

Encore!

Diamond Head Theatre

Stars in New York City

What has 208 legs, 104 suitcases, 39 lamé vests and 96 boxes of chocolate-covered macadamia nuts? The DHT Shooting Stars on their March 2011 trip to New York!

After almost a year of fundraising, 39 Shooting Stars—plus our Stars staff and an army of chaperones, parents, siblings, aunties, uncles and grandparents—took off in March for a one-week tour of New York City.



In front of The Minetta Lane Theatre in New York City.

The trip was much more than a vacation—it was a chance for the Shooting Stars to experience big-city theatre life and to perform. Our first show was for Rosie's Broadway Kids. We performed three pieces for them, and in return they entertained us with a variety of songs and dances from their repertoire. But the best part was bringing the kids together to just talk and compare stories. Different sides of the continent, yes, but so very much in common.

The next two days were filled with workshops, dance classes, sightseeing and Broadway shows, including the Tony Award-winning musical *Memphis* and hit musical *Billy Elliot*. There couldn't be a better show

for our young performers than *Billy Elliot*, about a mining-town boy who realizes his dream of becoming a ballet dancer.

The shows were great inspiration for what was to come on the following day, when the



Performing for family, friends and new friends at The Minetta Lane Theatre.

producer of the Off-Broadway Minetta Lane Theatre agreed to let the Shooting Stars use the stage for an afternoon performance. After only one onstage rehearsal, the Stars put on a nearly two-hour show featuring some of our biggest and most popular songs and dances. We were thrilled to find that the audience included about 25 former Shooting Stars, plus teachers, family members, Honolulu transplants and even Deena Dray's mother-in-law. Even our usher from *Billy Elliot* showed up to give us support! What a memorable experience.

On our last evening, we enjoyed a revival of Cole Porter's *Anything*

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July 2011
Volume 96 • Issue 3

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Now Playing

HAIRSPRAY
July 15 - July 31

Coming Soon

SUNSET BOULEVARD
Sept. 30 - Oct. 16

CINDERELLA
Dec. 2 - Dec. 18

For Tickets
Call 808.733.0274 or visit
www.diamondheadtheatre.com



Shooting Stars Jack Morrison and Michael Bingham on their way to *Mamma Mia!*

A Look Back in Time



This look back in time comes by way of a letter that we found dated June 21, 1976. The author is Honolulu Community Theatre's then-theatre historian, Norman Wright. Mr. Wright

was an entertaining and prolific correspondent as well as a dedicated archivist who loved HCT (now DHT).

The letter is to Ms. Diane O'Dwyer, who was the editor of *Encore*. He writes, "Some months ago I promised to provide you with a series of 'fillers' for *Encore*. They will be a series of historical footnotes under the title 'Did You Know...?'. Attached are a few that will keep you going for the several issues."

Here are Mr. Wright's fillers as typed in 1976.



Former Hawaii governor William F. Quinn in *Brigadoon*.

Did you know...

That **Spark Matsunaga** served as vice president of HCT for its 1953-55 seasons and appeared as an actor in such productions as *The City is Haunted* (1947) and *The Taming of the Shrew* (1952)?

That **Ruth Ellen Patton** appeared in HCT's production of *The Bishop Misbehaves* (1935) while her father George S. Patton was serving as a colonel at Schofield Barracks?

That **William F. Quinn** served as president of HCT for its 1952-54 seasons and appeared as an actor in such productions as *Mr. Roberts* (1948), *Light Up the Sky* (1949), *The Hasty Heart* (1951) and *Brigadoon* (1953)?

What fascinating anecdotes! And what a rich and storied history we have here at DHT. We'll never be able to replace Mr. Wright as an HCT advocate and historian, but perhaps we'll find a dedicated heir to his job. We're approaching our 100th anniversary (in 2015) and will need our archives to be top shape! 📖

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Aloha from DHT's Executive Director

My husband and I have no children, so it's with amusement and a sort of fascination that I watch the parade of kids here at Diamond Head Theatre.

I see the very little ones in Baby Ballet—they're so adorable that I could just sit and watch every class. I come upon the older ones doing homework in our Green Room, waiting for their afternoon tap or jazz class to start. I steal in to do a bit of work on a Saturday and catch teacher Ann Ogilvie's acting class on our stage. And I'm literally surrounded every summer by teen interns from our Musical Theatre Experience program, who are copying music, organizing binders and getting ready for the stampede of students in that program—86 in all!

It's very energizing and satisfying

to see these kids of all ages, backgrounds and ethnicities participating in the performing arts here at DHT. But I think my favorite part is watching them graduate to

our main stage. It typically happens around high-school age, and usually in productions in which, with a little costume and makeup, they can pass for a "grown-up." Their faces shine with pride at working with the adult cast, and I can see them soaking up every moment. Even when they enter their college years, many still return for summer. I marvel at how they've grown and am so pleased to see them playing major roles right alongside the adults.



It's always a thrill when one of these "kids" heads for the bright lights of New York City and lands a role (one of our former Shooting Stars, Aleks Pevec, is currently in *Catch Me If You Can* on Broadway!), though I secretly want them all to stay on our stage. And I enjoy hearing about their triumphs, whether in New York, Los Angeles or a professional show right here in Honolulu.

If you have children or grandchildren, please get them interested in theatre, music or dance, as a participant or an audience member. It's an experience that could last a lifetime—and I still have at least one more generation to watch grow up here at Diamond Head Theatre!

Encore! is published by Diamond Head Theatre, 520 Makapuu Avenue, Honolulu, HI 96816.

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Our Mission Statement

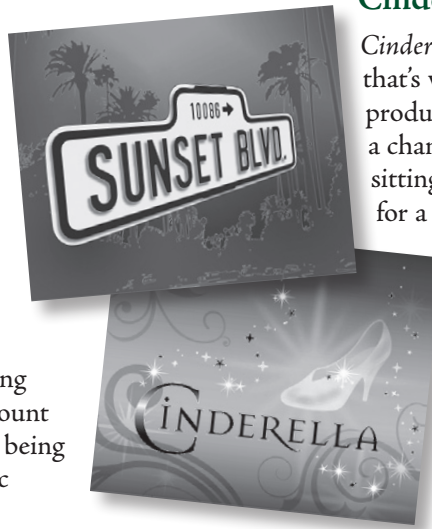
Established in 1915, Diamond Head Theatre is the Broadway of the Pacific, producing the best live community theatre entertainment and advancing the theatre arts through education in Hawai'i.

Sneak Peek

New Season Kicks off with *Sunset Boulevard* and *Cinderella*

Sunset Boulevard

“And now, Mr. DeMille, I’m ready for my close-up.” That memorable closing line, delivered by Gloria Swanson as Norma Desmond, has become so famous that even people who’ve never seen the film know it’s from *Sunset Boulevard*. Writers Don Black and Christopher Hampton were wise to retain most of the film’s clever dialogue when they adapted *Sunset Boulevard* into a stage musical. You’ll find everything from the film translated to DHT’s onstage production, including Norma’s Gothic-style mansion, swimming pool and Isotta Fraschini car, and even the Paramount Studio soundstage where *Samson and Delilah* was being filmed. Andrew Lloyd Webber’s lush and dramatic score features two of his greatest hits, “With One Look” and “As If We Never Said Goodbye”, which was the highlight of a recent episode of the popular TV show *Glee*.



Cinderella

Cinderella really is a musical for everyone—and that’s why it’s been one of our most popular productions at DHT. For many adults it’s a chance to revisit childhood memories of sitting in front of a black-and-white television for a rare live broadcast with Julie Andrews, or the thrill of watching it in color with Leslie Anne Warren in the 1960s. For teens it’s a shorter trip back in time to when they watched Brandy and Paolo Montalban on VHS tape. For young children, it’s the perfect introduction to the magic of live theatre. And magical is what our new production is going to be—with new colors, new sets, new costumes, new laughs and plenty of Fairy Godmother enchantment.

Meet Members of Our Board

Diamond Head Theatre is honored to have 41 community leaders and theatre buffs serving on our Board of Directors. We would like to introduce several of these special individuals to you and thank the entire board for their enthusiastic support.

In the Spotlight

Dennis E. Francis
Board Member



Occupation
Newspaper
Publisher

First Job
Worked for a tire-retreading company that specialized in large earth-moving equipment

Last Book Read
The Limits of Strategy
by Ernest von Simson

Favorite Travel Destination
San Francisco/Napa Valley

How Long on the Board
13 years

Favorite DHT Moment
My two years as Chairman of the Board gave me invaluable knowledge of the many nuances of DHT

Alton Kuioka
Board Member



Occupation
Consultant (retired from Bank of Hawaii)

First Job
Home newspaper delivery

Last Book Read
Mr. Hogan, The Man I Knew
by Kris Tschetter

Favorite Travel Destination
Anywhere—like to travel!

How Long on the Board
16 years

Favorite DHT Moment
The Producer’s Club dinner on the DHT stage, and to be involved in the play to solve the murder mystery

Thomas McCarthy
Board Member



Occupation
Senior VP, Hawaii
Complex Manager,
Wells Fargo Advisors

First Job
In high school I was a luggage courier for Waikiki Tour Company

Last Book Read
Practice Made Perfect
by Mark Tibergien

Favorite Travel Destination
Any softball diamond

How Long on the Board
2 years

Favorite DHT Moment
During any play when I realize I’m “in the moment” rather than just watching a performance

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Goes, plus a very special “talk back” session with members of the cast. With great honesty, the actors answered questions ranging from “How did you get started in show business?” to “What

do your parents think about you being an actor?”. And for the grand finale to a great week, as we made our way back to the hotel, it began to snow.

Exhilarated, triumphant and, yes, a

bit tired but with memories to last a lifetime, all 208 legs, 104 suitcases, and 39 vests headed back to Honolulu. But all 96 boxes of macadamia nuts found new homes in New York City. 🇺🇸



The Shooting Stars staff takes a bow (along with the Stars themselves) at The Minetta. Front row: Celia Kenney, Kana Rolett, Kami Wakabayashi and Alaura Ward. Back row: John Rampage, Caryn Yee, guest accompanist Steven Mitchel, Kelly Moulson and Deanna Luster.



Seeing the sights! Lauren Nagamine and Julia Kawano have high tea at the Fairmont.

The Stars perform for Rosie's Broadway Kids.

