

# NWCT Newsletter

February 2009



Matt Loehrke (Caterpillar, King of Hearts), Marilyn Keller (Dormouse, Queen of Hearts), Annabel Cantor (Alice) and the band in NWCT's production of *Alice in Wonderland*.

## A WONDERLAND OF JAZZ

Here's what audiences are saying about NWCT's *Alice in Wonderland*:

*"The production was amazing! A sophisticated and yet playful adaptation. It's wonderful!"*

*"Sheer delight! We walked home practically dancing down the street!"*

*"(A) bright, appealing score...Marilyn Keller's star turns (as Dormouse and Queen of Hearts) brings the house of cards down."*

-The Oregonian

This ground-breaking adaptation of Lewis Carroll's classic plays through Feb. 15; Fri. and Sat. at 7 p.m., Sat. and Sun. at 2 p.m. [Click here](#) for tickets!

## TAKE THE MUSIC HOME!

The original cast recording of *Alice in Wonderland* is on sale now! Featuring Marilyn Keller and Shirley Nanette, with original music by Ezra Weiss. [Click here](#) to listen to song clips! Just \$15; available for purchase at NWCT; call 503-222-2190.

## A JAZZ DIVA IN TRAINING

She first came to NWCT a shy middle-schooler who thought she could maybe sing a little. But Joellen Sweeney proved she could do much more than that, belting her way into the leading role of pipsqueak moll Tallulah in NWCT's *Bugsy Malone*. That was four years ago, and countless roles and projects later, Joellen is understudying two of Portland's most celebrated jazz divas, Marilyn Keller and Shirley Nanette, who share the role of the Queen of Hearts in NWCT's *Alice in Wonderland*.

Joellen is participating in an artistic and training trend adopted by NWCT in the 2007-08 season, pairing talented young performers with principal actors. It's a move that has proved successful; young actors rehearse and perform with some of Portland's best theater talent, gaining unique training and perspective. And the adult actors are equally inspired by the young performers. "This method is very much in the Elizabethan theater tradition," says NWCT actor Melody Bridges, who has worked with understudies for three mainstage productions. "To guide your understudy is an honor and a great training tool for these talented kids."

## FEB. CALENDAR

- 1-15 *Alice in Wonderland*
- 6, 13 *Alice in Wonderland*—Scout Nights

## HOORAY FOR HOLLYWOOD!

NWCT AUCTION GALA FRIDAY  
MARCH 6, 7-10 PM

NWCT rolls out the red carpet to become the famous intersection of Hollywood and Vine with paparazzi, palm trees, and all the glitz and glamour of The Golden Age of Cinema! Featuring live entertainment, silent and live auctions, and the 2009-10 season announcement! Ticket price includes food and drink, and our signature champagne cocktail, the "Oscar Buzz." [Tickets are just \\$50](#) per person; all proceeds benefit NWCT.



## BE PART OF THE BEST AUCTION IN PORTLAND!

You make it happen! NWCT is currently seeking donations for the silent and live auctions. [Click here](#) to download a procurement form; all contributions tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

## SPRING IS IN THE AIR!

Check [www.nwcts.org](http://www.nwcts.org) the latter part of February for exciting spring class titles and schedules including our popular "Audition Workshop" and "Star Struck Seminar."

## SNEAK PEAK

Tickets for *Goodnight Moon* are on sale now! Plays March 21-April 5; [click here](#) for tickets.

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*Our mission: to educate,  
entertain and enrich the lives  
of young audiences*