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ON STAGE

"Steel Magnolias," through Sept. 28, Mud Creek Players, 9740 E. 86th St., Indianapolis; mudcreekplayers.org

"Twelve Angry Men," through Sept. 29, Indiana Repertory Theatre, 140 W. Washington St., Indianapolis; irtlive.com

"Dirty Rotten Scoundrels," thru Sept. 29, Actors Theatre of Indiana, The Studio Theater, 4 Center Green, Carmel; www.atistage.org

"The Cocktail Hour," through Sept. 29, Epilogue Players, 1849 N. Alabama St., Indy; epilogueplayers.com

"Hairspray," through Oct. 6, Beef & Boards Dinner Theatre, 9301 N. Michigan Road; www.beefandboards.com

"The Legend of Georgia McBride," through Oct. 6, Phoenix Theatre, 705 N. Illinois St., Indianapolis; phoenixtheatre.org

"The Diviners," through Oct. 6, The Switch theatre in Ji-Eun Lee Music Academy, 10029 E. 126th St., Fishers; theswitchtheatre.com

OPENING

"Trap," Sept. 27-Oct. 6, Buck Creek Players, 11150 Southeastern Ave., Indy; www.buckcreekplayers.com

"Ragtime," Sept. 27-Oct. 13, Footlite Musicals, 1847 N. Alabama St., Indianapolis; footlite.org

"The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance," Sept. 27-Oct. 13, Main Street Productions at Westfield Playhouse, 1836 W. SR 32, Westfield; westfieldplayhouse.org

"The Birds," Sept. 27-Oct. 13, NoExit Performance in The Power House at Central State Mansion, 202 Steeples Blvd., Indianapolis; noexitperformance.org

"The Wiz," Sept. 28-Oct. 6, Indiana Performing Arts Centre at the Athenaeum, 401 E. Michigan, Indianapolis; ipacindy.org

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John Lyle Belden and Wendy Carson

Theatre Bulletin

Indianapolis & Central Indiana FREE No. 0010 – September 26, 2019

A path to Broadway from Indy

[From Press Release] – A new non-profit arts organization, **Discovering Broadway**, is working with Broadway producers and directors to give Central Indiana residents a behind-the-scenes look at Broadway in the making.

Launched Sept. 24, the organization will host the composer, lyricist, bookwriter, actors and director of a select Broadway-bound musical for a two-week intensive creative workshop. (These typically happen in New York City and are not made available to the public.) During this two-week creative process, Discovering Broadway will supply Broadway artists with creative resources for the musical's development team to live and work in the area as they explore the artistic potential of the show and bring the story to exhilarating first life for its world premiere.

The two week process prepares the show for its Broadway debut and provides an exclusive first look as it culminates with the actors presenting the show, scripts in hand, to its first audience here in Indiana. Local artists will also have the opportunity to audition to be in the pre-Broadway workshop, as well as participate in master classes and public forums with the Broadway actors and producers.

Joel Kirk, a Carmel native and Ball State graduate, founded Discovering Broadway as a way to benefit both the Central Indiana arts community and Broadway colleagues. Kirk, the organization's Artistic Director, is a New York City theatre director and producer who specializes in the development of new plays and musicals.

"We want to give Hoosiers access to Broadway's creative process behind-the-scenes and create educational opportunities that are not currently available," said Kirk. "At the same time, we are giving Broadway producers a chance to get away from the city, fuel the creative process and reduce the financial burden of developing a Broadway show."

Discovering Broadway's first musical will be announced in the coming weeks, with the pre-Broadway process to take place in February 2020.

REVIEWS

Edited; see full reviews online at www.playswithjohnandwendy.com

Switch delivers deep drama of 'Diviners'

The drama "**The Diviners**," by Jim Leonard Jr., is a thoroughly Hoosier story, with Indiana setting and characters, and it premiered at Hanover College in 1980. But it plumbs deep into all of us, and it makes an excellent start for The Switch Theatre in Fishers.

Set during the Great Depression, we meet a rather extraordinary boy, Buddy, whose fear of water gives him such sensitivity to its presence that he became a natural "diviner," capable of finding underground streams for wells, and feeling approaching rain even while the sky is clear. Young Colin McCabe is excellent in this role, in a cast that also includes Larry Adams, Lauren Hall, Dan Flahive, Debbie Underwood, and Earl Campbell as ex-preacher C.C. Showers. Directed by Lori Raffel, this play has gentle humor and a Waltons-like folksiness, but its still waters run deep in what is ultimately a tragic story. Performances run through Oct. 6.