

Applause Kaua'i

Kaua'i Community Players

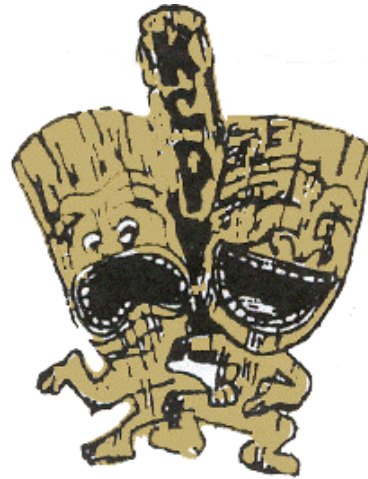
Spring 2007

Casting Call!

Dig Out the Sheet Music & Brush Off the Dancing Shoes!

Any idea what Tony Award winning Broadway musical was written by one of America's greatest Country Western singer/songwriters? What about a hint? The composer in question is eight-time Grammy Award winner Roger Miller, who's famous for penning country standards like "King of the Road" and "Dang Me." Still stumped? Guess no more! The musical in question is **Big River: The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn**, which seized a whopping seven Tony Awards in 1985, including Best Score and Best Musical. And the best news of all is that it's coming this fall to a stage near your.

The Kauai Community Players and Hawaii Children's Theater have announced plans to co-produce this popular musical, directed by Ed Eaton in November, 2007. **Big River, The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn** is a tale of adventure and self-discovery that begins on a raft on the Mississippi River in the 1840. Huck, escaping from his drunken father, meets up with Jim, a runaway slave and together



they take off on a journey downstream in a classic American tale that captures the rhythms, sounds and spirit of life on the big river.

The show's two leads, Huck and Jim, will be pre-cast from auditions held May 14-20 at the KAPA Building in Puhi. Performers interested in auditioning should note that the casting of Jim requires an adult African-American male with a strong baritone singing voice and Huck requires a male aged 12-18 with a country baritone singing voice. Performers who "fit the bill" may contact KCP at 245-7700 for times and additional information.

Big River: The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn will have a complete cast of approximately forty, with roles for child and adult performers of all ages. Auditions to cast additional roles besides Huck and Jim will be held in August. Check our website or contact us at 245-7700 for audition updates! 🤝

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BIG RIVER

The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn

To Be or Not To Be...

What Was the Question?

What recent KCP tour-de-force took Kauai theatergoers on a whirlwind, knock-your-socks-off, can't-catch-your-breath, stop-stop-you're-killin'-me adventure through some of the greatest plays in the English speaking world? None other than **The Complete Works of William Shakespeare Abridged**, directed by Tim Evans and stage managed by Jennifer Downs. This hilarious spoof ran for four sold-out weekends in February at the KAPA Building in Puhi, making this the first time this rehearsal venue has been used as an actual theater. Actors Ed Eaton, Ross Martineau, and Mike Scarbo took audiences on a romp through all 37 of the Bard's plays in a 90-minute free-for-all that felt a little like a ride on a Monty Python roller coaster. This comedic feast included improvisation, audience participation, and references to current culture so clever it probably had Old Will himself sitting up in his grave – if only to get a better look.

The success of this hilarious, fast-paced farce is indisputable, and the board offers its thanks and congratulations to the director, producer, and actors involved with this fun and funny performance! And because of the contributions of all who helped with the clean-up in February, we now know the KAPA Building is a suitable venue for use as a performance space. We hope you'll be seeing more productions there in the future now that it's all spruced up and ready to go! Anyone for **The Return of The Complete Works of William Shakespeare Abridged?** 🙌👉

The Board

The board of directors of KCP continues to grow. Since our last newsletter we've welcomed the following new board members.

William Heil (Bill) was born in southern Hungary, and he and his parents escaped the Russians during the end of WWII to Germany

where he lived for seven years. At age nine he and his family emigrated to the United States, and moved to Jefferson City, MO (a very German town) where he basically grew up.

After living in various parts of the mainland for thirty years, he and his wife moved here from Denver three years ago. Though they originally came to retire they decided they could add value to the community – and to the tourists – so they started the UPS Store in Kukui Grove. In his past life Bill was heavily involved with undersea telecommunications cable development, one of the cable systems serving Hawaii from the mainland.

Bill and his wife (now deceased) have two children who live on the mainland in Denver and Dallas. Bill says that since opening the store his health has never been better, all his joints work well, and he now only works 60 hours per week!

In 2004, **David Perugini** and his wife Martha thought they were just enjoying an extended 3-month winter visit to Kauai. Quite unexpectedly, however, their 14-year old love affair with Hawaii peaked and the Garden Island's allure finally captured their hearts and imaginations. By June of that year, their New York home was sold and they began life anew on the North Shore of Kauai. Retired from a varied career in education in which he served as an instructional designer for educational television, a library media specialist at the elementary and then secondary levels, and finally as the Macintosh computer guru for a Long Island, NY school district.

David continues his 'play of life' with a 'life of play' here on Kauai. David and Martha were hooked into the Kauai theatre community by the warm and welcoming charm of that Pied Piper of Kauai, Ron Horoshko, who somehow beguiled David and Martha into joining him and his wife Mona as set artists for Arnold Meister's production of 'Beauty and the Beast'. Bait set ... fish caught. A long way from their lifelong homes, families and friends, David and Martha luxuriate in the passion, energy and synergy that comprises the theatre and performing arts ohana of Kauai. 🙌👉