benefit Events

Food As Art…art As Food - Palette To Palate II

A Sharon Arts Center Benefit Celebrating The Art Of Food

Local Culinary Artists Participate in an Edible Sculpture Competition and Local Artists and Craftspeople Display Food-Themed Work

PETERBOROUGH, NH – Sharon Arts Center, a non-profit arts organization, will be hosting a gala fundraiser in the Downtown Galleries in Peterborough (20-40 Depot Square) on Saturday, May 30th from 5-7 pm.

The event will combine an edible food sculpture competition with wine and hors d'oeurves provided by local restaurants: 12 Pine of Peterborough, Unbridled Chocolates of Marlborough, Acqua Bistro of Peterborough, Lee and Mt Fuji of Peterborough/Marlborough, Sunflower's Cafe of Jaffrey, Del Rossi's Trattoria of Dublin, Nature's Green Grocer of Peterborough, plus other local vendors.

There will be a special accompanying exhibition and sale of functional and non-functional food-themed work created by regional artists and craftspeople. Some of the participating artists are: Eila MacKenzie, Cornelia Grondahl, and Vinoy Laughner.

Limited tickets will be available. For advance reservations, call 924-7256, or stop in at Sharon Arts Downtown Galleries in Depot Square, Peterborough (20-40 Depot Square). Admission is $25. Tickets will be available that night at the door until sold out. Plenty of parking is available in Depot Square. Bring your appetite for food…and art!

YAAAARD Sale at Milford United Methodist Church

Wicked Awesome YAAAARD Sale on June 6th, 7 am – 1 pm at the Milford United Methodist Church. As always come and find all kinds athletic equipment, household goods, electrical equipment, books, furniture, antiques, one-of-a-kind gifts for the whole family. Contact Pat Rafter, 673-4516 or icu2per@aol.com, for information and directions, or if you would like to donate to the sale. Don't miss the food tent with some special fixin's by Chef Lonni. And new this year is the Milford Area Seniors tent. Mark your calendars now, and don't forget to visit us at 327 No. River Road, Milford.

Yard Sale To Benefit Anne-Marie House

HUDSON -- A gigantic yard sale Saturday, May 16 will benefit Anne-Marie House, a transitional residence for families operated by the Greater Nashua Interfaith Hospitality Network.

Anne-Marie House is located at 180 Lowell Road on the grounds of the Presentation of Mary Academy. The sale hours are 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and it is in conjunction with a yard sale by the academy.

Donations for the yard sale may be delivered to Anne-Marie House on Friday afternoon, May 15. Items should be in good condition. No computers or televisions should be donated.

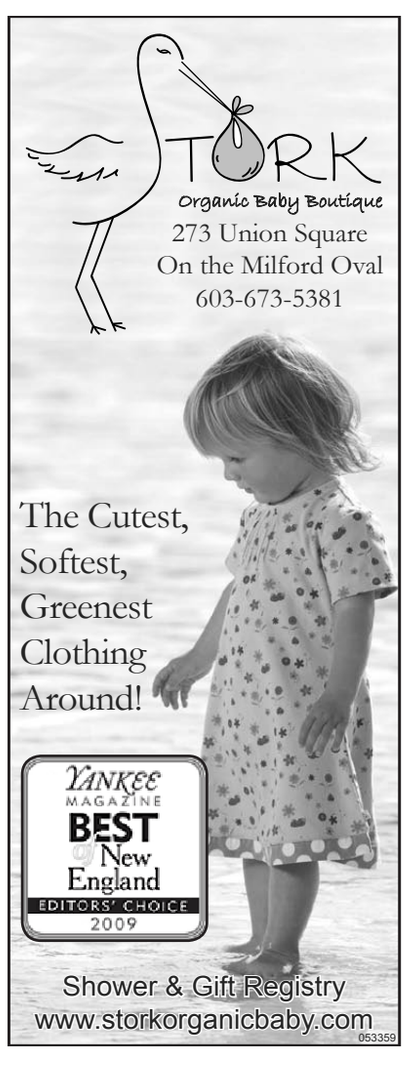
Concessions will be available all day and 50/50 raffles twice during the day. Space may be reserved for those who wish to sell their own items. To reserve space call 883-7336.

SHARE Your Time

SHARE Recruiting Fundraising Volunteers

On May 13 at 7:00 PM SHARE will hold a meeting to try to rally some volunteers to work on fundraising. We urge you to come, bring a friend! We need ideas on how to make money to pay for SHARE's increasing expenses. Dave Parker will be our special guest speaker and will be giving us some suggestions about fundraising . Dave helped make the Milford Boys and Girls Club the thriving success that it is today and he will share some thoughts and ideas at the SHARE meeting. "Many of the original SHARE volunteers are 'gently aging' and we would like to enlist the help of the next generation. So I am trying to get some sort of a 'pass the torch on' program going where our children who live locally can pick up the ball and help us out. We have gone from no operating expenses a few years ago to well over $100,000 operating budget", says SHARE founder, Mariette Facques. We welcome all ages! The SHARE meeting will be held at SHARE Center, 1 Columbus Ave., Milford. We will serve refreshments. You do not have to make a commitment to attend further meetings, if you choose not to. Call the SHARE office at 673-9898 if you would like more information

NEXT ISSUE: MAY 26
DEADLINE: MAY 20



NOW IS THE TIME TO SCHEDULE YOUR PORTFOLIO REVIEW.

When you stop to think about what's happened in the past year, it's easy to realize how quickly things can change.

This is an ideal time to discuss how the market may have impacted your financial goals. Then we can help you decide if you should revise your investments. And even if you don't need to make changes, it's still important to evaluate your investment strategy and help ensure it's still on track with your goals.

Call today to schedule your free portfolio review.

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