

Strand Theatre Shelbyville, Inc.

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Articles prior to December 5, 2018

Strand Theatre Weekly Email: November 18, 2012

Written by David on November, 17 2012

The Strand has been a bevy of activity. Our volunteers are keeping busy with all sorts of events. The Strand board of directors made a comment that during the first week of November we were a little slow. This translated to "we have a weekend with no events." Our volunteers needed the time off and as we prepare for back to back to back events, it is amazing we made that comment. This is indicative of how all those associated with the Strand think...we are here to do what we said we would do. That is unconditional. If we have time, by gosh the theatre should be used! Kudos to all our wonderful volunteers who continually infuse a sense of urgency in our mission. We never want to become complacent. What we did last week is in the past, our community needs what we will do next week.

A big thank you to Ernie Essex and Essex Carpet Cleaning for helping the Strand by cleaning our Cabaret Area carpet. It looks fantastic and is ready for the busy season ahead. Thank you Ernie!

For this email we have last week AND next week. Looking back we had 2 outstanding events last week. Both events were used to help raise funds for other organizations. We welcomed by Kappa Delta Phi sorority for their annual Snowflake Princess Contest. The well attended event featured 30 young girls that raised money for a variety of organizations. Master of Ceremonies Jack Boyce introduced and talked to each contestant on stage. The queen was crowned based on the funds they raised. This year's Snowflake Princess was Mia Contreras. It was a fun time. That night the Shelby County Players and Shelby Senior Services also crowned their dancing queen (and king) with their fundraiser at Indiana Downs, it too was a fun time.

The following day we hosted a fundraiser for the Benesse Oncology Center presented by the Morristown Lady Yellowjacket Basketball team. Their coach, Scott Spahr, believes in community involvement for these young athletes. This year's event held at the Strand featured Carson Diersing and Matt Mason. Both musicians are Shelby County natives and both are outstanding. Carson lead off the evening with his blues along with a band of seasoned veterans. His music was fantastic. Carson is a Hohner Harmonica artist at age 15! Check out the artist section on the Hohner web site(www.us.playhohner.com/artist/). Carson is with some pretty good company. He was joined on stage for the last few tunes by WSVX radio afternoon personality Don Stuck. It was nice to see Don finally playing on the Strand's stage.

The evening finished with a 90 minutes set by country artist Matt Mason. Matt played an acoustic set. It sounded wonderful in the acoustically live Strand. Matt received a standing ovation and certainly represents the best in what our County has to offer. The evening was successful in raising funds for the Benesse Oncology Center. At the end of the concert the Strand volunteers commented that we had just heard one of the finest evenings of music at the Strand. Considering we have done hundreds of concert, that is saying something! Thank you Scott and the Lady Yellowjackets.

Great music just kept coming in the Strand. On Thursday night we hosted the Freeman Family Funeral Home Remembrance Service. This event honored all those who we have lost in the past year. Many people submitted pictures that were shown as their loved ones names were read in the yiskor list. This year was a celebration of life and included the Sunset Stomp Dixieland Jazz Band. This top flight group, lead by Robin Hopkins and Kathleen Miller, brought the celebration music of Dixieland to the Strand's stage. The evening included words by Evan Carey who spoke eloquently of the feelings we have during the loss of a loved one. This program has been at the Strand every year since we reopened. Again this year we had an increase in attendance. When you see this next year (Thursday November 21, 2013) please try to attend. You will be glad you did.

Friday morning the Strand hosted Shelbyville Central Schools lifeskills students for a movie. This was a great way for these young people to experience the Strand. Friday evening the Strand participated in the annual Shelbyville Holiday Parade. It was a beautiful evening and the parade was fun! While one group of volunteers walked in the parade, another group was at the theatre getting ready for our Karaoke Party. This was in conjunction with the release of a new holiday CD by the stars of Shelby Idol. Proceeds of this CD benefit the Strand (how cool is that!) There were songs by the Shelby Idol winners and then the stage was released to those who wanted to Karaoke in their very own 400 seat theatre. It was a fun evening with well over 120 in attendance. This free event was presented by Smashed Productions. Thank you Shelby Idol.

Comedian Donnie Baker performed on Saturday night at the Strand. The performance was SOLD OUT. He was joined by comedian Dave Dyer. It was funny! Thank you to our community for showing your support for the comedians we are bringing to the Strand. Thank you to Indiana Downs who provided not one, but two bars for this show. Everyone had a great time including the Strand. Our volunteers estimate that over one third of the patrons were from out of town. We opened the doors at 6:20 and had over 200 before 7:00pm!

The comedy night was special for the Strand. We welcomed our 50,000th patron since re-opening as a performing arts center! We are just tickled about that. The popularity of shows like this help us remain financially strong in the face of unexpected expenses.

Unexpected expense for the week....our brand new Cretors Popcorn Popper (actually it is now two years old, wow..does time fly) decided to agitate us by not agitating the popcorn. When you cook popcorn stirring it is important. That mechanism has failed. We have a service call for repair. Until then our friends at the Skyline Drive-In have lent us the use of their machine if needed. This happened at a perfect time as the Skyline had their heat repaired this week. It will make it more pleasant if we have to make the trip out to pop some popcorn! Thank you Skyline Drive-In.

Did you notice the Strand's marquee? Take a look as you pass the theatre on the night of a show. We have it decked out in the Holiday spirit. It took 4 volunteers 2 hours to remove and replace over 170 light bulbs. It is easy now, but after the Holidays it will be cold when we have to swap them back. In preparation for that each lamp base was coated with WD-40 to make sure we wouldn't have any problems.

This coming week we welcome Tripl3 Crown Entertainment for their concert on Wednesday November 21st. This is our first group to preform Hip Hop at the Strand. A parental advisory is needed for the content of this show. It will be fun hearing these young musicians hone their performance skills. The show starts at 8:00pm.

Black Friday we have the perfect escape. Our friends at First Federal Savings and Loan are sponsoring TWO free showings of the movie ELF. Show times are 12:30 and 7:00pm. This is a fun time and the continuation of a new tradition at the Strand. We hope you can make it to see this very funny movie. Please thank our friends at First Federal Savings and Loan for making this possible.

On Saturday the Shelby County Players arrive to prepare for their 2 week run of Alice In Wonderland directed by Russ Gross. This children's classic will be performed on Nov. 30 and Dec. 1, 2, 7, 8 & 9th. Please come out and support live theatre in the heart of Shelby County with the SCP production of Alice in Wonderland.

We would like to thank all our Facebook Friends for pushing over the 1500 mark! In honor of the occasion Facebook sent us \$50. That was very nice. We intend to use it to help market ROCKPHORIA. Thank you Facebook Friends.

The Strand family wishes you a very happy Thanksgiving Holiday. Thank you for all the support and encouragement. The Strand is proud to be a small part of the fabric of our community. See you at the Strand!

Hip Hop
Tripl3 Crown Entertainment
Wednesday November 21, 2012
8:00pm

Free Movie
ELF
Sponsored by First Federal Savings and Loan
Friday November 23, 2012
12:30pm & 7:00pm

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