

# Spotlight on...



## Fremont Community Theatre

*more than a stage in your life*



### “The Last Five Years” opens Season 59 at FCT

“THE LAST FIVE YEARS” opens the FCT 2014-15 season with an beautiful and emotional journey of a five year relationship told in song through the words and haunting music of Tony

Award winning composer Jason Robert Brown. This uniquely structured musical features Monica Siesel of Bellevue as Kathy, an aspiring actress, and Adam Cox, of Wakeman, as Jamie, a budding writer.

Director Mitchell Antesky summarizes the plot, "Oddly, the story begins at the end, with Kathy reading a good-bye note from Jamie. She will continue telling her story backwards in time until their first kiss five years earlier while alternately Jamie will begin his story just after that kiss and then forward in time until he writes his final good bye and leaves the note for her to find. The two take turns singing solo in a variety of styles and only share the same scene during an emotional duet as their two paths cross in the middle of the story, at their wedding...are you confused yet? Don't be. Antesky continues to explain, "While the premise seems challenging to follow, it amazingly isn't. The lyrics are like separate vignettes into the various times of the couple's lives and each song clearly reflects where that character is in the relationship and certainly how they are feeling about it. The most interesting thing I have found in the juxtaposition of the songs and personal emotions is the roller coaster ride of each character, just like the highs and lows of everyday life and loves."

To add to the realistic emotional level of the show, Monica and Adam are a real life, off-stage couple, of over five years themselves and will be marrying just weeks after the show closes!

*(Continued on Page 2)*



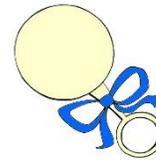
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Mitch says casting this show was easy, these two people love this show, came well-prepared and have spent more time memorizing the script away from

the theatre than during rehearsals, so that time is spent working through the numerous complicated rhythms and challenging accompaniment that the score is noted for.

A live string ensemble will join pianist Ethan Mandeville of Sandusky to create the nearly eighty minutes of continuous music.

A "Mitch-a-vision" inspired set representing various locations and time will serve as a background for this intimate musical theatre event with lighting and other producing duties falling into the hands of Harley Berry.

This Spotlight Production runs ONLY ONE weekend, September 26 and 27 at 8 PM and September 28 at 2 PM.

**Please note: This production contains adult language and themes and may not be suitable for all patrons.** When FCT produces a show, we acquire the rights to do so, with a signed contract, from a licensing house that represents the show's writers, and they give us an official script and music. Changes to these are generally not allowed. Because of this, and the variety of work we do, our productions can vary in appropriateness for various age groups or audience preferences.

"The Last Five Years" is presented through special arrangements with Music Theatre International (MTI).



*Real-life couple Adam Cox and Monica Siesel star in this two-person musical.*



By Ken Ludwig

## "Be My Baby" Auditions in September

"BE MY BABY" tells the story of an irascible

Scotsman and an uptight English woman, John and Maude, both in their late 50s, who are unexpectedly thrown together on the journey of a lifetime. John and Maude are brought together when his ward marries her niece. Then, when the young couple decides to adopt a new born baby, the older couple has to travel 6,000 miles to California to pick up the child and bring her safely home to Scotland. The problem is, John and Maude despise each other. To make matters worse, they get stranded in San Francisco for several weeks and are expected to jointly care for the helpless newborn. There they form a new partnership and learn some startling lessons about life and love.

Ken Ludwig is the author of the much-beloved comedies "Leading Ladies", "Crazy for You", "Lend Me a Tenor", "Moon Over Buffalo" among others.

Be My Baby premiered at the Alley Theatre in Houston, Texas in October 2005, starring Hal Holbrook and Dixie Carter, directed by John Rando.

Director Jan Wilcox will be holding auditions at FCT on Sunday and Monday, September 14 and 15 at 7:00 p.m. Auditions will consist of cold readings from the script and require no prior acting experience. She will be casting one older couple (John, male, and Maude, female), one younger couple (Christy, male, and Gloria, female), and 2 to 6 "Players", who will play multiple parts throughout the play. All roles are 18 and up, but older teens are welcome to audition.

Presented through special arrangements with Samuel French, Inc., "Be My Baby" will run November 14-16 and 21-23, 2014.

### TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

#### Friday through Sunday, September 26 – 28 ONLY!

Season Ticket Holders \$5.00

Senior/Student Non-Season Ticket Holder \$10.00

Adult Non-Season Ticket Holder \$12.00

Reserve your tickets now by calling the Box Office at 419-332-0695 or by visiting our website [www.fremontcommunitytheatre.org](http://www.fremontcommunitytheatre.org)

# “A World of Pure Imagination...”

by Cyndi HineLine, Madame President

Albert Einstein said “Logic will take you from A to B. Imagination will take you everywhere.” I think it’s awesome that such a great thinker, known for his work in science and mathematics, understood the importance of creativity.

One of the things that I love most about theatre is that, while many of the stories are based in reality, the production before your eyes wouldn’t exist without a great deal of imagination.

Our opening show of our 59<sup>th</sup> Season, “The Last Five Years” is a perfect example of this. The two-person musical is based on the author’s real-life relationship. A show such as that has the potential to be extremely boring or clichéd. So Jason Robert Brown put his imagination to work, and came up with an incredibly creative way to tell the story of his failed marriage.

As you probably know, imagination takes place in many other aspects of theatre – not just in the writing. We are so very lucky to have a crew of incredibly talented and creative designers – whether they are designing the set, the costumes, the lights, or even the sound for a show. Our sets are completely bereft of character without the imagination of our set decorators, who do a job not unlike interior designers.

Without imagination, our shows would just be a bunch of people standing around reciting lines in a monotone voice. An important part of the job of the director is to interpret the written action in a play into a physical, visual experience for the actors and the audience. Similarly, the actors in a play must be able to imagine themselves in the world created by the playwright, designers, and director, and must place themselves in their characters’ shoes. Sometimes this requires imagination gymnastics, but we try to eventually “find” and “become” our character.

I am issuing an imagination challenge to our audience members this season. I challenge you to put your own imagination to work. Pick a character and imagine being in their shoes. Don’t just come along for the ride, but really think about what it might be like to be a certain character (or two) if they existed outside of this imaginary world we’ve created for them...or what it might be like if you existed in their world. You might just learn something about yourself during the process.

Because imagination, after all, is rooted in reality.

In other news, I am very excited to announce the creation of our YouTube Channel! Keep an eye on it for updated short videos about our shows and general information about FCT. The videos are created by and feature our own Scott Havice and PJ Foos.

There will also something new in the newsletter, starting next issue, called “More Than a Stage in My Life,” and we are accepting submissions now. If you want to let everyone know about your personal FCT experience, please send your story (no more than half a page typewritten, please) to my attention at FCT, or to [newsletter@fremontcommunitytheatre.org](mailto:newsletter@fremontcommunitytheatre.org).

There is SO MUCH to be excited about right now! Find out what on Pages 7 and 8!

Finally, Chairman of the Board Hilary Frater and I are devoting ourselves to better communication between the Board and you, whether you are a member of FCT, a Patron, a Season Ticket holder, a cast member, or even a first-time audience member! If you have a comment, complaint, or compliment, please feel free to email one of us at [chairman@fremontcommunitytheatre.org](mailto:chairman@fremontcommunitytheatre.org) or [president@fremontcommunitytheatre.org](mailto:president@fremontcommunitytheatre.org). You may also call the theatre, but will reach us faster via email.

I can’t wait to see you all at the theatre!

## FCT Board of Directors

President:	Cyndi HineLine
Vice President:	Chuck Cantrell
Secretary:	Tim Bolton
Treasurer:	Jim Gruss
Chairman of the Board:	Hilary Frater
Vice-Chairman:	Sue Stotz
Members at Large:	Jennifer Abdo Michael PJ Foos Donna Wollenslegel

The Board meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every month at 7:00 pm in the FCT lobby. These are open to all members to attend. If you have business with the Board, the Chairman requests that you contact her beforehand to be placed on the Agenda.

## Contact Us:

419-332-0775 (General Number)

[president@fremontcommunitytheatre.org](mailto:president@fremontcommunitytheatre.org)  
[chairman@fremontcommunitytheatre.org](mailto:chairman@fremontcommunitytheatre.org)  
[newsletter@fremontcommunitytheatre.org](mailto:newsletter@fremontcommunitytheatre.org)  
[info@fremontcommunitytheatre.org](mailto:info@fremontcommunitytheatre.org)

## FCT Website:

[www.fremontcommunitytheatre.org](http://www.fremontcommunitytheatre.org)

## OCTA Website:

[www.ohiocommunitytheatre.org](http://www.ohiocommunitytheatre.org)

## Newsletter Deadline:

October 17, 2014 at 5:00 pm  
 Send info to Cyndi HineLine, Editor  
 Would you like your newsletter in color?  
 Switch to an email subscription!

## Box Office Information

Reservations can be made by calling the Box Office at 419-332-0695 or in person at the FCT Box Office.

Alternatively, advanced online purchasing may be done through PayPal by visiting [www.fremontcommunitytheatre.org](http://www.fremontcommunitytheatre.org)

**We encourage reservations and advanced purchasing to reduce the time you stand in line!**

# FCTT Wraps up "Shrek the Musical"

**THANK  
You!**

The teen cast of "Shrek the Musical" had an excellent response to their production, selling out ALL FOUR performances! They'd like to thank everyone that came for such a great turnout and for being really super audience members! The teens are spending a portion of their proceeds from this year to help the theatre purchase a new stage furnace. Thank you, Teens!



## 2014 Summer Bash



PJ and Mary Jo Foos graciously hosted the annual Summer Bash at their house in Gibsonburg on August 2<sup>nd</sup>. Despite some confusion with the mailing, it was pretty well attended. After a brief meeting, the member enjoyed a good old-fashioned potluck and each other's company.

The next Membership Meeting will be at FCT on Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup>.



## Play in a Day August 8 & 9

The fourth installment of "Play in a Day" was held at FCT on August 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>. We had a record number of participants (33!) and ended the 24-hour period with four short plays being produced! Thank you to all who participated! For more information and pictures, visit Play in a Day on Facebook.



## FCTT Alumni

The very first every Fremont Community Teen Theatre Alumni group event was held on August 16<sup>th</sup>. A handful of former teens held a potluck at FCT and hung out until the wee hours of the morning, just like old times! Hank Povolny was made an Honorary Teen, and we all had a great time catching up with him! We hope that there will be many more of these events in the future! It was awesome to see how FCT has been more than a stage in their lives. Contact Bethany Wethington Maxey, or Cyndi HineLine for more information!



## OCTA Recognizes Mitchell Antesky!

FCT didn't take an excerpt to OCTA this year, but Mitchell Antesky submitted his incredible set designs for competition at State Festival this year. He walked away with five tech awards in all, including:

- ❖ Excellence in Painting for "Every Little Crook and Nanny"
- ❖ Excellence in Set Décor for "Every Little Crook and Nanny"
- ❖ Outstanding in Carpentry for "Brighton Beach Memoirs"
- ❖ Merit in Set Décor for "Brighton Beach Memoirs"
- ❖ Excellence in Lighting for "Brighton Beach Memoirs"

Whether you realize it or not, we are all familiar with Mitch's design and decorating work on stage, and know that he definitely deserves the honors!

Congratulations, Mitch! We can't wait to see what you have up your sleeve next!



## Seeking Donations

If you wish to help out FCT in ways that are a little less obvious, here are some ideas!

- ❖ Hang some posters up to help advertise a show. They will be at FCT for pickup four weeks before each Opening Night.
- ❖ Live somewhere that gets a lot of traffic? Put a yard sign in your yard!
- ❖ Offer to be a House Manager for the run of a Show. Contact a Board Member to learn what that entails.
- ❖ Become a Patron, Sponsor, or Supporting Advertiser (See Page 7 or visit our website for more information).
- ❖ Donate one or more of the following products to help defray our costs:

- Cleaning Spray
- Disinfectant Wipes
- Liquid Hand Soap
- Toilet Cleanser
- Bleach
- Furniture Polish
- Murphy's Oil Soap
- Window Cleaner
- Paper Towels
- Toilet Paper
- Napkins
- Coffee Supplies
- Makeup Remover Wipes
- Cotton Balls & Q-Tips
- Other various supplies

Remember all donations are tax-deductible!

## FROM OUR HISTORIANS

The historians have been cleaning out that "stuff" that has been sitting around in the office upstairs! Harley has been busy digitizing some of it over the past year, and Donna is about to start organizing it. If you have any FCT memorabilia, such as pictures or programs (only one per show, please), feel free to drop them off at FCT or scan them in yourself and e-mail them to [info@fremontcommunitytheatre.org](mailto:info@fremontcommunitytheatre.org)!



## News!

The OCTA (Ohio Community Theatre Association) State Conference 2014

“There’s No Place Like OCTA” was held at the Holiday Inn French Quarter in Perrysburg, Ohio over Labor Day weekend this year. There were several FCT members in attendance, due to the proximity, and I think we can all attest to the fact that the OCTA Committee completely outdid itself this year! From the second we stepped into the hotel lobby, it was like being in Oz! Rainbows everywhere, Munchkinland built around a fountain, a dragon overlooking the land from a balcony, guards in front of the “Emerald City” where the excerpts were viewed, and lots and LOTS of photo ops! Even the hotel staff had Oz-themed name tags! Add to that several themed events like the “Oz-Mazing Race” and the “Twisted Tech Challenge”, and it was like a mini-vacation in Dorothy’s world.

This year’s OCTA State Conference was held concurrently with the State AACTFest. Rather than two separate events, theatres which performed excerpts at OCTA had the opportunity to be selected to be sent on to the Region III AACT (American Association of Community Theatre) festival, which will be held in Michigan in April 2015. Those excerpts will then have the opportunity to be chosen to perform at the national level, also to be held in Grand Rapids, Michigan next spring. Much congratulations to Williams County Community Theatre’s “Proof” and Troy Civic Theatre’s “Angel Street,” which will be performing at Region III AACT, and to the Hudson Players’ “Spamalot,” which is the alternate!

Many, many awards were handed out and will be summarized in the next OCTA “Cuelines” newsletter. OCTA State Conference 2015 was announced at the end of the weekend. It will be held at the Cincinnati Holiday Inn East Gate from September 4-7, and the theme will be OCTAOPOLY: From Boardwalk to Broadway! Start planning for this exciting weekend now!

If you wish to subscribe to “Cuelines”, please let Cyndi Hinline (your OCTA Delegate) know.



Much thanks to Mitch Antesky and Harley Berry, who took many, many pictures that weekend!

# What's New at FCT?

❖ **SPONSORS!** We are looking for Sponsors for shows! But, you say, we already have Sponsors. Actually, what we currently have are called "Business Patrons", who will from this point forth be referred to as "Advertising Supporters," meaning they pay to advertise in our full season program. While we very much appreciate our Advertising Supporters, we are looking for businesses (or individuals) who are willing to attach their name to a specific show (or two) whose sponsorship will help pay for a specific portion of the cost to produce that show, such as royalties, costumes, set, etc.

In exchange for their sponsorship, our Sponsors will be listed on every piece of marketing for that show, will have their names announced at the beginning of each performance (or the specific performance that they sponsor), will have a display in the lobby, where they may place advertising materials of their own, will receive special tickets, and much more.

If you own a business or know of a business that is likely to be interested in being an FCT Sponsor, please contact a member of the Board! (See Page 3 for list of Board Members)

❖ While you're visiting the theatre, you may note that there are some changes happening in and around the Box Office area! Thanks to Jim Gruss for the cosmetic upgrades!

(continued on Page 8)

## AVAILABLE NOW! '14-'15 SEASON TICKETS

**SPOTLIGHT SHOW:**  
THE LAST FIVE YEARS - SEPTEMBER 2014

BE MY BABY - NOVEMBER 2014  
MOON OVER THE BREWERY - JANUARY 2015  
ESCANABA IN DA MOONLIGHT - MARCH 2015  
GYPSY - MAY 2015

\$40.00 ADULT

\$30.00 SENIOR/STUDENT

ADD THE SPOTLIGHT SHOW TO YOUR SEASON TICKET FOR ONLY \$5.00

TO ORDER YOURS TODAY, PLEASE CALL FCT,  
INQUIRE AT THE BOX OFFICE,  
OR VISIT [WWW.FREMONTCOMMUNITYTHEATRE.ORG](http://WWW.FREMONTCOMMUNITYTHEATRE.ORG)

REGULAR TICKET PRICES:

\$12 ADULT

SAVE UP TO \$17 WITH SEASON TICKET

\$10 SENIOR/STUDENT

SAVE UP TO \$15 WITH SEASON TICKET



(Continued from Page 7)

- ❖ **THE PLAYREADING COMMITTEE** has recently made some changes to its structure and how plays will be chosen in the future. There will now exist a Core Group of five members, chosen by and given instruction by the Board, who will read and review any and all submissions/ suggestions given to them, and will weed out the plays that are not in the scope of the Board’s vision for the upcoming season. Once the Core Group has narrowed them down to a dozen plays, the membership of Playreading (Committee at Large) will come back in December to read a percentage of those 12 plays and will vote on the upcoming Season at the March meeting.

**PLAYREADING FAQ:**

**Who can submit plays to the Core Group?** Anyone! However, it is requested that you submit a review of the play and why you think it would be good for FCT to consider it as part of our season.

**Who can be part of the Playreading Committee at Large?** Anyone who is a Member in Good Standing of FCT. We love hearing a variety of opinions on the plays, as we don’t all have the same viewpoint.

**How many plays of the 12 will the Committee at Large have to read?** At this time, it is still being determined. It is looking like 50%, due to starting this method a little late in the season, but may be 75%.

**What kind of plays are you looking for?** Right now, we are looking toward our 60<sup>th</sup> Season – a big celebration year! We are focusing on musicals and plays that have recognizable or familiar names and are trying to get at least a few family-friendly and/or seasonal selections. But anything will be accepted as a submission.

**How is the Core Group selected?** The Core Group is made up of the Committee Chair(s), a Board Member, and other Members who have submitted Letters of Interest to the Board. This year, for time’s sake, the Member positions were made available only to members of the Playreading Committee, but it will be open to all members for application in future seasons.

**Who do I contact if I have questions that aren’t in the FAQ?** Linda Bower and Pete Lowry are the Co-Chairpersons of the Playreading Committee this season. They would love to answer any questions you might have!

***More Than a Stage in MY Life***

This spot will be occupied in future issues by a new feature. We would like to hear from YOU about how Fremont Community Theatre has been more than a stage in your life! Submit your thoughts, feelings, ideas, etc. on the matter to [newsletter@fremontcommunitytheatre.org](mailto:newsletter@fremontcommunitytheatre.org) and you could be featured in the next issue of Spotlight on FCT.

If you only have a few short things to say, or want to submit a drawing, etc., that’s okay! (Kids are welcome to submit, too!) If you wish to remain anonymous, we will keep it that way! If you’ve only ever been an audience member, that’s great! We know we’ve been a part of YOUR life, too!

There is only one rule: Please try to keep it to less than half a page typed. As you can see, we have a lot of ground to cover in this Newsletter!





Fremont Community Theatre  
 P.O. Box 24;  
 1551 Dickinson Street  
 Fremont, OH 43420

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**Coming Up!**

September 14-15 .....Auditions for “Be My Baby” 7pm  
 September 16 .....Board Meeting 7pm  
 September 20 ..... Farmer’s Market Booth 9am -1pm  
 September 23 .. “The Last Five Years” Friends & Family Dress 7:30pm  
 September 26-28..... “The Last Five Years” Performances  
 October 17 ..... Nov/Dec Newsletter Deadline 5pm  
 October 21 .....Board Meeting 7pm  
 October 25 ..... Fall Membership Meeting & Social 6pm  
 November 11 ..... “Be My Baby” Friends & Family Dress 7:30 pm  
 November 14-16, 21-23..... “Be My Baby” Performances  
 November 16-17 ..... Auditions for “Moon Over the Brewery” 7pm  
 November 18 .....Board Meeting 7pm  
 December 9..... Playreading Committee 7pm  
 December 16..... Board Meeting 7p,  
 December 19.....Jan/feb Newsletter Deadline  
 January 10..... Winter Membership Meeting & Social 6pm  
 TBA ..... Playreading 7pm  
 January 13..... “Moon Over the Brewery” F&F Dress 7:30pm  
 January 16-18, 23-25 ..... “Moon Over the Brewery” Performances  
 January 20..... Board Meeting 7pm  
 January 25-26..... Auditions for “Escanaba in Da Moonlight” 7pm  
*Please Note All Dates and Times are Subject to Change*



Fremont Community Theatre

Fremont Community Theatre:  
 More Than a Stage in Your Life



*Instagram*

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Fremont Community Theatre