

FOR RELEASE:

IMMEDIATE

Mailed April 20, 1987

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio - The next offering of Youngstown State University's theatre season will be "Quilters," a celebration in music and dance of the struggles and successes of American frontier women.

The play will be presented in the Spotlight Arena Theatre of YSU's Bliss Hall at 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, April 30 - May 2 and May 7-9, with Sunday matinees at 3 p.m. on May 3 and May 10 (Mother's Day).

"Quilters," written by Molly Newman and Barbara Damashek, features seven actresses who portray pioneer mother Sarah McKendree Bonham and her six daughters.

In patchwork fashion, the characters present the stories of frontier women and the quilts that represent their lives. Songs, dances, poetry, and moving recollections are interwoven with the action of the two-act play.

Appearing as Sarah Bonham is Maxine Houck of Youngstown, an English teacher at Howland High School. Her daughters are portrayed by Carolyn Carbone of Struthers, Juliann Cortese of Liberty, Virginia Elser, YSU alumna from Boardman, Susan Hartley of Broadview Heights, Debra Schultz of Fowler, and Barbara Soltis of North Lima.

"Quilters" was premiered by the Denver Center Theatre Company and returned for a sell-out month-long engagement at that season's close, following a successful regional tour. The production has been taken to Edinburgh, Scotland, and to Dublin, Ireland. Nationally, it has been produced at the Kennedy Center in Washington, the American National Theatre and Academy in New York City, and in theatres coast to coast.

-MORE-

Add One

For the YSU production, members of TQGIBT (That Quilting Group I Belong To) and the Western Reserve Quilters assisted with the show's preparation.

Dr. Frank A. Castronovo of Boardman, associate professor of Speech Communication and Theatre, is directing and designing "Quilters."

Choreography is by Michele Lepore-Hagan of Youngstown.

James A. Johnson, organist at the First Congregational Church of Hudson, is serving as musical director.

Costume design is by Jane Shanabarger of Boardman, instructor in Speech Communication and Theatre.

Michael Angelo Tortora of Youngstown, a senior in YSU's theatre program, is doing the lighting design.

YSU's theatres are handicapped-accessible and are located on the first floor of Bliss Hall at the corner of Wick Avenue and Spring Street. Parking is available during the evening at the Wick Parking Deck; matinee parking is available in surface parking lots.

Tickets for "Quilters" are \$7, with discounts for senior citizens, students, and YSU alumni and staff. Current YSU students are admitted at no charge with their ID cards.

Reservations may be made by calling the University Theatre Box Office at (216) 742-3105.

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1a,b,c,d,e,h+

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Mailed April 20, 1987

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio - Dr. Mary Groda-Lewis, local physician, will give the final presentation in Youngstown State University's Special Lecture Series on Tuesday, May 5.

She will speak on "Learning Challenges," at 8 p.m. in the Ohio Room of Killcawley Center, Spring Street.

YSU's Special Lecture Series is free and open to the public. Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis.

These programs are designed to enhance and enrich community and University life by bringing in prominent social, political, and intellectual leaders.

Dr. Groda-Lewis, who overcame dyslexia and a stroke to pursue her dream of becoming a doctor, is well-acquainted with what the word challenge means. She was a dropout at 10, a delinquent at 16 and an unwed mother at 18.

Her life story has been the subject of many magazine and newspaper articles and the CBS movie, "Love, Mary."

Dr. Groda-Lewis is a graduate of Albany (N.Y.) Medical College with an M.D. degree and the mother of two children.

She has received numerous awards and scholarships, including the Ann Perkins Scholarship, Lamb Foundation Award, and the Alumni Association Medal from Albany Medical College.

She is now in her second year of residency in family practice with the Youngstown Hospital Association.

-MORE-

Add One

Patrons of lectures in Kilcawley Center are encouraged to use the Wick Avenue Parking Deck across from Maag Library and Butler Institute of American Art. They can park on the fourth level and walk across the pedestrian bridge to the campus and Kilcawley. There is a \$1 parking fee for all YSU events.

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NEWS SERVICE - dP
86-460
1a,b,d,e,h

NEWS DIRECTORS/EDITORS:

There will be a press conference for Dr. Groda-Lewis at 7:45 p.m., just before her address, in the Buckeye Reception Area, Kilcawley Center.

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YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio - Youngstown State University's College-Community Orchestra will present its annual Concerto/Aria Concert at 8 p.m. Monday, April 27, in the Chestnut Room of Kilcawley Center.

This concert, which is free and open to the public, will feature six YSU students as soloists with the orchestra. A reception will follow.

The YSU College Community Orchestra is under the direction of Michael Gelfand of Boardman, associate professor of music.

The concert will open with the overture to "The Mikado" by Arthur Sullivan.

Other selections will include Mozart's "Horn Concerto No. 1" performed by Catherine Roach of Greenville, Pa. on French horn; Telemann's "Viola Concerto" by Jayne Goldstein of Philadelphia; Ibert's "Flute Concerto" featuring Laurel Sampsel of Navarre, Ohio; Telemann's "Trumpet Concerto" by Louis Pisani of Natrona Heights, Pa.; Lisa Callahan, soprano from Warren, singing Granados' "La Maja y el Ruisenor" from "Goyescas;" and Roger Kelly of Wampum, Pa., performing the first movement of Beethoven's "3rd Piano Concerto."

The College-Community Orchestra was started in the fall of 1985 by Gelfand and combines musicians from both the university and surrounding communities.

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FOR RELEASE:

CUTLINE

Fashioning a make-believe quilt from their aprons, in a scene from YSU's "Quilters," are a frontier mother and her daughters, who use songs, dances and poetry to tell of the quilts that represent their lives. Clockwise, from bottom, are: Virginia Elser of Boardman; Debra Schultz, Fowler, Carolyn Carbone, Struthers; Maxine Houck of Youngstown, a Howland teacher who portrays their mother; Barbara Soltis of North Lima; and Juliann Cortese of Liberty. The musical opens April 30 in Spotlight Theatre. (YSU photo by Elise Cleary)

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86-461 .

FOR RELEASE:

CUTLINE

Five frontier lasses bubble away instead of sleeping during a scene from "Quilters," a musical opening April 30 in YSU's Spotlight Theatre. The two-act play tells the stories of a pioneer mother and her daughters and the quilts they made that recount their lives.

(YSU photo by Elise Cleary)

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86-462

FOR RELEASE:

CUTLINE

A pioneer mother and her daughters celebrate their frontier life with a song, "The Needle's Eye," in "The Quilters," which opens April 30 at YSU. Portraying the mother in the background is Maxine Houck of Youngstown, an English teacher at Howland High School. Cast as the daughters are, from left: Barbara Soltis of North Lima; Debra Schultz, Fowler; Virginia Elser, Boardman; Carolyn Carbone, Struthers; and Juliann Cortese of Liberty.

(YSU photo by Elise Cleary)

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(YSU photo by Elise Cleary)

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